

North Belfast Area Working Group

Wednesday, 26th May, 2021

NORTH BELFAST AREA WORKING GROUP HELD REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Members present: Councillor Maskey (Chairperson);
Councillors Bradley, Cobain, Ferguson,
Magee, McCullough, McCusker, Murphy,
O'Hara and Pankhurst.

In attendance: Ms. S. Grimes, Director of Physical Programmes;
Ms. K. Gilliland, Neighbourhood Services Manager,
Ms. K. Mullen, Project Sponsor;
Ms M. Higgins, Neighbourhood Integration Manager;
Mr D. Salters, OSS Manager (North); and
Ms. E. McGoldrick, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

Apologies for inability to attend were reported on behalf of Councillors McAllister and Whyte.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 24th February 2021 were agreed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Pankhurst declared an interest in relation to item 4. Physical Programme Update, in so far as he was on the Board of the Upper Crumlin Cultural Community Hub.

Councillor O'Hara declared an interest in the presentation by Sailortown Regeneration Group in that his family had a historic relationship with the Church.

In relation to item 5. Peace IV Forth Meadow Community Project, Councillor Maskey declared an interest in so far as he was employed by Intercom which had recently facilitated mediation training with the SusTrans Volunteer Group.

Presentations

ORNI - Outdoor Recreation NI

The Chairperson welcomed Mr. C. Scott, Head of Operations representing Outdoor Recreation NI to the meeting to give an update on the Cavehill Mountain Biking Pilot.

Mr. Scott provided an overview of the current informal Mountain Bike Trail network that existed on Cavehill, which included maps, photographs and a video highlighting the path of the 'Middle Trail' which the Council had agreed to adopt as a part of an in-year pilot initiative. He highlighted that, as part of this, there would also be an evaluation framework drawn up for the Council to follow and that there would be enhanced signage (as well as a wide communications plan) put in place in relation to this trail so that there would be no hidden surprises for both Bikers and other users of Cavehill.

He advised that, in managing the Middle Trail, the key role of the Cavehill Mountain Bikers Club would include:

- Management;
- Inspection;
- Maintenance;
- Insurance;
- Volunteer (Club Member) Management; and
- Advocacy / Engagement.

He advised the Group that, in developing the pilot, ORNI had undertaken research and followed best practice, established a foundation through consultation and that a memorandum of understanding between the Council and the Club was currently being considered by the Council's legal department. He pointed out that the pilot would be closely monitored, and that the planned evaluation framework would allow for key data to be analysed and that an online survey was also going to be developed to engage with a wide a network of users.

During discussion, Mr. Scott explained further the engagement which had been undertaken with users to date, risk factors for Park users and liability issues. He highlighted that the risks included the fact that not all Bikers using the trail would be Members of the Cavehill Bikers Club and also that mountain bikers would continue to use the other trails (as they had been doing) which were not included in the Pilot. He also emphasised that the Pilot was being taken forward using the Visitor Safety Group approach which encompassed the belief that it was possible to protect and enhance landscapes and historic properties, encourage public access and achieve levels of risk that were acceptable to both society, land owners and managers.

The Chairperson thanked Mr. Scott for his presentation and he retired from the meeting.

The Neighbourhood Services Manager advised that further updates would be provided to Members at key stages of the Pilot.

After discussion, the Working Group welcomed the pilot and noted the information which had been provided.

Sailortown Regeneration Group

The Chairperson welcomed Ms. T. McKeown, and Mr. P. Benson, representing Sailortown Regeneration Group to the meeting to provide an update on the ongoing project at St. Joseph's Church and their future plans.

Ms. McKeown provided a presentation on the history of the area and how the regeneration group intended to bring Sailortown back to life. She advised that there was 114 years of Community Spirit in Sailortown, and they wished to build on the past to create a new future: Sailortown a Gateway to North Belfast.

She informed the Working Group that they were currently using the de-consecrated church to run activities for children, and pre-Covid had used the church for music events, together with an illumination project.

She explained how the intended project sat within the City Wide Planning Strategies, including the Clarendon Sailortown Masterplan, and how it would complement the surrounding Capital Projects for the area.

She advised that they wished to use the Parochial House beside the church as a revenue driver and explained that the Ulster University had undertaken an Arch Project 2019 -21 which illustrated the creation of usable workspaces for the building.

