

DECISION

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REPORT TO PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

meeting date: THURSDAY, 15th APRIL 2021
title: CHESTER AVENUE PLAYGROUND
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
principal author: NICOLA HOPKINS – DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To seek authority from Members to release Section 106 contributions to Clitheroe Town Council to facilitate improvement works at the Chester Avenue Playground.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 When reserved matters consent was approved to erect 42 dwellings on the land off Milton Avenue, Clitheroe (ref: 3/2011/0892) the Unilateral Undertaking (secured at outline stage) was varied and secured £22,340.70 in respect of administration, upgrading and maintenance of the play area at the corner of Milton Avenue and Chester Avenue adjacent to the Site and/ or the play area in Clitheroe Castle Grounds. The contribution was received by the Authority on 24th February 2020.

3. PROPOSAL

- 3.1 The playground land is owned by Ribble Valley Council and Clitheroe Town Council lease the playground from the Council. The Town Council are responsible for the management and maintenance of the playground.

- 3.2 The Town Council are proposing to improve the play area this summer. Several proposed improvements are proposed including:

- An inclusive roundabout
- Timber balance beams
- Timber steppers
- Timber wobble board

- 3.3 The Town Council have sought a quote from Playdale which was approved at the Town Council meeting on 22nd March 2021. The quote for the work is £19,550.66. The Town Council placed an order for the works on 23rd March as the lead-in time for the works is three months and the Town Council are keen for the works to be implemented before the summer.

- 3.4 In accordance with Ribble Valley Council's Contract Procedure Rules, for a scheme of this value, at least two written quotes for the work have been sought. The Town Council have chosen the direct award route for this scheme to ensure that that works are undertaken prior to the summer holidays and to ensure that the playground is not out of commission (the works will take 2/3 weeks) at peak usage times. There is a three-month lead-in time for ordering the new equipment hence in this case the time imitations involved reduced the ability to obtain more quotes.

4. RISK ASSESSMENT

- 4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – The £22,340.70 commuted sum was received by the Council on 24th February 2020 and as such there are existing sufficient funds for the project.

- Technical, Environmental and Legal - The project would accord with the stipulations of the legal agreement.
- Political - N/A
- Reputation - The provision of improved play facilities in Clitheroe is a benefit to the Town and accords with the purpose of securing such contributions as part of new residential developments.
- Equality and Diversity - N/A

5. **RECOMMENDED THAT Committee**

- 5.1 Authorise the payment of invoice(s) from Clitheroe Town Council following the completion of Chester Avenue play area improvements set out within paragraph 3.2 28 working days of receipt, up to the amount of £19,550.66.



NICOLA HOPKINS
DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING