



Leigh-on-Sea Town Council

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Chairman: Cllr Caroline Parker
Vice Chairman: Paul Lawrence
Town Clerk: Paul Beckerson

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QUALITY
TOWN
COUNCIL

27th February 2014

Notice is hereby given that the next meeting of the **Strategy and Town Plan Sub-Committee** of the Leigh-on-Sea Town Council will take place on **Tuesday 4th March 2014 at 7.00 pm** at the Leigh Community Centre, 71-73 Elm Road, Leigh-on-Sea, when it is hoped to transact the following business.

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
2. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS
3. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE 29th October 2013
4. RECEIPT OF NEW PROJECTS FOR ASSESSMENT

Report A number of new projects have been forwarded from Committees for consideration. Other projects are being prepared at present and the Sub-Committee should consider recommending that projects are held in abeyance for a little longer to allow these to be brought forward for assessment.

One of the proposed projects, the "Green Gym" will be funded almost entirely by external funding so will not encroach on funding for other projects from the Council's own resources and informal public consultation has shown that it would be well supported and welcomed by many residents of Leigh and the Sub-Committee should consider recommending this project to be proceeded with at this time.

Although funding will come from the council's own resources the proposed refurbishment of the Community Centre façade is to an extent time sensitive and the Sub-Committee should also consider recommending this project to be proceeded with at this time.

Projects forwarded by Committees are given as Appendix 1.

Town Clerk
27th February 2014

Any member who is unable to attend the meeting should give their apologies in advance of the meeting.

New project assessment

Improvements to Skate park

CRITERIA	TARGET	RESULT
Objective	To set aside some money to assist with improvements to the skate park if not all the funds can be raised externally.	
Relationship to strategic objectives.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To promote the provision of accessible social, recreational, educational and cultural facilities within the town for the benefit of Leigh's residents and visitors. 2. To protect and enhance Leigh's natural environment, its open spaces and public gardens. 3. To seek to create a socially inclusive and caring community 	
Cost Financial Human Resources	<p>The financial cost is yet to be assessed and in any case would only be a contribution to funds raised elsewhere. The ongoing cost is unlikely to increase significantly</p> <p>Input would be required from councillors and members of the youth facility working party.</p> <p>The ongoing staff requirement are unlikely to increase significantly.</p>	
Benefit	Young people who use the skate park have approached the council for improvements to be made as they are not getting enough space for the type of skateboarding they want to do and are therefore boarding in streets and getting into conflict with residents and the police who are moving them on	
Can benefit increase	The owner of the skate board shop and others, have many ideas and connections with regard to event at the skate park.	
Can cost reduce	The owner of the skate board shop and others are willing to do a programme of fund raising. It is anticipated the bulk of the funding will come from external sources.	

New project assessment

Green Gym Project

CRITERIA	TARGET	RESULT
Objective	<p>To create one or more areas of outdoor recreational fitness equipment, see sample brochure attached. The location currently envisaged for each gym are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At top of cliffs on marine parade. • Bonchurch Park • Grassed central reservation area, Highlands Boulevard. • <p>A similar facility may be viewed at Priory Park.</p> <p>These locations have been considered as they give good access to the public from all parts of the Town Area but other areas may also be identified.</p>	
Relationship to strategic objectives.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To promote the provision of accessible social, recreational, educational and cultural facilities within the town for the benefit of Leigh's residents and visitors. 2. To seek to create a socially inclusive and caring community 	
Cost Financial Human Resources	<p>The financial cost starts at circa £5,000 for a small facility. Each item of equipment costs circa £1,100 including installation so a larger area would cost up to circa £10,000.</p> <p>As grant funding would be available for this project the net cost to the Town Council could be zero.</p> <p>The equipment is very robust and designed to last many years in an extreme outdoor environment so ongoing maintenance cost would be low.</p> <p>Input would be required from councillors and staff to prepare a full proposal, funding applications and implementation.</p> <p>The ongoing staff requirements are not significant.</p>	

