



Subject:	Blythefield Park Alpha Fund Application
Date:	13 October 2015
Reporting Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Ricky Rice, City Parks Manager

Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
	<p>The purpose of the report;</p> <p>1. To seek support from the Committee for the Greater Village Regeneration Trust (GVRT) to apply for Alpha funding for improvement works at Blythefield Park.</p>
2.0	Recommendations
	<p>The Committee is recommended to support this application which will enable improvement works to take place at Blythefield Park.</p>
3.0	Main report
	<p>GVRT require Committee support to apply for the Alpha Programme Fund. The proposed improvements include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Environmental education programme• Outdoor Trail Gym• Creation of 2 woodland areas with timber pergola

- Planting of 50 native trees
- Outdoor gym instructor for 40 weeks
- Living willow arches
- Benches

GVRT will work alongside The Conservation Volunteers as well as local volunteers to carry out this project, the majority of these volunteers will be aged 16-24.

This proposal has many key environmental , social , wellbeing , health and economic benefits which link to multiple cross cutting Northern Strategic , the key ones being;

NI Biodiversity Strategy – Identifying spaces in urban areas to protect and enhance biodiversity. This work will link to the local biodiversity planning for this area.

Making Life Better Strategy – This is a Public Health Agency NI Strategy for local people to be supported to connect with their local green space to recognise its value to improving and enhancing their physical health, social, and mental well-being.

Five Ways to Well Being – DHSPNI – The inclusive and interactive nature of the proposal will promote the Take 5 message. Connect local people to their green space and each other , keep learning by creating new opportunities and challenges through practical environmental workshops for people living in an inner city area , be active support local people to get out , feel safe and use their local green space for exercise , giving local people an opportunity to work together for a common positive purpose and supporting each other to achieve this goal, take notice increased understanding of their natural surroundings and how it benefits their health and well-being.

NI Volunteering Strategy – DSD VOLUNTARY COMMUNITY UNIT – This project will focus on bringing local people together to enhance their living green space for everyone's benefit. GVRT will use our proven community development approach to engage local people in positive volunteering, promoting active citizenship by upskilling local people and building a strong sense of community ownership and skills bank to create sustained engagement.

Financial & Resource Implications

There are no financial implications for Belfast City Council as GVRT are applying for 90% of the total project cost (£21,843.60), GVRT's 'in kind' support will pay for the remaining 10%.

	<p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>There are no human resource issues other than officer time and routine maintenance checks.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>There is currently no asset implication.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>There are no known equality implications as the Park will continue to be available for all to use.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 - The Alpha Programme Application.