

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY 25 JANUARY 2018
MADLEY PARK PLAYING FIELDS PROJECT
REPORT OF THE HEAD OF LEISURE AND COMMUNITIES
(Contact: Martin Holland, Tel: (01993) 861556)

(The Committee's decision will be a resolution)

1. PURPOSE

To consider proposals for the refurbishment of an existing play area and the addition of new facilities at Madley Park Playing Fields, Witney.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the proposed design be endorsed.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1. At its meeting held on 25 May, 2017, the Committee gave consideration to initial proposals for the refurbishment of the existing play area and the addition of new facilities at Madley Park Playing fields in Witney. A copy of that report may be viewed on the Council's website [here](#)
- 3.2. At that meeting the Committee resolved that, subject to any necessary planning consent, the Cabinet be recommended to authorise the project to proceed based upon the location, concept plan and advice received as outlined within the main body of the report and requested to refer the matter back to this Committee for further consideration once the final design of the play area has been completed.
- 3.3. The report was subsequently considered by the Cabinet on 14 June when Officers were authorised to proceed with the project based upon the location, concept plan and advice received as outlined within the main body of the report. In addition, the Cabinet also agreed that the matter be referred back to the Economic and Social Overview and Scrutiny Committee for further consideration once the final design of the play area had been completed.
- 3.4. A design brief was finalised following further public consultation and tenders were sought on a design and install basis to accord with that document.
- 3.5. Tenders have now been received and assessed and the Project Steering Group has identified the preferred design, details of which can be seen at Appendix A.
- 3.6. Members are advised that, as proposed, the design does not require planning permission and the Committee is invited to endorse the proposed design.

4. ALTERNATIVES/OPTIONS

Members could choose not to accept the reports recommendation and/or suggest alternative solutions.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Witney Town Council has secured a S106 contribution of £20,328 towards the project, the MPRA currently has £2,341.00 from a previous grant awarded by OCC. Additional funding will be required, the MPRA intends to fundraise and apply for grants to reach the total project budget.

6. RISKS

- 6.1. Should the project not proceed the risk exists that the S106 funding may have to be returned to the developer via claw back conditions in the agreement.
- 6.2. The lack of provision for young people in North East Witney will remain unmet if the project does not proceed.

7. REASONS

This proposal meets the following council priorities:-

- Protect and enhance the environment of West Oxfordshire and maintain the district as a clean, beautiful place with low levels of crime and nuisance
- Work in partnership to sustain vibrant, healthy and economically prosperous towns and villages with full employment
- Be recognised as a leading council that provides efficient, value for money services.

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Background Papers:
None