

POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

24 JUNE 2021

URGENCY ITEMS - MINUTE OF DECISION

Delegation arrangements for dealing with matters of urgency

Paragraph 7.2.1 of the Council's Constitution provides that Chief Officers may take urgent decisions if they are of the opinion that circumstances exist which make it necessary for action to be taken by the Council prior to the time when such action could be approved through normal Council Procedures. They shall, where practicable, first consult with the Leader and Chairman (or in their absence the Vice-Chairman) and the Opposition Spokesperson of the appropriate committee.

Subject: Embankment Repair Work Required at Vicar Water Country Park, Clipstone

Appropriate Committee:

Economic Development Committee
Policy & Finance Committee

Background Information

Vicar Water Country Park, Clipstone is one of the Council's four green flag award winning parks. Lying to the south of Clipstone Village, the 78 hectare park is composed of a series of hills formed from former colliery mounds. The freehold of the north-eastern part of the site is owned by the Welbeck Estates Company Limited and leased to Newark and Sherwood District Council under a 99 year lease which commenced in July 1999.

The main roadway connecting the car park with Vicar Pond is currently restricted vehicle access only to members of the angling club and our Street Scene team, but is the main pedestrian and cycle route down to the lake and the other main areas of the park and so does get very busy.

The onsite park ranger raised concerns about the condition of the retaining wall of the embankment that runs approximately 25m in length, holding back a slope of approximately 80m of banking. The wall is made of 2m timber sleepers placed vertically into the ground leaving 1.4m visible acting as a retaining wall for the bank above. The bank is heavily wooded with a mixture of mature and young trees. A structural engineer has visited the site and has drawn up plans to have a "Criblock" wall installed to contain the embankment, the engineer believes that the current sleeper wall is failing and is no longer fit for purpose, it has now deteriorated well beyond viable repair and should be replaced.

Proposals

To address the problem and make the area safe in the long term the following is proposed:

- The installation of a “Criblock” retaining wall to cover the embankment and prevent any slippage onto the road/footpath. Supporting this there will also be a new larger French drain installed and the connecting road will be resurfaced to a total of 50 meters to tie all the elements of the scheme together.
- In addition, pre works preparation would be needed, including the removal of several tree branches and some shrubbery that sit close to the retaining wall. The ground French drain would need replacing with a long term solution put in its place, this work has been priced within the scheme.
- The same section of road/path is currently badly surfaced and in need of multiple repairs it is proposed that this area is replaced in full (4.5m x 50m) as it would be an ideal time to commence the work whilst the road/path is shut for the required works.
- Accurate costings for the above works have been received totalling £58,288.90 this price includes the installation of the “Criblock” retaining wall, the required works to the connecting road, the resurface (50m) and the installation of the French style drain.

Financial Implications (FIN21-22/2626)

A new budget of £60,000 will need to be added to the Capital Programme to cover the works proposed. This can be financed by the Capital Reserve, which would have no future impacts on the revenue budget.

Decision

An addition of £60,000 into the Capital Programme financed by the Capital Reserve.

Reason for Decision

Urgent decision to enable works to progress on site as soon as possible.

Members Consulted:

Councillor David Lloyd

Chairman of Policy & Finance Committee – 14/05/21

Councillor Paul Peacock

Opposition Spokesperson of Policy & Finance – 14/05/21

Councillor Keith Girling

Chairman of Economic Development Committee – 15/05/21

Councillor Neal Mitchell

Opposition Spokesperson of Economic Development Committee – 18/05/21

Signed:



Matthew Finch

Date: 18 May 2021