

# Report



Meeting **Cabinet**

Date **10 January 2007**

agenda item number

## **JOINT REPORT OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR FINANCE AND PROPERTY AND PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR CULTURE AND REGENERATION.**

### **RECREATIONAL FACILITIES EDWINSTOWE – DRAWDOWN OF ALLOCATED FUNDING TO THE EDWINSTOWE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP (EDP)**

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

- 1 To seek approval for the release of funds to the Edwinstowe Development Partnership to support leisure and recreational facilities and projects in Edwinstowe.

#### **Background**

- 2 The Edwinstowe Development Partnership (EDP) was established in 2004 to propose developments at the playing fields and surrounding areas, following the closure of Rufford Comprehensive School. The proposed developments followed extensive local consultation.
- 3 The EDP group's overall objective is "to work towards the sound and economic regeneration of Edwinstowe environs" with specific aims of:
  - Informing and representing the interests of Edwinstowe.
  - Developing community spirit and cohesion through the improvement of sport and recreational facilities in Edwinstowe.
  - Encourage, develop and support wider participation in furtherance of the overall objective.
- 4 A joint delegated decision by the portfolio holders for Property and Finance and Culture was made in April 2005 to establish the principle of support to the EDP.

- 5 The recommendations of the delegated decision were:
- Approval is given to a grant of £25,000 to pay for a Project Manager/Consultant to work up the feasibility of the playing field proposals.
  - In principle, approval is given to support future developments in Edwinstowe up to approximately £243,000. Projects from the agreed list to be subject to individual grant applications and confirmation of match funding sources being in place where appropriate.
  - An increase of £25,000 in the capital programme is approved. (This funding would support the scheme development processes.)
- 6 The EDP will work with local user groups with an interest in the playing fields to support the developments of specific proposals. The EDP will also play a role of 'overarching' development body ensuring individual projects are realistic, achievable and most importantly sustainable.
- 7 A project plan for the playing field site has been produced following detailed research and consultation. A number of the projects will require match funding from agencies and bodies other than the County Council. For example, the new changing rooms for the football club were subject to match funding being available from the Football Foundation and the Big Lottery Fund. This is now confirmed.

### **Proposed use of Grant Aid**

- 8 The projects being put forward range from the capital build of a sports pavilion, partly funded by the Football Foundation, to smaller projects to support individual interest groups needing small grants towards equipment. Overall the proposal is for the partnership to spend £626,123 of which £268,000 will be funded by the County Council. A full list of projects with matched funding breakdown is available as background information.

### **Support for Community Schemes under powers of well being**

- 9 The County Council is keen to use its powers of well-being to support schemes which benefit the community and as such, the Edwinstowe Development Partnership request for financial support, would fit under this banner. Projects need to be aligned to the Community Strategy and supported by the appropriate County Council Cabinet Member/Members.

## **Financial Implications**

- 10 The EDP requests that the County Council releases £243,000 (the balance of the £268,000 grant) to deliver the projects scheduled. This would be in line with the decision made in April 2005 to contribute £268,000 towards the projects. £25,000 has previously been released to fund a project manager to support the partnership in developing the projects and seeking external funding.
- 11 The County Council's capital programme includes the balance of £243,000 in 2006/07 for this grant. The grant proposed in the report will be met from this allocation.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

- 12 This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, personnel, crime and disorder and those using the service. Where such implications are included, they have been described in the text of the report.

## **Personnel Implications**

- 13 There are no personnel implications arising directly as a result of these proposals.

## **Recommendation**

- 14 Approval is given to a grant of £243,000 to support the proposals from the Edwinstowe Development Partnership which are highlighted in the body of the report.

**Cllr Steve Carroll**  
**Cabinet Member**  
**Culture & Regeneration**

**Cllr Chris Baron**  
**Cabinet Member**  
**Finance & Property**

A121

## **Legal Services' Comments (KS 12.12.06)**

Under paragraph D.3.1.5 of the County Council Financial Regulations any variation to the capital programme over £200,000 must be considered by the Cabinet Member for Finance and Property and approved by Cabinet if additional capital allocations are required.

## **Financial Comments of the Strategic Director, Resources (RWK)**

The financial implications are set out in the report.

### Background papers available for Inspection

- Letter from Edwinstowe Development requesting Grant Aid.
- DDR A741 July 2005

### **Electoral Division(s) Affected**

Rufford