

## Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	<b>Charitable Trust Board</b>	
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	<b>N/A</b>	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		<b>N/A</b>
TITLE:	<b>Alice Park Trust Sub-Committee – Annual Report</b>	
WARD:	Lambridge	
<b>AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM</b>		
<b>List of attachments to this report: None</b>		

### 1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Charitable Trust Board on the work of the Alice Park Trust Sub-Committee during the past year.

### 2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Charitable Trust Board is asked to note the report.

### 3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 3.1 Expenditure incurred for Alice Park Trust in 2017/18 was £39,207; this was offset by income of £17,225 and a donation from Bath & North East Somerset Council of £21,981.
- 3.2 The cost of donations to the Trust to the Council in 2017/18 has been met through existing budgets within the Parks department, to ensure the Trust operates on a going concern basis. This is the same process that has been undertaken in previous years.
- 3.3 Net Assets of the Trust are valued at a cost of £189,757. Net assets include investments held, land at Alice Park, car park, cottage number one, tea chalet and storage shed, public conveniences, tennis courts, garden shelter and play equipment.
- 3.4 The accounts for 2017/18 have been prepared by the Council's Finance team and will shortly be reviewed by the Audit West Team.
- 3.5 The accounts for the Trust are prepared on a cash basis, in line with reporting requirements and guidelines issued by the Charity Commission.

- 3.6 An annual report for the Trust was also approved at the meeting on 22 October 2018 and has been submitted to the Charity Commission.
- 3.7 The returns to the Charity Commission were sent within the required timescale i.e. within 10 months of the end of the financial year (31 January.)
- 3.8 The park was open for public access throughout the year, including use of the tennis courts and tea chalet, and has been suitably maintained. The cottage property was let and the income used in the upkeep of the park.

## **4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL**

- 4.1 The terms of reference of the Charitable Trust Board require it to receive an annual report from the Trust Sub-Committee after submitting any annual report to the Charity Commissioners.
- 4.2 The trustees, in making decisions surrounding the objectives and activities of the charity, have regard to the Charities Commission public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

## **5 THE REPORT**

### **5.1 Meetings and Membership**

- 5.1.1 The Alice Park Trust Sub-Committee has met 5 times since the last annual report.
- 5.1.2 Two independent non-voting members were appointed to the Sub-Committee in October 2016, in line with its terms of reference. One of these members resigned in March 2018 and a new independent member was appointed in July 2018.
- 5.1.3 In October 2017 Cllr Michael Norton stood down as Chair of the Sub-Committee and Cllr Geoff Ward was elected Chair.

### **5.2 Activities Undertaken**

- 5.2.1 The Sub-Committee has continued to discuss the provision of a skatepark in Alice Park and has now decided to proceed with this project having agreed a brief setting out the location and parameters for the facility.
- 5.2.2 A fees and charges policy has also been agreed along with a schedule of rates for events held in the park.
- 5.2.3 Terms and fees have been agreed to enable organised youth football to take place in the park.
- 5.2.4 A stamp has been installed in the park, in conjunction with the Council's Active Lifestyles Team, to encourage families to visit the park and to be more active.
- 5.2.5 The sandpit in the children's play area has been replenished.

5.2.6 The Trust was delighted to be awarded CIL funding of £43k to provide two sections of additional paths to create connections and to allow circular travel around the park.

5.2.7 In July members held a site visit in the park to discuss and review the current management plan. Following this meeting they drew up a revised development plan setting out the agreed priorities for maintenance and upgrading of the park. This includes proposals such as the refurbishment of the pond area and the development of the boules and tennis court areas. The erection of a flagpole is also planned and this will enable a flag to be flown on Alice MacVicar's birthday each year as required by the terms of the original conveyance.. The revised plan will lead to a more strategic approach to maintenance within the park with clear priorities agreed by the Trust members.

5.2.8 The overall aim of the development plan is to:

- Increase use of the park through improving quality and range of facilities
- Enhance and feature the heritage of the park to create interest and volunteering
- Improve housekeeping and maintenance
- Close the gap between costs and income to make park more sustainable
- Improve disability access

This will be achieved by reinforcing the park's 1930 heritage and brand, clearly highlighting the current and future facilities and agreeing a clear marketing plan and communication strategy to work alongside the re-development plan.

## **6 RATIONALE**

6.1 The Charitable Trust Board is required to receive reports from the Trusts listed in Schedule 1 of its Terms of Reference (for which the Council is sole corporate trustee).

## **7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

7.1 None.

## **8 CONSULTATION**

8.1 The Section 151 and Monitoring Officer 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.

<b>Contact person</b>	Marie Todd, Democratic Services Officer – <a href="mailto:Marie_Todd@bathnes.gov.uk">Marie_Todd@bathnes.gov.uk</a> 01225 394414
<b>Background papers</b>	None
<b>Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format</b>	