

**POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**26 SEPTEMBER 2019**

**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:**

**Use of S106 Funds for the refurbishment of the play area at Vicar Water Country Park**

**Appropriate Committee:**

Policy & Finance Committee

**Details of Item and Decision Taken:**

The play area at Vicar Water Country Park is aging, increasingly expensive to maintain and desperately in need of upgrading. A bid for funding from the Veolia Environment Trust was submitted earlier this year but unfortunately this was unsuccessful. However more recently Parks Improvement funding of £18,967 has been received from the Government and it has been agreed that this should be used at Vicar Water for improvements to the play area and additional facilities such as a way-marked walking trail which will provide health benefits for users. There are 2 existing S106 agreements which can provide funds for the play area improvements (AG708 - £18,047.38 available and AG842A - £28,867.59 available) and these amounts, together with a substantial contribution from the Parks Improvement funding would allow for a thorough upgrade of the play area. Legal has confirmed that the use of the funds for the refurbishment of the play area would meet the requirements of the respective S106 agreements. The cost of the play area improvement works is estimated to be £64,000 and the remaining funding would be used for the health improvement facilities.

The scheme will help to deliver the following Community Plan objectives:

- Reviewing the quality and suitability of visitor attractions to broaden the appeal to a wider range of audiences
- Working with partners to develop and enhance the visitor offer at Sherwood Forest and surrounding Sherwood attractions
- Developing parks to include implementing improvements at both Vicar Water and Sconce and Devon Park subject to funding
- Developing strategies and plans to make best use of community/open spaces/recreational and leisure facilities as set out in the Council's Playing Pitch

Strategy, Facilities Plan and Physical Activity and Sport Plan to improve health and wider social outcomes

The reason for the use of the urgency item is that the next meeting of Policy & Finance is not until 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019 and an earlier decision will allow the project to be more speedily progressed.

**Financial Implications (FIN19-20/2448)**

The £18,967 grant from DCLG was received during 2018/19 and is held within the Repairs & Renewals fund.

The S106 monies referred to above are both available for use. Therefore, the total scheme of £64,000 can be financed by these three receipts leaving £1,882 for the health improvement facilities.

**Decision**

Urgency Item agreed by Members listed in order to set up £64,000 Capital Budget to ensure that the project proceeds without unnecessary delay.

**Members Consulted:**

Councillor David Lloyd  
Chairman of Policy & Finance Committee – 29/7/19

Councillor Paul Peacock  
Opposition Spokesperson Policy & Finance Committee and local member – 29/7/19

Councillor Scott Carlton  
Local member – 30/7/19

Councillor Michael Brown  
Local member – 1/8/19



Signed  
Director – Communities & Environment

Date: 12/9/19