Ms. McKeown highlighted the Feasibility study and the AHF Viability Plan options for turning the building into an adaptive multipurpose reuse space linked to Church events or Iconic workspaces with High Speed Wi-Fi and an Occasional Conference Venue.

She explained the AHF Condition Report for undertaking the necessary works to the Parochial House had identified costs estimated at £539,100.

During discussion, the representatives answered a range of questions in relation to the Master Plan for the Area, tourism, funding sources and next steps. They advised that the condition and viability reports provided a breakdown of costs which they would be content to share with the Council. They highlighted that the priority in the first stage was to ensure that the Parochial House was made safe, such as constructing a fire escape.

The Chairperson thanked the representatives for their informative presentation and they retired from the meeting.

After discussion, the Working Group noted that the Physical Programmes Department would review the condition and viability reports to examine what would be achievable and report back to the Working Group.

Request to Present - McCracken Cultural Society's Community Centre, Áras Mhic Reachtain

The Working Group agreed to receive a presentation from representatives of the McCracken Cultural Society's Community Centre at its next meeting in August to discuss the future sustainability and development of the Centre.

Physical Programme Update

The Director of Physical Programmes provided an update on the progress of those projects under a range of funding streams including the Capital Programme, the Leisure Transformation Programme, the Local Investment Fund (LIF), the Belfast Investment Fund (BIF), and Social Outcome Fund (SOF). She advised that site visits could be arranged, when restrictions had eased, to allow the Working Group to view its completed Projects in North Belfast. She highlighted that the programme also covered projects that the Council was delivering in behalf of other agencies:

Local Investment Fund (LIF)

She explained that LIF was a £9m fixed programme of capital investment in non-council neighbourhood assets, over two tranches, with the North being allocated £1.127m under LIF1 and £800,000 under LIF2.

She highlighted that 43 projects in total had received In Principle support under LIF1 and LIF2, of which 34 had been completed; 2 were at delivery stage; 3 were at preconstruction stage and 4 remained at due diligence / initial stages.

She drew Members' attention to the table in the report which provided an overview of progress and actions around the remaining live projects, as follows:

LIF Ref	PROJECT	FUNDING	STAGE	STATUS	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION
NLIF2-14	Star Neighbourhood Centre	£58,467	On Ground	Project on site. Electrical works complete. Work ongoing regarding procurement of contractor for outside space.	Continue engagement with the group.
NLIF066	Wishing Well Project	£40,000	Tender preparation	The SIF project has now been completed. An architect has now been appointed and is preparing tender documentation.	Liaise with group regarding procurement.
NLIF2-21	Somme Group – cross community memorial	£21,667	Tender preparation	Progressing through Due Diligence stage. Designs also completed and planning application submitted. Ongoing work with Legal in order to get the funding agreement prepared. Some further information being sought.	To be presented again to Due Diligence for sign off. Funding agreement to be progressed once signed off. Requirement for street works licence to be resolved.
NLIF057	Ardoyne Holy Cross Boxing Club	£66,000	Initial stage	Agreed April 2014 - No significant movement for more than 4 years. This project is within the overall UV Phase 2 development of St Gemma's school, which is at Economic Appraisal stage	Continued engagement with Group and with UV
NLIF014	Westland Community Centre - new buildings	£65,000	Due Diligence stage	Project originally agreed January 2013, SIF Since SIF was withdrawal Westland Community Group and are being supported by partners, including UV in the re- scoping the project and seeking out alternative funding opportunities. A funded community worker is now in place.	Continued engagement with Group
NLIF2-19	Women's Tec	£46,667	Due Diligence stage	Agreed February 2017. Group will be renewing their lease at Skegoniell Primary School. Lease is now in progress and is currently with the EA solicitor.	Continued engagement with Group in terms of the lease. Project will be taken back to Due Diligence for review.
NLIF2-03	Ardoyne Shankill Health Partnership	£15,000	Due Diligence stage	Project remains at Due Diligence stage – lease issues to be resolved.	Continued engagement with Group
NLIF2-05	Mercy Primary, Crumlin Road	£15,000	Initial stage	Agreed June 2016 - Reported to SP&R Committee on 19 th June 2020 confirming that information was received from the group and project is progressing	Continued engagement with Group
NLIF-22	Sailortown, St. Joseph's Church Refurbishment	£75,000	On ground	Project is progressing on site.	Continued engagement with group

During discussion, the Working Group agreed to invite a deputation from the ABC Trust (St Gemma's project) to present its current project status at a future meeting.

