



Subject:	Connswater Community Greenway - naming of structures
Date:	12 th January 2016
Reporting Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Eiméar Vance, Project Sponsor

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>Members will be aware that the Connswater Community Greenway (CCG) is a 9km linear park along the course of the Connswater, Knock and Loop Rivers in East Belfast that is currently being delivered by the Council as part of our Investment Programme. The £40million scheme was developed by EastSide Partnership (previously East Belfast Partnership) and is also funded by the Big Lottery Fund, and the Department of Social Development. The project also includes elements of DRD's Rivers Agency's East Belfast Flood Alleviation Scheme.</p> <p>Along the length of the Greenway numerous new structures are being constructed, all of which will be opened as the various sections of Phase 2 of CCG scheme in which they are completed throughout the coming year.</p> <p>There is broad agreement that at least 14 of these structures (i.e. the new pedestrian bridges and link/paths) should be formally named. This report sets out a phased consultative approach and process for naming new structures in line with the Council's naming policy. The naming policy pack is attached for information at Appendix 1.</p>
2.0	Recommendations
	<p>Committee is asked to consider and agree to the proposed phased and consultative approach to naming the series of structures being constructed as part of the CCG.</p>

3.0	Main report <p>The CCG will create a 9km linear parkland through East Belfast which will connect the river with the surrounding communities by creating vibrant, safe and accessible green spaces for leisure, recreation and community events and activities. In line with the project, DRD Rivers' Agency is taking forward a £11million Flood Alleviation Scheme to provide increased protection to properties and businesses near the river courses that are at risk from river and tidal flooding.</p> <p>Along the length of the Greenway numerous pedestrian bridges and new links/paths are being constructed, all of which will be under Belfast City Council (BCC) ownership, and will be opened to the public as the various sections of Phase 2 of the CCG scheme complete throughout the coming year.</p> <p>In response to general consensus that these structures should be formally named, Connswater Community Greenway Trust are planning to commence a consultative naming process throughout the coming months. This will give the local community the opportunity to propose and select names for each of these new CCG structures.</p> <p>At its meeting in August 2008 the Parks and Leisure Committee agreed a policy framework for managing requests to (re) name parks and leisure facilities. Whilst the naming policy applies to parks in their entirety, and not parts of parks or structures within. The proposed consultation process will be carried out by the Connswater Community Greenway Trust (CCGT) in line with the policy, with the intention that the names proposed for each structure will be assessed against the agreed criteria set out within it.</p> <p>CCGT are proposing to sequence the list of structures and consult upon them in tranches according to when their section is scheduled to be completed/opened. This is with the view to a small number of further reports being brought to Committee to allow each of the proposed names to be considered for agreement within context of BCC's naming policy. This is similar to the naming exercise conducted for the Sam Thompson Bridge in Victoria Park.</p> <p>The naming process now being proposed for these bridges and path/links allows for a 2 week consultation period during which the public will have the opportunity to submit ideas for the names for each structure in line with Council's naming policy. Following this a panel of judges will meet to consider the submissions and shortlist two or three for each. The public will then be asked to vote for their favourite. The names with the most votes under each category will win the vote and the name proposals will be brought back to Committee for approval.</p>
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The first four structures that CCGT propose to commence public engagement upon in this way are three pedestrian bridges (one existing and two new) in the Phase 1 completed section of Orangefield Park (section C3); and one new path/link, i.e:

- Greenville Park Bridge (lower) *[existing]*
- Greenville Park Bridge (upper)
- Orangefield Lane Bridge
- Greenway link section C7 (Clarawood to the Branial) of the CCG.

It is proposed that following a two week period in February 2016, a judging panel will meet to consider and shortlist name submissions. Following this, a public vote will be open at the end of February for several weeks, this is with a view to the final four name proposals being brought back to Committee in April for consideration and agreement, and subsequent ratification by Council at the start of May.

As with the previous process progressed to name CCG's Sam Thompson Bridge, communication and advertising will be used to engage and inform all users, potential users and interested parties that the consultation to naming the structures is being undertaken. Elected Members for the area will be kept informed as the naming process progresses.

Financial & Resource Implications

None

Equality or Good Relations Implications

There are no equality or good relations implications attached to this report.

4.0	Key to Abbreviations
	CCG – Connswater Community Greenway DRD - Department of Regional Development CCGT - Connswater Community Greenway Trust
5.0	Appendices – Documents attached
	Appendix 1 - Belfast City Council Parks and Leisure Naming Policy