

2 April 2015**Agenda Item: 4****REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR, HIGHWAYS****SUPPORTING LOCAL COMMUNITIES CAPITAL PROGRAMME****Purpose of the Report**

1. To update Committee on the delivery of the 2014/15 SLC capital programme.
2. To seek approval for the proposed 2015/16 Supporting Local Communities (SLC) capital programme.

Information and Advice**2014/15 SLC capital programme**

3. Following a review of the SLC programme and budget allocation a £0.5m SLC capital programme was developed for 2014/15 and subsequently approved at 6 March 2014 Environment & Sustainability Committee. The programme initially consisted of 16 schemes and covers a wide range of improvements for the benefit of local communities across the county, including:
 - the Roll of Honour project and Misterton War Memorial restoration to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the start of World War One
 - new skate parks in Clipstone, Ollerton and Rainworth
 - improvements to a play park in Manton
 - improvements to local shopping areas in Bilsthorpe and Carlton.
4. Delivery of the 2014/15 SLC programme is substantially complete and the table below gives a brief update on the progress of the schemes.

Scheme name	Progress to date
Roll of Honour	Scheme complete. Public are now sharing family history via the NCC website
Contribution to Misterton War Memorial restoration	The restoration on the War Memorial has been completed. The design of the refurbishment of the surrounding landscape area is complete and works completed in March 2015
Contribution to Mansfield Woodhouse Heritage Centre refurbishment works	Scheme complete
Delivery of environmental improvements outside The	Scheme complete

Crescent, Bilsthorpe shops	
Contribution towards gym equipment at Manor Complex, Mansfield Woodhouse	The scheme will no longer proceed as Mansfield District Council has withdrawn the funding
Contribution towards and delivery of skate park at Rainworth	Design work is ongoing. A contribution from Section 106 funding and a WREN bid have been confirmed. Site preparation works are now underway
Contribution towards creation of a new storage facility at Edwinstowe Cricket Club	Scheme complete
Contribution towards and delivery of skate park at Clipstone Welfare Sports area	The parish council has withdrawn the scheme
Provision of sink, cupboards and electrical equipment, Collingham men in sheds	Scheme complete
Contribution towards and delivery of skate park at Ollerton	Scheme complete
Contribution towards the creation of community pride garden/allotment in Hawtonville	Trust could not secure the necessary land so scheme can no longer be delivered
Provision of play equipment & surfacing at Manton Villas pay park	Scheme complete
Contribution towards the provision of an indoor skate park facility in Worksop	Scheme will not proceed in 2014/15. A location for the scheme is still to be found and until such time funding cannot be secured
Refurbishment of shopping area in Honeywood Gardens Estate, Carlton	To ensure efficient delivery the scheme will now be delivered in early 2015/16
Contribution towards the provision of market stalls & canopies at Retford Market Place	Scheme complete
Contribution towards the conversion of Babworth sports hall into a meeting centre	Increased scheme costs mean that that the scheme will no longer be delivered
Contribution to St Helena's Church Nave, South Scarle	Scheme complete

5. Work continues to identify, secure and maximise external funding opportunities and the SLC allocations to the schemes above should help to lever in over £800k of external funding towards these projects should all of them proceed as planned.
6. Expenditure is currently within budget but did not allow any additional schemes to be delivered this financial year (including acceleration of reserve schemes).