Benefit	<p>The benefits of the Green Gym” program are that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It will encourage people to be more active • The facility is for all ages • It gives something positive for the teenagers to do • It is a good facility to keep older people active • This fills a gap for those who are not sporty • Many of our residents can't afford a gym membership • We have residents of all ages who would never go to a gym • It will encourage elderly residents to be more active • It will encourage the Mums/parents to do some exercise with their children • Poor health and isolation/loneliness are identified as particular problems in our large elderly population • The health benefits of exercise are well known and documented • Exercising outside has documented mental health benefits • It will be doing something for all parts of our town 	
Can benefit increase	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It will be possible to extend or provide further such areas 2. The use of the equipment for group activity could be encouraged 	
Can cost reduce	<p>Grant funding would be available for this project. The National Lottery's "Awards for all" scheme would provide funding of up to £10,000 for such a scheme. This could be used to either fund a limited scheme in its entirety or towards the cost of a more ambitious scheme.</p>	

New project assessment

Community Centre façade refurbishment

CRITERIA	TARGET	RESULT
Objective	To redecorate and refurbish the façade of the community centre including restoration of the original balcony	

<p>Relationship to strategic objectives.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. To promote the provision of accessible social, recreational, educational and cultural facilities within the town for the benefit of Leigh's residents and visitors. 4. To preserve Leigh's unique character and heritage, protect its conservation areas and maintain and enhance its maritime environment. 5. To seek to create a socially inclusive and caring community 	
<p>Cost Financial</p> <p>Human Resources</p>	<p>The financial cost would be about £10,000 for the refurbishment of the facade. The reinstatement of the original balcony would be about £3,000.</p> <p>Staff would need to prepare a full specification and arrange tendering and completion.</p> <p>There would be no additional ongoing staff or financial implications.</p>	
<p>Benefit</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The façade of the Community Centre is currently in a run-down condition such that structural deterioration may take place and it gives a poor impression. 2. There are no proposals to remove or replace the façade in the Elm Road development plan and the preservation of the appearance of the building has been clearly identifies as important to the residents of Leigh. 3. A renovated façade will demonstrate the benefit of management by Leigh Town council and improve the chances of success of the council's adopted long term aims. 4. It will assist with the marketing and general attractiveness of the centre. 	
<p>Can benefit increase</p>	<p>The refurbishment could be used to assist with the promotion of the community centre and the work of the council in general.</p>	

Can cost reduce	Local businesses and individuals might be prepared to assist with donations.	
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New project assessment

Improvements to Public Realm

CRITERIA	TARGET	RESULT
Objective	<p>To set aside some money to improve the public realm wherever possible throughout the town.</p> <p>Every councillor, within their wards, has areas of the public realm which could potentially be improved, some through fairly minor works others needing more care.</p> <p>The objective should be for each councillor to review their wards, identify these areas and bring forward suggestions for improvements.</p>	
Relationship to strategic objectives.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To promote the provision of accessible social, recreational, educational and cultural facilities within the town for the benefit of Leigh’s residents and visitors. 2. To encourage and support the economic and commercial vitality of the town. 3. To preserve Leigh’s unique character and heritage, protect its conservation areas and maintain and enhance its maritime environment. 4. To encourage harmony between developing commercial and residential requirements and existing amenities. 5. To protect and enhance Leigh’s natural environment, its open spaces and public gardens. 6. To seek to create a socially inclusive and caring community 	

Cost Financial	Until the review has been undertaken it would not be possible to assess costs however it is suggested that a figure be set aside for this each year from the capital fund. It may be that specific areas can be targeted in a rotational basis thus ensuring that in 8 years' time a complete review and enhancement has been undertaken.	
Human Resources		
Benefit	The benefits to the community range from environmental improvement, cleanliness, health and safety to the maximising of areas of land and facilities.	
Can benefit increase	Benefits can increase to the community by getting the community involved through discussion and putting together a programme of improvements an small works which they would feel benefits their neighbourhoods. The benefits to social and community interaction would be good for the town as a whole.	
Can cost reduce	Sponsorship and fund raising activities could assist	