

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

meeting date: 19 OCTOBER 2021
title: PLAYING PITCHES AT EDISFORD
submitted by: JOHN HEAP, DIRECTOR COMMUNITY SERVICES
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1 PURPOSE

1.1 To ask Committee for approval of the use of S106 money received to help improve the playing pitches at Edisford.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities

- Community Objectives - To help make people's lives healthier and safer.
- Corporate Priorities - To sustain a strong and prosperous Ribble Valley.
- Other Considerations – Maximising the impact of the s106 funding for the benefit of the local community.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 As a result of a housing development at Low Moor the sum of £18,784 has been given to the Council as the developer contribution for the improvement of off-site leisure provision.

2.2 In this case that off-site location is Edisford Playing Pitches and the s106 funding which is additional to the Council's normal budget is proposed to be used to help improve drainage on the grass pitch that was created because of the work to construct the synthetic pitch in 2019. The pitch was formed from the spoil which was removed as part of the construction of the artificial pitch areas, this created a surface considerably more level than the one there previously.

3 ISSUES

3.1 The pitch created from the spoil does not have any form of drainage in it. Nor was any planned as part of the major project to build the artificial pitch. The opportunity was taken to use the spoil and level up what was previously a pitch with a significant slope across it.

3.2 The installation of some drainage will extend the usable time the pitch can be played on during the winter months, although the money available prevents a comprehensive scheme being designed.

3.3 The opportunity will also be taken to install a cut off drain to prevent surface water run-off from the pitch on to the path which leads to the tennis courts.

3.4 Should members agree to this proposal, then committee will need to refer this matter to Policy and Finance Committee for an additional approval to the capital programme under the play areas scheme.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications.

- Resources – Most of the work will be able to be carried out by the Council's own work force. The funding of £18,784 will need to be included into the Council's capital programme
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – The sum available will provide for some drainage improvement though it will not cover a comprehensive scheme.
- Political – None arising as direct result of this report.
- Reputation – The Council has sought to improve its' playing pitch provision in recent years through investment in machinery to help with soil drainage and this further enhances that work.
- Equality & Diversity – Improving drainage to the pitch will facilitate use by all sectors of the community.

5 **RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

5.1 Approve the proposed use of the s106 funding on Edisford Playing pitches.

5.2 Refer the budget request for £18784 to Policy and Finance to be included in the capital programme for 2021/22.

5.3 Agree, subject to approval in P&F Committee, to the work to be carried out in the current financial year

Mark Beveridge
Head of Cultural and Leisure Services

John Heap
Director of Community Services

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

For further information please ask for Mark Beveridge 01200 425111