Belfast Investment Fund (BIF)

The Director of Physical Programmes provided a brief overview in relation to the Belfast Investment Fund (BIF) and reminded the Working Group that North Belfast had

been allocated £5.5m. She advised that, in North Belfast, 7 projects had received an 'In-Principle' funding commitment under BIF, thereby fully allocating its £5.5m: and 2 projects were on the longer BIF list:

North	<p>Stage 3 - Cancer Lifeline—£650k; Grace Family Centre —£1.6m Stage 2 - Malgrove- £500k; Old Grove/ Basement Youth Club/ Elim Church Ireland - £1.5m Stage 1 - Marrowbone Park £750k; Cultural Community Hub - £350k, Midland Boxing Club £400k Cliftonville Community Forum, Sunningdale Community Centre - no commitment</p>
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She updated the Working Group on the status of the remaining projects and suggested the following actions be taken forward:

BIF Ref	PROJECT	FUNDING	STAGE	STATUS	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION
BIF05	Cancer Lifeline	£650,000	Complete	Project completed	Continue engagement with the group re post monitoring
BIF06	Grace Family Centre	£1,600,000	Complete	Project recently completed	Continue engagement with the group re post monitoring
BIF22/34	Basement Youth Club/ Elim Church (Old Grove)	£1,500,000	Design stage	Funding allocated to the project in January 2019 (SP&R Cttee). Designs and costings outlined in the Economic Appraisal for the scheme have been further tested and the design team is now in place to progress towards planning. Work is ongoing with the Department of Education regarding their allocated funding (£500k), a revised Economic Appraisal and Business Planning is required and is ongoing. Due to issues regarding ongoing revenue costs an alternative to the Old Grove site is now being considered and more detail will be presented to the Area Working Group when the new EA is completed and ready for presentation in August 2021.	Continue engagement with the group and stakeholders.
BIF15	Malgrove	£500,000	Uncommitted	New changing pavilion for Grove United and Malachians FC at Shore Road Playing Fields. Potential land transfer from NIE discussions underway. Preferred option for four team changing estimated at £1m. DfC to be approached regarding £500k deficit.	Engagement with NIE regarding potential transfer of land parcel ongoing with a view to progressing further design layout reflecting inclusion for access and car-parking.
BIF41	Marrowbone Millennium Park	£750,000	Emerging	Partnership project with UV. Business Case approved. Planning application submitted Aug 2020 and a decision is anticipated shortly. DfC has confirmed additional funding of £200k. In Nov 2020, additional BIF funding of £250k was re-allocated. UV Letter of Offer is now imminent.	Communication and information sharing around the agreed designs to be completed.
BIF43	Cultural Community Hub	£350,000	Emerging	Proposed community facility for Upper Crumlin Road Cultural Association. Feasibility study and business plan near completion. Includes £100k reallocated from Ulster Scots Hub project in Sept 2020.	Ongoing engagement with group and consultation to complete feasibility study and agreed preferred option to be progressed.
BIF45	Midland Boxing Club	£400,000	Design Stage	Designs progressing towards a planning submission. Ongoing	Continued engagement with group and design team.

				Due Diligence consideration with regard to legal and estates issues. Initial pre tender estimates show the project may require further funding and project officers are approaching funders.	
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The Director reminded the Working Group that, at its meeting in November, the Members were advised that there was an underspend within the Grace Family Centre and Cancer Lifeline projects of approximately £305k due to other funding being secured towards both projects. At this stage the AWG was advised that the Grace Family Centre project was in the final stages of completion and therefore not at final account. Given this, the Members had agreed to reallocate £250k of the underspend to the Marrowbone project but to defer consideration of the rest of the underspend until a final figure was brought back to the AWG for consideration.

She explained that, in the interim, officers were asked to liaise with Loveworks regarding a potential project with further detail to be brought back to the AWG, however, due to organisational issues, Loveworks had confirmed that they would like to withdraw themselves from consideration.

She also advised that as Grace Family Centre was now complete and was launched on 14th May. The final account would now be confirmed over the coming weeks, after which any amount available for reallocation would be brought back to Members for consideration.

