

# RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

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Agenda Item No.

meeting date: 6 NOVEMBER 2012  
title: ADDITIONAL CAPITAL SCHEMES  
submitted by: JOHN HEAP, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES  
principal author: CHRIS HUGHES, HEAD OF CULTURAL & LEISURE SERVICES

## 1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To ask members to consider two new schemes for inclusion into the existing capital programme.
- 1.2 Relevance to the Council's priorities and ambitions.
  - **Community Objectives** - to be a well-managed Council, providing efficient and responsive services, based on identified customer needs.
  - **Council Ambitions** – to make people's lives safer and healthier and, more specifically, improve outcomes for children and young people.

## 2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Funding has become available, via Section 106 agreements, for the development/enhancement of public open space and play facilities on Calderstones Park and Clitheroe, respectively.
- 2.2 At Calderstones, the commuted sum is part of the most recently completed housing development, and is earmarked for improvements to the village green at the main entrance to the estate.
- 2.3 In Clitheroe, the commuted sum relates to previous developments around town, and is earmarked for improving play facilities in the immediate area.

## 3 CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 **Calderstones** – The Friends' Group from Calderstones, along with ourselves, has carried out a consultation exercise with residents to identify the key components of the scheme to improve the village green. The closing date for proposals was Friday 26 October 2012. We will carry out an analysis of the results and report, verbally, to committee as part of this report.
- 3.2 **Castle Grounds** – Recently, we have received concerns from the public on the conditions of the Castle Grounds Play Area, and our own recent survey has confirmed that investment is needed to bring it to an acceptable standard. It is also extremely well used, and is probably the flagship site for Clitheroe.

## 4 ISSUES

- 4.1 It is important that the two commuted sums are spent in line with their original intention, so there is little flexibility in terms of other projects/locations.
- 4.2 Autumn/winter is a good time to carry out the work, as use of the open space/play facilities will decrease. The flip side, however, is the weather, which can cause delays, if extreme.

## 5 RISK ASSESSMENT

The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- **Resources**

- **Calderstones Park** – The value of the commuted sum is £81,925. It is likely that this will be split between the capital works identified as part of the consultation, and an ongoing revenue contribution towards maintenance.
- **Castle Grounds** - the value of the commuted sum is £26,289, and this will be used to carry out repairs to safety surfacing and the provision of new equipment.

All costs will be covered by the external funding.

- **Technical, Environmental and Legal** – no implications

- **Political** – Both schemes will improve existing facilities, and take advantage of external funding.

- **Reputation** – Both schemes demonstrate a positive response to public involvement/concerns about their local communities.

## 6 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

Agrees to include both schemes into the current capital programme for 2012/13.

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