

Appendix L.

Background or 'Project Specifics' – Application MF021/T2

To correct some of the deficiencies within the play area located at Ffordd Derwen, Coed Hirwaun, Margam.

This bid has been developed to 'Enhance Existing Council Services' and will be part of a project requiring an input from the PDFU.

The funding will be used to correct the situation where currently the play area fails to be 'dog proof' (as the self-closing gates do not operate as such), and where shrinkage of the Impact Absorbing Safety Surfacing has shrunk to create dangerous trip hazards.

The proposal includes for two new spring- loaded and tensioned gates that return to their closed position when left ajar. Also to correct shrinkage in the Safety Surfacing, weed killing, infilling with rubber base and a complete 145 square metre overlay of 40 mm Eco Rubber Mulch to form a consistent uniform play surface. The overlay would be applied beneath all existing play apparatus which includes a Multi Play Unit, the swings, the rocker, the springer and the mini – roundabout.

The need for this initiative has come to the attention of the local Ward Member through Social media. 100 residents in the village have voiced concern with regard to the poor state of the play area and the danger associated with the inadequate Safety Surfacing.

The Park in Coed Hirwaun is the only amenity of its type in the village. It is used by the children not only to exercise and have fun but is also the receiving centre for socialising, making friends and interacting. Mothers with young children congregate there as it is in close proximity to green open space and the village shop. The play area is 20 years old and is in need of investment in order to maintain it as a safe and secure environment for outdoor physical activity and well being.

The scheme has no further financial implications for NPTCBC as it comes within the existing maintenance, litter picking and inspection regime of 'Street Scene' and Environmental Services. There will be

less maintenance in the short term with the new Safety Surfacing manufactured in accordance with BS EN 1177.

Recommendations

The project is valued at £15,977, which is the full cost of procuring and installing the gates and the Safety Surfacing. The Applicant, Councillor R.G. Jones would wish to fund this project contributing the whole of his Members Fund allocation for the Ward of Margam. The funding package is completed with a £2,000 contribution from 'Street Scene' Playground Finance Allocation 2021/22 and £3,799 from the PDFU 'Enabling Fund'.

The project proposal is recommended for approval and financial support under the Members Community Fund.