



Report to: Cabinet Meeting: 24 September 2024

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Paul Peacock - Strategy, Performance & Finance

Director Lead: Matt Lamb, Director - Planning & Growth

Lead Officer: Andy Hardy, Sports, Community Facilities & Events Manager, Ext. 5708

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open report, non-key decision
Report Title	Transfer of Section 106 Open Space - Off Site Sports Contribution to Ollerton Town Football Club
Purpose of Report	To secure Cabinet approval to transfer Section 106 contributions held by the District Council for open space off site sports to Ollerton Town Football Club for improvements at the Walesby Lane Sports Ground in Ollerton.
Recommendations	<p>That Cabinet approve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the Section 106 contributions for open space off site sports held by the District Council be transferred to Ollerton Town FC for improvements at the Walesby Lane Sports Ground in Ollerton; and b) the Council’s Capital Programme for 2024/25 is increased by £59,696.76 financed by the Section 106 receipt reference AG924 held for open space off site sports improvements in Ollerton.
Alternative Options Considered	<p>The Section 106 receipt held under this agreement must be spent on open space off site sports in Ollerton, therefore it is appropriate that the District Council transfers the receipt held to Ollerton Town Football Club in order that the Club, as long term leaseholder and operator of site, can deliver much needed improvements to the sports ground for the benefit of local community groups which access and use the site.</p> <p>The District Council is working closely with the Ollerton Town Football Club to improve the facilities at its ground in order to grow its capacity to accommodate increased active participation in sport and leisure activities at one of the communities most valuable assets and it is appropriate therefore to support the Club to deliver improvements at the</p>

	<p>site as part of a wider ambition to regenerate the site and protect it for future generations.</p> <p>The Walesby Lane site was determined as the most appropriate site to invest in based on the recent growth in the numbers of teams based at the site particularly women and girls participation and the scope the ground offers for further expansion of activity to meet the growing demand for football locally. The only other local sports club with its own outdoor facility has suitable provision to meet local demand.</p>
Reason for Recommendations	To enable Ollerton Town Football Club to deliver improvements to its sports ground in Ollerton which will deliver improved sporting, health and community benefits and outcomes for local residents.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Newark & Sherwood District Council is currently holding a Section 106 contribution for open space off site sports in Ollerton under agreements AG924 - £59,696.76 which can be used to improve sports open space and off-site facilities in the Parish of Ollerton as deemed appropriate. The Football Club has, for some time, been working on a major regeneration ambition for the Walesby Lane site having secured a 25-year lease from the owners, the Coal Industry Social & Welfare Organisation (CISWO), which will enable it to develop a project to secure significant investment in the site from funding partners. Subject to Cabinet approval, this contribution would be transferred under a 'side agreement', to ensure that the monies are only used as intended, as defined in the legal agreement and are delivered in a timely manner and are consistent with the Section 106 agreement.
- 1.2 The District Council is currently working with the football club and Nottinghamshire Football Association to secure capital investment for the site through the Football Foundation and other appropriate funding partners to improve the facilities at Walesby Lane, as it is an important community sporting asset for the local community. The football club actively participated in the development of the recently adopted Playing Pitch & Open Spaces Strategy (PPOSS) and is committed to developing the existing site and through working with a local developer to take on the management and operational responsibility for an additional sport pitch provision which is co-terminus with its ground to further grow the sites capacity to accommodate future growth in sporting activity and widen the sites offer and appeal to other local sports.
- 1.3 Accordingly the allocation of Section 106 monies will enable the initial improvements proposed to progress in a timely manner as part of the planned improvements for the site which will be delivered over time as and when additional funding can be secured. The contribution will also enable priority health and safety compliance works to be completed to ensure the site remains safe for use as a community asset and will enable the Club to secure some additional external grant funding towards further improvements at the site from the Football Foundation's grass pitch improvement scheme the quality of which are determined as being poor in the recently adopted PPOSS.

- 1.4 The use of this contribution has been discussed with Ollerton and Boughton Town Council which is supportive of the Club's aspiration to secure investment in the site and supportive of the proposal.

2.0 Proposal/Details of Options Considered

- 2.1 It is proposed that the open space off site sports contribution totalling £59,696.76 be transferred to Ollerton Town Football Club in order that improvements can be delivered at the Walesby Lane site that align to the Section 106 agreement reference AG924 in a timely manner. The planned improvements will make a positive contribution to the achievement of the District Council's Community Plan objective 1 'Improve health and wellbeing' Objective 5 'Protect and enhance the district's natural environment and green space' and Objective 7 'Celebrate and invigorate community spirit, pride of place and a sense of belonging'. In addition, the proposal will contribute to the ambitions of the Ollerton Town Football Club as a leader of sport, recreation, health and community development in Ollerton and the surrounding area.
- 2.2 That the Council's Capital Programme is increased by £59,696.76 financed by the Section 106 receipt reference AG924 held for open space off site sports improvements in Ollerton.

3.0 Implications

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection; Digital & Cyber Security; Equality & Diversity; Financial; Human Resources; Human Rights; Legal; Safeguarding & Sustainability and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

Financial Implications (FIN24-25/2360)

- 3.1 The Council is currently holding £59,696.76 in AG924 for the provision of open space off site sports facilities in Ollerton.
- 3.2 Due to the expenditure being Capital in nature, the equivalent budget will need to be added to the Capital programme, financed by the S106 receipt.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

None