

# **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Cabinet**

25 September 2019

### **Head of Transformation - A.Thomas**

#### **Matter for Decision**

#### **Wards Affected:**

Godre'rgraig

### **Project Proposal made to the Members Community Fund**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek Cabinet approval to fund a project proposal that requests financial support under the Members Community Fund. The project has been tabled by the Ward Councillor for Godre'rgraig.

#### **Executive Summary**

2. The Members Community Fund is to be used to address local needs and to support projects and initiatives that will contribute towards creating vibrant and sustainable communities.

The Project Development & Funding Unit (PDFU) within ELLL is charged with the governance of the Fund and will act as the Grant Management Organisation.

Bids can be made for projects that enhance existing Council services, assist voluntary sector provision or form part of a larger initiative that is in need of additional financial support.

Eligible projects will include those that enrich the environment, promote non - statutory education and learning, assist Health & Well Being, and promote culture and / or recreation in all its forms.

Another project proposal now seeks funding and has been formally submitted to the PDFU. The bid has been checked for completeness, accuracy and deliverability and is 'fit for purpose' and ready for determination by Cabinet.

## **Background**

3. To add inclusive play equipment to the play area at Hodgson's Road, Godre'rgrraig.

This bid has been developed to 'Enhance Existing Council Services' and to assist Ystalyfera Community Council in diversifying the range of available play apparatus within this popular local play venue.

The play area in Hodgson's Road has an over emphasis on swings and a recent inspection by an independent Play consultant has recommended removal of one 1.8m swing bay with cradle seats(of which there are two) to allow for the introduction of an inclusive See - Saw on the same footprint - this will add play value to the site. The play area in Hodgson's Road cannot be extended and space is of a premium - the introduction of one new item of play apparatus warrants the removal of another.

This Application is to equip the play area with a new Inclusive See Saw. The existing swing bay Safety Surfacing tiles will be removed as they have detached allowing weed growth and these will be replaced with in situ black/green fleck wet pour held in place by concrete kerb edging detail.

The scheme has been arrived at by seeking quotes from approved suppliers and installers. The products that are to be used are sufficiently street tough. The steelwork to be used has a 25 year

warranty, the Safety Surfacing 15 years and there is an extended 5 year warranty on anodised paintwork.

As a consequence of installing new equipment, long term there will be very little additional ongoing maintenance. The continued inspection, insurance and management of the play area will be the responsibility of the Ystalyfera Community Council.

The need for this initiative has been established from representations made to local Councillors. There has been a local call to add more play equipment.

The long term sustainable community benefits associated with the project include extending the play value of the facility, adding more age appropriate inclusive play apparatus and safeguarding the future of the Park. In so doing children and young people will be able to keep physically active in a fun filled, safe and secure risk managed environment.

The request for grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for £10,000. The total net value of the project is £11,284. The funding shortfall is to be met by the Ystalyfera Community Council (VAT on the scheme will be recovered by the Community Council as the project owner).

### **Financial Impact**

4. In order to win favour in Cabinet all projects must be sustainable. Projects must have a robust exit strategy that places no additional revenue or financial burden on the Council.

The ongoing inspection, insurance and maintenance of the Hodgson's Road play area will remain with Ystalyfera Community Council.

There will be no revenue burden on NPTCBC.

### **Integrated Impact Assessment**

5. A first stage impact assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its legislative duties (under the Equality Act

2010), the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015, the Well - being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

The first stage assessment has indicated that a more in - depth assessment is not required as the summary concludes there are positive outcomes for the sustainable development principle, collaboration and involvement, with no impact on equalities or the Welsh language.

### **Valleys Communities Impacts**

6. No implications

### **Workforce Impacts**

7. There are no workforce impacts associated with this report.

### **Legal Impacts**

8. The delivery of the Members Community Fund will come within the purview of the Local Government Act 2000 which introduced well-being powers which enable every Local Authority to have capacity to do anything which it considers likely to promote an improvement to economic, social or environmental well-being in the area. Under section 56 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 sanction is given for both Executive and Non - Executive Members to invest within their own Ward.

The Council's Constitution should be referred to for explicit guidance on governance.

### **Risk Management**

9. There are no risk management issues associated with this report.

### **Consultation**

10. There is no requirement for external consultation on this item.

## **Recommendations**

11. That this project proposal to add inclusive equipment to the Hodgson's Road play area in Godre'rgraig is approved and that Councillor Rosalyn Davies' allocation of £10,000, under the Members Community Fund is awarded.

## **Reasons for Proposed Decision**

12. To approve the Application for funding that has been received under the Members Community Fund. Full Funding Applications can be made to the Members Community Fund until 24.02.2020 in readiness for Cabinet decision on the 11.03.2020. The Fund will then close. Funds left unallocated will be returned to reserve.

## **Implementation of Decision**

13. The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

## **List of Background Papers**

14. This Godre'rgraig initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted jointly by Councillor Rosalyn Davies and Ystalyfera Community Council. The Quotes for the supply and installation of the equipment have been entered on File for reference. The first stage Impact Assessment documentation associated with this project proposal has also been retained.

## **Officer Contact**

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