



DECISION OF DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT

DECISION NO. 15/16 DE 250

SUBJECT: Increase to the Capital Programme to include the enhancement and refurbishment of the Toddler / Junior Play Area at Merlin Park, Portishead

Background:

1. The refurbishment of safety surfacing at Merlin Park, Portishead was postponed to enable a jointly funded refurbishment scheme with Portishead Town Council to be developed. This has enabled the removal of two elderly play items and replacement with a new see-saw and multi-play unit, in addition to the new safety surface. The retained swings will be re-painted.
2. The total amount of funding received requires that the works be carried out as a capital project.
3. Each s106 fund specifies the use of the funding and as they are legally binding agreements they can only be used for the purpose specified.
4. The s106 agreements to be included in this project total £12,374.00 and are listed below:
 - Land at Moor Lane, Portishead
 - Land at 176 High Street, Portishead

DECISION:

To approve the addition to the capital programme of the Merlin Park refurbishment project at a total budget of up to £27,374. This will be funded from existing s106 contributions up to a value of £12,374, with a further £15,000 from Portishead Town Council for the new play equipment installation.

Reasons:

- The project cost exceeds normal s106 maintenance funding available for the site.

- The funding from Portishead Town Council enables the provision of new equipment at the same time the surface is renewed.
- The sum of money involved in the project requires that it forms part of the Capital Programme

Other Alternatives Considered:

A number of alternative sites were jointly considered for new equipment provision by NSC and Portishead Town Council, but were found to be less suitable.

Assessment:

The safety surface replacement is considered essential to replace the worn existing surface. The present equipment is elderly and safe, but with a short remaining lifespan. The two replacement units proposed, will greatly enhance the play value and appearance of the site and in combining the work with the safety surfacing further savings are made.


Financial Implications:

The cost of the safety surface is £10,374
 The estimated cost of the equipment removal is: £1,300
 The estimated cost of repainting the swings is £ 700
 All of the above, to be funded from existing s106 funds.

The cost of the new equipment is £15,000.00 to be funded by Portishead Town Council.

Implications for Future Years:

None directly associated with this decision.

Signed..........Director of Development and Environment.

Dated.....18/3/2016.....