

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: TUESDAY, 24 MARCH 2015
title: VILLAGE AMENITIES GRANT - QUEEN ELIZABETH II PLAYING FIELDS PROJECT
submitted by: MARSHAL SCOTT - CHIEF EXECUTIVE
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1 PURPOSE

1.1 This report provides Committee with a progress report on the Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields project which was granted funding through the Village Amenities Grant Fund.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives - The grant programme supports a broad range of community objectives set out in the community strategy.
- Corporate Priorities - This grant programme supports the Council's priorities to sustain a strong and prosperous Ribble Valley, to help make peoples lives safer and healthier and to protect and enhance the existing environmental quality of the area.
- Other Considerations – None.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 On 25 March 2014 Members received an update on the progress of projects that had been granted funding through the Village Amenities Grant Fund.

3 ISSUES

3.1 Members will recall that issues had arisen with one of the large capital projects at Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields.

3.2 Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields Charitable Trust was approved a grant of £10,000 towards the cost of a new MUGA, Youth Shelter & Green Gym at Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields in Whalley. £3,500 of the allocation has been paid in March 2015, leaving an outstanding amount of £6,500.

3.3 Previously, Members agreed that Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields Charitable Trust should be given an additional three month period beyond March 2014 in which to claim their grant funding due to the size of the project and its significance to Whalley. However, the project was stalled, as the development of the MUGA was refused planning permission. Following additional work and resubmission of the application, permission was granted in November 2014.

3.4 The Trust have now secured offers of funding to complete the project, and plan to start building at the end of the football season in April 2015, with a plan to reopen in August 2015 for the start of the new season.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

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

- Resources – Funding for the award of the grants is in place. There is an ongoing staff resource needed to ensure proper use of the grant scheme.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – Issues depend on the particular nature of the grant.
- Political – No implications identified.
- Reputation – No implications identified.
- Equality & Diversity – No implications identified.

5 **RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

5.1 Confirm that due to its size and significance to Whalley that the large capital project of Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields Charitable Trust be given until 31 August 2015 to finalise the project and to claim the grant from the Council.

DILYS DAY
PARTNERSHIP OFFICER

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

For further information please ask for Dilys Day, extension 4549.

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