

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	Alice Park Trust Sub Committee	
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	25 June 2018	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
TITLE:	Management Plan Update	
WARD:	Lambridge	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report:		
Appendix 1 – Alice Park Management Plan 2016 - 2022		

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 The Alice Park Management Plan 2016 -2020 was agreed by the Alice Park Sub-Committee on 27 March 2017. The guiding principles of this plan are in line with Green Flag standards which are:-

- **A WELCOMING PLACE**
- **HEALTHY, SAFE AND SECURE**
- **WELL MAINTAINED AND CLEAN**
- **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**
- **CONSERVATION AND HERITAGE**
- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**
- **MARKETING**

1.2 At the end of the management plan is a matrix of recommended improvement actions for a 5 year period between 2017 and 2021.

1.3 Despite being agreed as a document, the suggested improvements in the management plan require scrutiny as they may not be reflective of current priorities due to resource restrictions, the actions are unlikely to take place unless prioritized and with many not being within existing resource allocations.

1.4 The management plan actions matrix is equally overshadowed by the pace of the parks other strategic development objectives. The skatepark is being installed and

there are emerging plans to develop the tennis area and renegotiate the café lease on the horizon.

- 1.5 The latter developments may be very rewarding and are understandably a priority to the Alice Park Sub-Committee, however it should be predicted that these developments may have impacts upon other users and that these issues could be planned for (examples – the skatepark area is in close proximity to the boules pistes and the boules players are interested in extending the boules area. It might be explored as to whether the boules area would be better positioned elsewhere in order to maximize benefit from the investment, the likely tennis improvements could be enhanced by changing/toilet facilities which potentially could consider the adjacent pavilion).

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The management plan actions should be reviewed by the Trust members in light of the new finances available and awareness of the needs/impacts of other projects. That a strategic view be taken to coordinate improvements that derive most benefit for the investment (income generation/efficiency saving/safeguarding the park fabric).

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 3.1 The maintenance of the park is in a financial deficit position as ‘the income from the Endowment and arising from the Trust Property is currently insufficient to maintain the park without a subsidy from B&NES’.
- 3.2 Financial pressures within B&NES creates a situation where further costs cannot be absorbed and that improvement works must be contained in existing staff allocations to the Service Level Agreement or funded separately.
- 3.3 Strategic actions should strive to increase park revenues in order to self-fund park improvements (events, boules, concession, tennis incomes).
- 3.4 These park improvements should be prioritized alongside those that halt further depreciation of the park fabric/facilities but that is sustainably affordable and offers good cost/benefit value going forward (example; the Probation Service could be used to cheaply paint signage, benches and potentially carry out minor repairs to infrastructure).
- 3.5 Actions achieved from the management plan are, renewed play area gate, tree work actions, informal path between car park and café, installation of new swings, painting/repair of car park railings.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

- 4.1 The Council is sole corporate trustee of the Alice Park Trust. The Alice Park Trust’s Sub-Committee’s terms of reference are to undertake the operational management functions in respect of the Alice Park site and its resources, in accordance with Trust’s objects and the duties it owes pursuant to the Charities legislation.
- 4.2 Members in their capacity as Trustee must administer the Trust in good faith, abiding strictly to the objects of the Trust and administering the Trust for the benefit of the public which may at times conflict with the interests of the Council.

4.3 The objects of the trust require the land bequeathed to be used as a public park and children’s recreation ground. The Sub-Committee must consider whether any proposed use falls within the trust’s objectives, and if so whether to permit the use requested. If it permits the use then it must decide on what terms, in order to ensure effective use of the park whilst minimising any conflict between the different uses to which the park is subject to under the terms of the trust deed.

4.4 One important consideration for the Alice Park Trust Sub-Committee to consider, when deciding upon the issue of expenditure, is that the income from the Endowment and arising from the Trust Property is currently insufficient to maintain the park without a subsidy from B&NES and therefore a very clear plan to fund future expense will be required.

5 THE REPORT

5.1 That the committee review the 5 year management plan matrix and amend it in light of emerging park initiatives.

5.2 That new funds are spent in a prioritized way in accordance with this plan.

6 RATIONALE

6.1 The Trust must work within its and the Council’s financial constraints.

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7.1 None.

8 CONSULTATION

8.1 Finance and Legal Officers have had opportunity to review and input into this report.

9 RISK MANAGEMENT

9.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

Contact person(s)	<i>Mark Cassidy 01225 396811</i>
Background papers	<i>N/A</i>
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	