Capital Programme

The Director of Physical Programmes reminded the Working Group of the 3 stage approval process in place for every project on the Council's Capital Programme, as agreed by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee. She summarised the current status of the live projects for North Belfast as follows:

Project	Status and update
Playground Improvement Programme 2020/2021 (City wide)	Ohio St playground complete.
North Foreshore - Development Sites Infrastructure Works	Stage 3 – Committed Project. Electricity infrastructure upgrade currently being progressed
Belfast Zoo – Programme of Works (Works to the Large Cats Enclosure, Sea Lion, etc)	Stage 3 - Committed Project. On ground. Health and safety works and Sea Lion works underway. Tender preparation has also begun for the Large Cats Enclosure, with works anticipated to start by September.
Boodles Dam	Stage 3 – Committed Project. Tender process completed. Appointment of contractor is completed. Contractor scheduled to start works on site in late June 2021.
Reservoir Safety Programme	Stage 3- Committed Project. Works to Alexandra Park, Waterworks Upper and Waterworks Lower. Integrated Consultancy Team have been appointed.
Alleygating Phase 5 – City wide	Stage 3 – Committed Project. Consultation stage
LTP - Girdwood Phase 2	Stage 2 – Uncommitted Project. Design Team and Business Case consultant now engaged. Currently working through options in partnership with DfC for inclusion in Business Case.

Relocation of Dunbar Link Cleansing Depot	Stage 2 – Uncommitted Project. OBC being worked up
Hurling Wall at Cliftonville (Pitches Strategy)	Project completed.

Externally- funded programme

The Director of Physical Programmes explained that the Council was the delivery partner / agent for a number of government departments on key capital investment programmes, namely, the Executive Office Social Investment Fund (SIF), the Executive Office Urban Villages (UV) Programme, and number of schemes with the Department for Communities Regeneration directorate. She provided the following overview of projects within each programme relevant to North Belfast:

SIF – North Belfast projects overview

Project	Status and update
North Belfast Women’s Initiative & Support Project	Project completed

Urban Villages Initiative

Project	Status and update
Marrowbone Millennium Park	Partnership project with UV (BIF). Business Case approved. Planning application submitted Aug 2020 and a decision is anticipated shortly. DfC has confirmed additional funding of £200k. In Nov 2020, additional BIF funding of £250k was re-allocated. UV Letter of Offer is now imminent.
Ballysillan Playing Fields	12 weeks public consultation ongoing until 1st August and includes a series of engagement session and survey. After the consultation a report on the consultation findings will be prepared and final design changes to scheme confirmed. Additional DfC funding of £200k confirmed. Discussions continuing with LWWP in relation to additional funding opportunities. UV Business Case approved and Letter of Offer is now imminent.
Beann Mhadagáin Family Centre	Council acting as delivery agent. Business case progressing. Potential funding deficit. Project Promoter exploring options regarding additional funding opportunities. Letter of Offer anticipated pending confirmation of funding and business case approval.
Sunningdale Community Centre	Final draft business case received and is under review. Council considering an in principle agreement to transfer lands. Officers have responded to a request from TEO for match funding of £359,318 advising that there is no available funding at this time.
Ardoyne Youth Enterprises (AYE) Social Enterprise Project:	Council acting as delivery agent. Business case is progressing. Project designs and costs are being developed. Executive Office indicate there may be a funding shortfall.
St Gemma’s ABC Trust	Partnership project with UV (LIF). Business Case is progressing. Project designs and costs are being developed and an MOU is in place. Executive Office indicate there may be a funding shortfall.

Department for Communities (DfC) funded projects

The Director of Physical Programmes provided the following status update on DfC funded projects in North Belfast:

Project	Status and update
Girdwood Indoor Sports Site— ICT	As per capital update above, Design Team (ICT) and Business Case consultant have now been appointed.
Voice of Young people In Care (VOYPIC) and Include Youth	Refurbishment of 100 Great Patrick St, Belfast to provide a modern, fit for purpose youth space - BCC as delivery agent. Procurement of design team has concluded, designs produced and is currently out to tender for a contractor to be appointed in June 21.

Living with Water Programme

The Working Group was reminded that it received a presentation by Living with Water (LWW) at its meeting in January which outlined a wider range of initiatives focused on flood alleviation across the city. Since then, officers from Physical Programmes and City and Neighbourhood Services had been working with LWW to take forward a natural flood management scheme based on a sustainable drainage pilot project in the grounds of Belfast Castle. Whilst this was touched on as part of the presentation Members may value a more detailed update on this proposal and an awareness of the timeframe now emerging.

