

**BISHOPSTOKE, FAIR OAK & HORTON HEATH (BIFOHH) LOCAL
AREA COMMITTEE (LAC)**

Wednesday 24 November 2021

FINANCE MONITORING REPORT

Report of the Local Area Manager

Recommendations

It is recommended that

- (1) **£30,000 is allocated for improvements to the footpath at Knowle Lane, Fair Oak, from developer contributions.**
 - (2) **£6,315.94 is allocated for a new timber trail at Otter Close, Bishopstoke, from developer contributions.**
 - (3) **£1,500 is allocated to a living willow wigwam at Meadowsweet Way, Horton Heath, from developer contributions.**
 - (4) **£1,200 is allocated to purchase hotbins from developer contributions.**
 - (5) **£300 is allocated towards wildflower planting in Fair Oak, from developer contributions.**
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Summary

This report contains recommendations for expenditure from the Committee's developer contributions.

Statutory Powers

Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 i.e. the Local Authority's general power of competence, including power to act for the benefit of its area or persons resident or present in its area.
S.106 Town and Country Planning Act 1990

Strategic Implications

1. The works outlined below contribute to the following strategic priorities:
 - **Local First:** where possible taking decisions at a local level about things which affect people's lives, and using contributions from local developments for local projects
 - **Health & Wellbeing:** to enable healthier lifestyles and wellbeing

- **Green Borough:** Excellent Environment for all: creating a sense of place through improved community facilities, developing green infrastructure
- **Prosperous Place:** Ensuring appropriate infrastructure

Knowle Park Footpath Improvements

2. Following the flash flooding in July this year, large sections of Knowle Park footpaths were washed away. Since lockdown, with more residents accessing the parks, residents have lobbied Fair Oak and Horton Heath Parish Council to undertake footpath improvements to allow greater accessibility for those with mobility issues. The Parish has sourced higher grade path material to ensure that the footpaths are enhanced allowing greater accessibility for all residents promoting health and wellbeing for all. It is recommended that the Committee approves the allocation of £30,000. The developer contribution proposed is:

O/15/77190Pembers LLP, Pembers Hill Farm, Mortimers Lane, Fair Oak	£30,000
TOTAL	£30,000

Otter Close Timber Trail – Bishopstoke

3. Developer contributions totalling £6,315.94 is being proposed for a timber trail for the Otter Close play area in Bishopstoke. If approved, it will be installed within the grass strip that is within the fenced area but does not currently have any play equipment or benches on it.
4. The trail being proposed for consists of stepping logs (20cm tall), a crawl net, a slalom rope walk, a rope-weave, a 1.6m wobble board and a balance slalom. It would be 17.5m long. It is recommended that the Committee approves the allocation of £6,315.94. The developer contribution proposed is:

OSO/14/75086 Land at Fair Oak Road, Bishopstoke	£6,315.94
TOTAL	£6,315.94

Living Willow Wigwam

5. As an extension of the Fair Oak and Horton Heath Parish Council's Bee and Tree corridor project, the Parish would like to facilitate an educational planting project with pupils from Fair Oak Junior School, in the form of a living willow play tunnel adjacent to the play area site. The project aims to educate local children on the ecological benefits of trees as natural habitats for local insects/wildlife. It is recommended that the Committee approves the allocation of £1,500 to help facilitate this. The developer contribution proposed is:

SO/13/73014 Mrs R Muddiman, Land adj Peartree Cottage, Winchester Road, Fair Oak	£1,500
TOTAL	£ 1,500

Hotbins

6. As part of Fair Oak and Horton Heath Parish Council's Climate Change Action Plan, the Parish aims to reduce food waste going to landfill. By placing hotbins at large footfall sites (such as community centres) users will be encouraged to dispose of their food waste using the hotbins. The compost created will be used for village planters. It is recommended that the Committee approves the allocation of £1,200. The developer contribution proposed is:

O/15/77190 Drew Smith Pembers Hill Farm, Mortimers Lane, Fair Oak	£1,200
TOTAL	£ 1,200

Wildflower Planting

7. Fair Oak and Horton Heath Parish Council would like to supplement the environmental enhancements already underway in the local area (bulb, tree and edible flower planting) and create native wildflower meadows in Pembers Hill Drive play area and New Century park, to provide essential habitats for pollinators. It is recommended that the Committee approves the allocation of £300. The developer contribution proposed is:

OSF/10/66666 Mr B Turner, 457 Fair Oak Road, Fair Oak	£70.32
OSF/10/66776 Mr D Murphy, Rear of 22 Summerlands Road, Fair Oak	£71.40
OSF/10/66829 Mr & Mrs Foley, Mobile Home Broadoak Stables, Fair Oak	£8.07
OSF/11/68419 Ross Emery, Glen Farm, Stroudwood Lane	£150.21
TOTAL	£ 300

Financial Implications

8. The recommendations in this report can be contained within existing allocated and unallocated developer's contributions. While some of the recommendations listed have yet to have any significant detail specified, it is expected that all project management and internal staffing costs (where over and above standard day to day tasks) for each project, where required, will be allocated within the funding approved in this report.

Risk Assessment

9. The majority of the recommendations in this report carry a low or low to moderate risk to the council and its partners. Focusing on the deteriorated path at Knowle Park, that should it be left to worsen, it will become an increased risk and likely increased financial burden should it not be approved.

Equality and Diversity Implications

10. The Equality Act is relevant to the decisions in this report as the decisions relate to eliminating discrimination, advancing equality of opportunity, or fostering good relations between different people. The delivery of the Knowle Park footpath improvements would ensure that the path is smooth and level so it will be accessible and be more flexible to use by all members of the community, no matter their impairment.
11. A full Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has not been carried out, because each project individually will have due regard to equalities impacts and complete an impact assessment where it is proportionate to do so.

Climate Change and Environmental Implications

12. The recommendations within this report will have a moderate impact in regard to climate change. If approved, the new path will be built to modern standards with a contractor chosen that has high environmental credentials.
13. The provision of additional play facilities at Otter Close will reduce the need of parents to travel to neighbouring play areas, therefore reducing the number of car journeys, again though admittedly small in carbon reduction, still a reduction in emissions.
14. The hotbins will not only assist in reduced waste, but the compost will be used for by the Parish, reducing the need to purchase additional compost. The proposal will also help educate local residents and encourage green practices by the wider public.
15. The final two recommendations for environmental implications are the willow wigwam and the wildflower planting. As detailed above, if approved, the wigwam will help in educating local school children and encouraging a greener lifestyle. The native wildflower planting will provide bees, butterflies and other pollinators with food sources across the seasons.

Conclusion

16. Councillors are requested to agree expenditure from this Committee's available developer contributions.

ANDREW THOMPSON
LOCAL AREA MANAGER (BIFOHH)

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Appendices Attached: 0

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - SECTION 100D

The following is a list of documents which disclose facts or matters on which this report or an important part of it is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. This list does not include any published works or documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information.

None.