2015/16 SLC capital programme

7. The 2015/16 SLC capital programme budget allocation of £0.5m was approved at the 26th February 2015 County Council meeting.
8. Invitations to apply for 2015/16 SLC funding were issued in September 2014 and applications closed on 8 December 2014. 90 applications were received, totalling a value of £1.7m, and consist of:
 - 1 request for a community bench
 - 20 requests for improved community facilities (e.g. village hall, meeting rooms etc.)
 - 15 requests for environmental improvements
 - 5 requests for various improvements to the highway as well, as an additional 5 requests for car park facilities
 - 14 requests for play park equipment, as well as an additional 8 requests for sports/recreation facility improvements
 - 3 requests for restoration projects
 - 1 request for improvements to an existing skate park
 - 2 requests for tourism schemes
 - 8 requests for village signs/information boards
 - 2 requests for refurbishments to war memorials
 - 6 requests for revenue funded schemes that were not eligible for funding.
9. Each of the schemes has been assessed against the previously agreed criteria (see attached appendix 1). The assessment of the applications took account of levels of deprivation, economic benefits to the local area (e.g. increased tourism, local jobs, training etc.), community benefits (including local support for the scheme and community cohesion), the amount of funding requested, the amount of external funding secured and voluntary hours available. To maximise the number of schemes that could be funded each bid was limited to a maximum award of £50,000.
10. The assessment has enabled the selection of the top scoring schemes to be taken forward for further design and feasibility work, and a table detailing the scoring of each scheme is attached as appendix 2. The budget available has allowed the 25 highest scoring schemes to be prioritised. These schemes will, however, only receive SLC funding if they can secure the declared match funding levels and if the scheme can be delivered during the 2015/16 financial year. The proposed schemes included in the 2015/16 SLC capital programme consist of:
 - Contributions to improvements to eight community facilities including:
 - the creation of education and arts facilities at Beauvale Priory and in Beeston
 - refurbishment/improvements to buildings in Mansfield, Maplebeck, Newark, Retford and West Bridgford
 - gardening projects in Blidworth and Mansfield Woodhouse
 - Contributions to five environmental improvements including:
 - Sutton in Ashfield outdoor market
 - Shop front improvements in Hucknall
 - Creation of a wildlife habitat in Snipe Park Woods
 - Improvements to public spaces in Hodsock, East Bridgford and Radcliffe on Trent
 - Contributions to nine play parks and a multi-user sports area in Carlton in Lindrick, Cotgrave, Granby, Hucknall, Keyworth, Ruddington and Worksop

- Contributions to two tourism schemes in Sherwood Forest and the Teversal Trail.
11. The schemes ranked 26 to 30 on the attached appendix 2 will be held as reserve schemes should any funding become available (e.g. because other schemes become undeliverable).
 12. Each of the proposed schemes included in the 2015/16 SLC programme is still subject to the necessary consultation, statutory undertakings and other issues arising from feasibility studies, detailed scheme investigation, design and consultation. The outcomes of these issues will determine if funding can be released and to what value. If any scheme becomes undeliverable during 2015/16 the funding will not automatically be available in a future year. The scheme promoter will, however, be able to submit the scheme again for funding consideration in a future year.
 13. It was previously approved at 6th March 2014 Environment & Sustainability Committee that up to £10,000 per year of the SLC capital programme would be allocated to the refurbishment of war memorials during the period 2014/15-2017/18. Two applications were received for war memorial refurbishments in 2015/16 – from Southwell Town Council and Kimberley Heritage Trail.
 14. Southwell Town Council has requested £4,816, and secured £1,300 of match funding to refurbish the Memorial Arch. The refurbishment of Kimberley War Memorial has already received Local Improvement Scheme funding (the precursor to SLC) in 2008/2009 as part of an environmental flagship improvement. Also, the currently proposed Kimberley War Memorial scheme is yet to secure the necessary match funding to deliver the scheme. It is therefore proposed that £4,816 is allocated to the Southwell Memorial Arch and the scheme is included in the 2015/16 SLC programme in addition to the top 26 scoring schemes.
 15. The remaining £5,184 war memorial restoration funding could be made available for the refurbishment of the Kimberley War Memorial if Kimberley Heritage Trail is able to secure sufficient match funding to deliver the scheme during 2015/16.

Other Options Considered

16. Other options considered are set out within this report. The package of SLC schemes detailed above were developed to reflect a balance of member, public and stakeholder requests and priorities, value for money and delivery of the County Council's objectives.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

17. The proposed programme of SLC schemes selected are the schemes which scored the highest when assessed against the criteria and are therefore considered to offer the greatest benefits. The SLC programme will continue to be monitored on a monthly basis to ensure financial and delivery implications are considered and acted upon accordingly.

Statutory and Policy Implications

18. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications

are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) It is recommended that Committee:
 - a) note the delivery of the 2014/15 SLC programme as detailed in paragraphs 3 to 6 of this report
 - b) approve the proposed 2015/16 SLC programme for implementation as contained in this report and detailed in appendix 2.

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For any enquiries about this report please contact:
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Constitutional Comments (LM 16/03/2015)

19. The Environment and Sustainability Committee has delegated authority within the Constitution to approve the recommendations in the report.

Financial Comments (GB 09/03/2015)

20. The Supporting Local Communities Programme is approved within the County Council's capital programme.

Background Papers and Published Documents

- Supporting Local Communities Fund report to 6 March 2014 Environment & Sustainability Committee

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All