The Director drew Members' attention to the Feasibility Study (Appendix 1) which had been commissioned by NI Water to explore the potential for a sustainable drainage scheme (SuDS) to be constructed within the grounds of Belfast City Castle Estate along the access road.

She explained that the primary drivers for the project which were discussed and identified jointly with NI Water, DfI Rivers and BCC included:

- Awareness raising of flood risk and provision of a catalyst for other similar type SuDS and Natural Flood Management (NFM) schemes across the city, with some on other BCC sites
- To assess of the methods for constructing leaky dams and 'soft' SuDS
- To provide a tool for monitoring of longer term maintenance requirements and resultant maintenance costs
- To provide silt and debris management and improve runoff management to Belfast Castle Estate access road which had in the past presented a significant issue in periods of protracted heavy rain.

She explained that, as the primary focus of the pilot was to develop an area for demonstrating 'natural' drainage and flood management measures, there was significant potential for this pilot to incorporate educational opportunities for local schools.

In relation to the timeframe, the Director advised that designs were being finalised and it was anticipated that work would commence on site in mid-June or early July. She pointed out that all costs for the project would be met by DfI. The project would be managed by officers from Physical Programmes and utilise the services of the current measured term contractor.

After discussion, the Working Group:

- noted the physical programme update for North Belfast;
- noted that Grace Family Centre, Hurling Wall at Cliftonville, NBWISP and Ohio St Playground refurbishment projects were all now complete;
- noted that Love Works Cooperative had withdrawn from the funding process; and
- agreed to invite a deputation from the ABC Trust (St Gemma's project) to present its current project status at a future meeting.

Peace IV Forth Meadow Community Project

The Director of Physical Programmes reminded the Working Group of the update provided to the Group in February in relation to the major transformational project for this area, which included the two letters of offer which had been received from the Department for Infrastructure (750k) and Department for Communities (500k) towards the Forth Meadow Community Greenway.

The Project Sponsor provided an overview of Forth Meadow Community Greenway, the masterplan for the area, and the work which had been undertaken to date. This included the development of Capital Works at the Springfield Dam and wider Greenway. She highlighted that the Project was made up of the following five sections of the Greenway and provided indicative dates of when works would commence:

- **Section 1** – Glencairn Park and Forthriver Linear Park/Clarendon Playing Fields to the Ballygomartin Road
- **Section 2** – Ballygomartin Road through Woodvale Park/Paisley Park, Innovation Factory/DfC/INI site to Springfield Road
- **Section 3** – Springfield Dam, Springhill Millennium Park, Highfield/Springmartin, Blackmountain (Ballygomartin South), Whiterock/Falls Park/City Cemetery to Falls Road
- **Section 4** – Falls Road through Milltown Cemetery/Bog Meadows to Broadway
- **Section 5** – Broadway through Blythefield Park to New Transport Hub via Westlink

She advised that the Project was estimated to be completed by December 2022.

She drew Members' attention to the Sectional Design Drawings in the presentation which illustrated the key focal points and design interventions in each section.

The Neighbourhood Services Manager highlighted the Shared Space Programming of the project which included Volunteer Training (inc. Mediation training); Inter-generational sessions on heritage and identity; Public art/branding on themes related to sharing, heritage and diversity; 3 large participative events; and Civic education.

She outlined the following Supported Shared Space Projects of the Programme:

- Pilot Youth Civic Education & Engagement;
- Lanark Way Women's Fitness;
- Community Dialogue & Engagement;
- Volunteer Training;
- Narratives for Interpretative Panels (x17);
- Youth Outreach (Social Value Clause);
- Development of Governance Model;

- Youth Civic Education & Engagement;
- Schools' Bio-Diversity Project;
- Cross Community Men's Shed; and
- Shared project activities in Springfield Dam Park.

The Neighbourhood Services Manager advised that further Community Engagement had been planned and included: Engagement / information sessions; a Dialogue and Engagement project; Development of a Governance Model; Up-to-date Webinar events; Presentation to key community stakeholder groups; and Monthly update reports. She also highlighted the other opportunities for communities to get involved, such as the development of community led activity, of which, Groups involved in the supported projects could avail of £6,000 per site, at the following 12 sites:

- Clarendon Playing fields;
- Glencairn Park;
- Forthriver Linear Park;
- Woodvale Park/Paisley Park;
- Springfield Dam Park;
- Springfield Millennium Park;
- Highfield/Springmartin;
- Innovation Factory/Invest NI site;
- Blackmountain (Ballygomartin South);
- Whiterock/Falls Park/City Cemetery;
- Milltown Cemetery/Bog Meadows; and
- Blythefield Park.

