



Subject:	Parkrun – 5 year celebrations
Date:	13 October 2015
Reporting Officer:	<i>Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure</i>
Contact Officer:	Paula Irvine, Community Parks Outreach 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>At the meeting of the Council on 1st September, it was proposed by Alderman Kingston and seconded by Councillor Hutchinson, that:</p> <p><i>“This Council notes that the 5th anniversary of the Belfast ‘Parkrun’ event occurs on Saturday, 7th November. This event is a free and timed five-kilometre event which takes place in over 550 parks worldwide. The Council commends those volunteers who organise and supervise ‘Parkrun’ events at five venues in the City every Saturday, including Council-owned parks, and notes that a further two venues will be added to that list in the near future;</i></p> <p>This paper seeks approval for the City and Neighbourhood Services department to support a number of celebratory events scheduled to take place during the weekend 06 / 07 November 2015. These celebratory events will take place at a number of Council facilities and will mark the 5th anniversary of the introduction of Parkrun in Ireland.</p>
2.0	Recommendations
	<p>It is recommended that the committee grant authority for;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. a number of celebratory events to take place over a number of Council facilities during the weekend of 06 / 07 November 2015 to mark the 5 year anniversary of

	<p>the 1st park run on the island of Ireland; and</p> <p>2. to provide financial assistance with a number of celebratory events scheduled to take place at several Council facilities.</p>
<p>3.0</p>	<p>Main report</p>
	<p>Parkrun originated in England in 2004 and was introduced in Ireland and the Waterworks Park in November 2010. It now occurs every Saturday morning in the Waterworks, Ormeau Park, Falls Park, Victoria Park and Queens Playing Fields. Colin Glen Park and Stormont Estate are set to be added to the Belfast venues.</p> <p>The founder, Paul Sinton Hewitt CBE, is planning to attend the 5th anniversary events in Belfast and has agreed to attend an evening reception scheduled to take place on Friday 06 November in Belfast Castle. The event organisers have sought financial support from Belfast City Council by way of free use of the castle and the provision of light refreshments.</p> <p>Paul will also attend the Saturday run at the Waterworks Park where the main community event will take place. The run will take place as normal followed by a rewards ceremony in the park. The event organisers have requested that the Council support the event by providing a marquee for the purposes of catering, medals and trophies for award winners and a celebratory plaque that will be mounted permanently in the park and unveiled by Paul Sinton Hewitt.</p> <p>The other 4 Parkrun events that are housed within Belfast parks will also mark the 5th anniversary at each of their own runs on Saturday 07 November 2015. Parkrun organisers have requested support at these events by way of light refreshments such as fruit packs for the participants.</p> <p>It is estimated that 50 people will attend the reception in Belfast Castle and it is hoped that Dame Mary Peters will attend and speak at the event.</p> <p>It is estimated that approximately 1000 participants will run at parkrun events in Belfast parks on Saturday 07 November 2015.</p>

	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>It is estimated that the total cost to the Council to support the anniversary events will be no more than £2500.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>There are no human resource implications expected with this report.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>The use of various Council facilities to host celebratory events.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>There are no equality or good relation implications with this report. Parkrun events across Belfast are inclusive of all members of our communities.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None