

Name of meeting: CABINET
Date: 16 June 2015

Title of report: SANDS RECREATION GROUND, HOLMFIRTH -
 EXTENSION TO SKATE PARK

Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	NO
Is it in the Council's Forward Plan ?	No
Is it eligible for "call in" by Scrutiny ?	Yes
Date signed off by <u>Director</u> & name	Jacqui Gedman - 8.06.15
Is it signed off by the Director of Resources?	David Smith - 4.06.15
Is it signed off by the Assistant Director - Legal & Governance?	Julie Muscroft - 08.06.15
Cabinet member portfolio	STREETSCENE AND HOUSING

Electoral [wards](#) affected: Holme Valley South

Ward councillors consulted: Cllr Patrick, Cllr Firth, Cllr Sims

Public or private: PUBLIC

1. Purpose of report

To inform Cabinet of the following proposed development within the recreation ground on Sands Lane, Holmfirth recreation ground, next to Holmfirth Pool.

2. Key points

2.1 Background

The Isaac Atkinson Memorial Fund is the official name of 'Skate 4Isaac', a constituted organisation set up to raise sufficient money through fundraising events and donations to fund the building of an extension of the skate park at Sands Recreation Ground in Holmfirth. They have been fundraising since 2012 and have raised £80,000 for improving the facility for the children and young people of Holmfirth and the wider community.

The organisation is Grant Access Point (GAP) registered with the Council (2013-028).

2.2 Proposed site

2.2.2 Sands Recreation Ground - Holmfirth

The site is a vibrant recreation ground and sports centre, off Huddersfield Road, Holmfirth. There is an existing MUGA and skate park on the site, lying adjacent to a football pitch and the river, over which is a play area and further football pitch. A plan can be found in Appendix 1 showing the layout of the site and the proposed location for the skate park.

2.3 Project Details

£80,000 has been raised by the Friends group, coming from a range of sources, including;

- The Freemasons (£25,000)
- Huddersfield Pendragon Round Table (£10,000)
- Police & Crime Commissioners Office's Community Safety Fund (£8,000)
- Huddersfield Common Good Trust (£4,000)
- Kirklees' Holme Valley Area Committee (£3,000)
- Kirklees Council's Sport in the Neighbourhoods fund (£1,000)
- Honley Show Committee (£1,000)
- Holme Valley Parish Council (£500)
- Rotary Club (£500)

This has been added to money raised from a number of events and activities run by the committee.

Background details:

- Planning permission has been granted for the scheme (February 2015, ref 2014/93944). The extension will not impact on the use of the adjacent football pitch.
- The tender procedure has been undertaken and once the appointment is made, a contractor is ready to start on site at the end of June 2015.
- The Isaac Atkinson Memorial Fund has transferred £80,000 to the Council, to enable the contractor to be appointed by the authority.

Description of proposed scheme:

- The proposals are to extend the existing skate park as shown on the attached plan.
- We are seeking to remove the teen shelter at the request of stakeholders as it has been encouraging anti- social behaviour.
- Benches, perches and litter bins will be added to the scheme

3. Implications for the Council

The allocation of this scheme takes into account the hard work and dedication of the Skate4Isaac fundraising project team who have tirelessly raised money to fund the scheme. The proposals will help to develop the site into a destination skate park and contribute further, to the facilities provided at Sands Recreation Ground, whilst also helping to fulfil all four Kirklees priorities including the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy Vision which promotes:

'Open spaces and green infrastructure that encourage physical activity and support positive emotional wellbeing.'

The current skate park is already included within the current maintenance routes of the play area inspection team. The design and construction of the facility will be low maintenance - concrete construction - which require very little maintenance. In addition, the contractor guarantees their skateparks for 30 years. Greenhead Park's skate park was constructed around 12 years ago, and has been very well used in this time.

The facility will bring more people to the site, potentially creating more rubbish/litter which will need collecting and disposing. The users already do a lot of work keeping the facility clean and tidy - something they have assured us will continue - there will still be a need for the rubbish to be collected and disposed. An estimate of the cost for this would be around £1500 pa and is manageable within the current budget for this area.

To ensure completion within the summer holidays 2015, the contract to undertake this work has been let and a start on site is expected soon. This has been undertaken following consultation with the family and a letter of intent has been issued to the contractor.

4. Consultees and their opinions

Identified Ward Councillors, in particular Cllr Patrick, together with Jason McCartney MP and the Chief Executive, are also supportive of the proposals

5. Next steps

This contract has been awarded, and the scheme should be substantially complete by August 2015, allowing for it to be used during the majority of the 2015 summer holidays.

6. Officer recommendations and reasons

That Cabinet note this report.

7. Cabinet portfolio holder recommendation

The portfolio holder supports this report and the enhanced facilities it will bring to the site.

8. Contact officer and relevant papers

Robert Whittaker
Park Manager
Streetscene & Housing

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9. Assistant Director responsible

Joanne Bartholomew - Assistant Director
Place - Physical Resources and Procurement

Appendix 1 – site plan, indicating the proposed extension area

For reference – Huddersfield Road lies to the west, Holmfirth Pool to the north and the River Holme to the east.



Appendix 2 – proposed design of new facility, with the existing skate park at the top, and the new extension below.