During discussion, officers answered a range of question in relation to cycle pathways, biodiversity, shared spaces, and the potential to expand the Greenway further. The Project Sponsor also advised that she would be content to meet any Member to discuss the Project further, or provide further information, if required.

The Working Group noted the information which had been provided.

Stakeholder Engagement: Waterworks and Alexandra Parks

The Working Group considered the following report:

“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues

The working group is asked to approve the proposals outlined in this report in relation to engagement with key stakeholders on future programming and development in the Alexandra and Waterworks Parks in north Belfast.

2.0 Recommendations

The working group is asked to approve that officers will undertake separate engagement exercises for both parks, which will focus on programming and the creation of good quality spaces for all park users. Officers will bring a future report to committee to update on this work and any emerging recommendations in terms of future structures. Members are asked to consider and provide feedback on the draft lists of stakeholders for each park.

3.0 Main report

Key Issues

Officers have identified that there is a need to engage with stakeholders to develop proposals on the future programming and development of Waterworks and Alexandra Parks. There is no current forum at either park that allows for Council to carry out this engagement.

There are two primary factors which underpin the need for this work:

- 1. Both parks are due to benefit from significant reservoir works towards the end of the 21/22 financial year. Council needs to develop a mechanism to engage with park users and local residents to communicate the impact and extent of the works. These works may also present the opportunity to undertake wider development at each park and it is essential that council has a way of engaging with key stakeholders to develop any related plans.**
- 2. Both parks have seen increased usage over the lockdown period and council officers are keen to develop and enhance the current programming that is on offer at both sites. Many organisations are using outdoor spaces to deliver project activity and officers have identified that a collaborative forum which looks at the development of programming in these parks would be very beneficial. Both parks have presented issues linked to ongoing ASB and criminal activity over the last number of months. As a result of engagement to address these issues council officers have received requests from a number of interested groups, particularly youth groups, who want to become involved in the delivery of social action projects and long term programming within the parks. Officers are keen to support and develop this interest but there is a need to ensure communication and engagement with all park users on future programming and plans.**

Park users

Both parks have different sets of users and associated issues. Waterworks Park has a number of core user groups including; Grow Community Garden, Families of the Waterworks, North Belfast Play Forum and Park Run. There is also significant use from local residents and community/sports organisations.

Alexandra Park has seen an increase in informal use by sports organisations but there are no core projects which base their programming in the park. Most users are local residents and community/youth groups. As members will be aware, there is an interface gate in the park and its use is largely segregated. Previous engagement focused on the long term development of the park, however, in the current context, officers

recommend that we begin engagement based on the context above which seeks to maximise programming in the two parks and provide a good quality environment for all users. Duncairn Community Partnership (DCP) is an IFI Peacewalls project which facilitates the Alexandra Park Steering group. Council will include DCP in this engagement exercise.

Future engagement structures

There are a number of possible options in relation to future engagement structures within these parks. These include the development of a Friends of a Group, which would be independently constituted and could access external funding or a stakeholder/advisory group which would be facilitated by council to ensure collaboration and effective communication on emerging issues/plans. Officers will seek feedback through the initial engagement work on which structures would best meet the needs of parks users in each park.

Financial & Resource Implications

At the current time there will be no financial implications in undertaking this work. All work will be undertaken by Council officers through existing budgets.

Equality or Good Relations Implications

This work will have a positive impact on equality and good relations as it will seek to make the parks more welcoming, accessible, safe and good quality for all users.”

In response to Members’ questions regarding the potential for an events space at the Waterworks Park, consultation with residents, and community safety, the Neighbourhood Services Manager explained further the focus of the Programme and the engagement process.

After discussion, the Working Group agreed that officers undertake separate engagement exercises for both parks, which would focus on programming and the creation of good quality spaces for all park users, and noted that a future report would be submitted to the Working Group to update Members on this work and any emerging recommendations in terms of future structures. The Working Group noted that any further feedback on the draft lists of stakeholders for each park (Appendix 1) be sent to the Neighbourhood Services Manager.

Date of Next Meeting

The Working Group noted the date of the next scheduled meeting, Wednesday, 25th August, 2021.

Chairperson