

Ball Park Maintenance Equipment Funding Application

1. Summary

- 1.1 To report the outcome of the recent quote gathering exercise undertaken by the Ball Park Committee in relation to a funding application for maintenance equipment.
- 1.2 This report outlines the various options open to the Parish Council.
- 1.3 The report also includes a recommendation by the Ball Park Committee for members to consider in coming to a decision.

2. Background and Details

- 2.1 The Ball Park was installed in May 2015 with additional works to install seating and storage taking place earlier this year (2016).
- 2.2 At the time the Ball Park was created the need to maintain the site was identified. For instance, the playing surface needs to be cleaned and new sand laid. The size of the pitch and the technical requirements mean that professional equipment is required.
- 2.3 In recent months the Ball Park Committee has been investigating the issue. An appropriate specification for the equipment has been established and three quotes have been sourced.
- 2.4 In November 2016 the Councillor Prestwood attended a Fundraising Market Place event on behalf of the Parish Council. At the event a funder expressed an interest in the outline proposal for funding equipment that Councillor Prestwood supplied.
- 2.5 This report sets out the options open to the Parish Council around the purchase of equipment and applying for funding.

3. Options and the Committee's Recommendation

- 3.1 There are three options open to the Council in terms of making a funding application and fourth which is to not approve the application.
- 3.2 Options 1 to 3 would lead to the Clerk making an application for funding to iGas.
- 3.3 The Ball Park Committee sourced three quotes for the equipment which are listed underneath in alphabetical order.
- 3.4 A summary of the Committee's recommendations following its consideration of the quotes at the November 2016 meeting can be found

at paragraphs 3.17-3.19.

Option 1 - Campey

- 3.5 Campey is a supplier of groundcare maintenance products based in Macclesfield.
- 3.6 Campney's quote consists of one each of following SISIS products: Dragmat, Truespred, Drag brush, Pedestrian Sweeper MK5 (With collection box no brush), Synthetic Brush Reel for the Pedestrian Sweeper MK5.
- 3.7 The total cost of items described above is **£6,431.10**.

Option 2 - Greenstripe

- 3.8 Greenstripe is a supplier of groundcare maintenance products based in the local area. They are the local supplier of SISIS products.
- 3.9 Greenstripes's quote consists of one each of following SISIS products: Dragmat, Truespred, Drag brush, Pedestrian Sweeper MK5 (With collection box no brush), Synthetic Brush Reel for the Pedestrian Sweeper MK5.
- 3.10 The total cost of items described above is **£6,816**.

Option 3 – SISIS

- 3.11 SISIS is a major manufacturer of Groundcare products. While the company has provided a quote, they were keen that we take up any purchase with the local supplier 'Greenstripe'.
- 3.12 SISIS' quote consists of one each of following SISIS products: Dragmat, Truespred, Drag brush, Pedestrian Sweeper MK5 (With collection box no brush), Synthetic Brush Reel for the Pedestrian Sweeper MK5.
- 3.13 The total cost of items described above is **£7,566**.

Option 4 - Do not approve any of the above

- 3.14 The Parish Council could decide not to move ahead at this stage with an application for funding for the purchase of equipment.
- 3.15 However, it is recommended that the Parish Council approve the funding application and provisional agree the purchase of maintenance equipment for the Ball Park site. The site should be properly maintained to ensure it remains in use well into the future, for insurance purposes and health and safety reasons (RoSPA).
- 3.16 Ball Park Committee members also feel that all the quotes are competitive and it is unlikely that further exploration and/or evaluation will find cheaper or better quality options.

Committee Recommendation

- 3.17 Committee members feel, after reviewing the quotes and discussing all the options, this recommendation provides the highest quality goods and services at the most competitive prices. In that respect the recommendation offers the Parish Council the best value for money.
- 3.18 After consideration and evaluation of the quotes the Ball Park Sub-committee has recommended that the Parish Council approve the funding application and recommend provisional approval of option 2, supplier Greenstripe at a cost of £6,816.
- 3.19 The Committee advises the Council to revisit agreeing the spend once the funding application has been approved.

4. Policy, Training and Financial Implications

- 4.1 The recommendations in this report conform to Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.
- 4.2 It is unlikely that the scheme will go over budget, the Clerk will monitor the situation.
- 4.3 No new policies will be required, however, there will be a need to take account for the new equipment when risk assessments and inspections are undertaken.
- 4.4 It should be noted that there will be on going revenue costs associated with the proposals above. However, it is expected that the any increase in revenue costs can be accommodated within the Parish Council's existing budget.
- 4.5 It is likely that training will be required to maintain and use the equipment. The Ball Committee is delegated to manage this matter and its members are aware of that.
- 4.6 The equipment might need to be assessed as part of the annual RoSPA inspection the cost of which is already included in the Parish Council's budget.
- 4.7 The Parish Council has public liability insurance in place and it is expected that this will provide sufficient cover. The Clerk has enquired with the current insurance provider and it is estimated that the new equipment (option 2) would lead to an extra £26.87 being added to the premium; which could be managed within the Council's existing budget.

5. Recommendation

- The Ball Park Committee has recommended that the Parish Council:
- 5.1 Agree to apply for funding from iGas for £6,816 and instruct the Clerk to prepare the paperwork and send it off;

- 5.2 Provisionally approve the budget and spend necessary to purchase and maintain the new equipment;
- 5.4 Consider revisiting the issue of the spend after the funding application has been approved, and;
- 5.5 Consider approval of the recommendations made at paragraph 3.17-3.19 of this report.