



**Notes of the meeting of the Bath City Forum CiL Panel
held on Monday, 29th July, 2019
in Kaposvar Room - Guildhall, Bath**

Meeting Attendance

In Attendance
Councillor Colin Blackburn
Dave Dixon
Mark Hayward
Robin Kerr

Apologies Received from
Councillor Rob Appleyard
Roger Driver
Councillor June Player

1. Update on previously funded projects

The projects that were recommended by the panel from two previous meetings which took place on 5th November 2018 and 14th January 2019 have been approved. They have now completed the single member decision (SMD) sign off process.

- Bath City Farm Community Hub - £125,000 has been set aside for allocation when the target for funding the new community café is reached. The Farm is also in talks with the Bath Shed project regarding the prospect of providing some space to house them in the longer term.
- Parade Gardens Bandstand - £12,300 has been signed off to pay for the completion of this project, this figure should have been amended to £14,300 and therefore the additional £2,000 will require sign off in the next SMD.
- KiActive - £3,650 has been agreed and discussions on moving the project forward will begin over the next couple of weeks.
- Bathwick Towpath - £34,500 was agreed as a contribution to the ongoing work that is now underway.
- Queen Square Benches - £19,200 has been agreed for this scheme which is now going out to tender. There are 14 benches that need to be replaced and a further 7 that have been removed and need to be added. The aim is for all 21 benches to be replaced. Any benches that can be recycled into other heritage parks will be moved.

Earlier projects where funding is agreed and work is not yet started:

- Free Fields at Combe Down - £25,000 is allocated for the project that is scheduled to start in October 2019.
- Freeview Road Parking Schemes - £34,000 is allocated for the work on two separate sites in Twerton. Highways are yet to agree how and when this work will get underway. This will need to be monitored.
- Two Tunnels Signage - £6,000 is allocated for new signage for cycle ways. Highways have challenged the project as there are questions around the cost and ongoing maintenance of the signage.

The balance for the funding that now remains for Bath is £390,990. Additional receipts will be added to this sum in September 2019.

2. Update on expressions on interest for funding

There are a number of examples of projects that have expressed an interest in making an application for Bath CIL funding:

- Bath Rec Trust – Pavilion / Disabled Access at Glasshouse Field in Combe Down
- Bathwick Safe Route to School – Alterations to the route of the path following development opposite the school
- Combe Down School – Pathway improvements for school route.
- Royal United Hospital – Sustainable Transport

There is also an opportunity to also link into the proposal for strategic CIL projects for Bath.

3. Bath City Football Club - 3G Pitch

The proposal put to the panel was for a contribution of £100,000 to be made towards the 3G pitch at Bath City Football Club.

A number of concerns were raised against this application:

- In light of the Climate Emergency declared by B&NES Council it would not be right to make a recommendation without seeking further information around the health concerns of the micro fibres from pitches entering the water course.
- There is no environmental impact statement provided around the concerns that have been raised about the installation of a 3G pitch.
- It is felt that 3G pitches are not sustainable; the ten year life span sees the materials eventually ending up in landfill sites.
- The club is presently applying for planning permission for a major development of the club and a large number of new dwellings. It was felt that a decision now on this project could be seen as showing support for the planning application.
- The football club is a private organisation. The question was asked around why this organisation should be given consideration over somebody such as Bath Rugby.

A request will be made to the football club to provide a statement on the environmental impact of the 3G pitch. A request will also be made for a statement that outlines the differences to a community that being a club in community ownership brings.

4. Highland Terrace Safety - Solar Lighting

The proposal for the panel was to consider funds of £15,000 be recommended for the installation of a solar lighting solution at Highland Terrace in Bath.

- This scheme was recommended by the panel members for the full £15,000 to be provided.
- It was felt that this pathway being lit will not interfere with residents living along the route.
- It was felt that the lighting will create a safer route to the Railway Station
- Plans for increased services that will stop at the station will see an increase in users of this route.
- This project supports the infrastructure for an area that has seen a number of high density developments nearby.

5. Widcombe Handrail

The proposal for the panel to consider is for funds of £5,000 to be recommended as a contribution for the provision of a handrail on the edge of the green space close to Widcombe Parade and Claverton Street in Bath.

- This scheme was recommended by the panel members for the contribution of £5,000 to be provided.
- It was felt that this project will provide the community with the completion of the Rossiter Road scheme
- The railings will provide a safer pathway and create a better protected green space.
- This project supports the infrastructure for developments that has taken place locally.
- The delivery for this project will need to be aligned with the B&NES Highways Team.

6. Rosewarn Park Redevelopment

The proposal for the panel was for £45,000 to be made for the redevelopment of the Rosewarn Park, Whiteway Bath.

A number of concerns were raised against this application:

- It was unclear to the panel what was meant by 'artificial grass' if this is to be materials used in 3G pitches then the three points below would apply.
- In light of the Climate Emergency declared by B&NES Council it would not be right to make a recommendation without seeking further information around the health concerns of the micro fibres from pitches entering the water course.
- There is no environmental impact statement provided around the concerns that installation of a 3G pitch would raise.

- It is felt that 3G pitches are not sustainable; the ten year span sees the materials ending up in landfill sites.
- The panel felt that the application requires greater details about how the funds would be broken down.
- The land is owned by Curo; therefore written agreement would need to be provided showing how they support this project.
- The application stated that there had been a similar development at Peasedown St John; it was disappointing no detail of this was included.
- The application does not explain how the work will be carried out and by whom.

The panel felt that in principle this idea is suitable for CIL funding but a greater level of detail will be required in the application before a recommendation could be put forward.

Feedback will be provided to Councillor Ball and the additional information required will be requested.

7. Ralph Allen Drive Pillars

The proposal for the panel was for a contribution of £5,000 to provide CCTV to monitor vehicular damage to the listed Ralph Allen pillars.

The panel recognised that there was an issue with damage being caused to the pillars but were not able to support this application.

A number of concerns were raised about this application:

- The idea around CCTV was considered impractical as there is no information provided around how the CCTV would operate privacy, data protection and the ability to take enforcement action against offenders.
- B&NES Council does not have the resources to support ongoing costs for additional CCTV cameras. No mention is made to ongoing costs.
- No mention was made of any discussions around the possibilities of working with local organisations such as Bath College on alternative solutions.
- A suggestion was made that the Combe Down Heritage Society may wish to look at other possible options to protect the pillars. The question was raised around whether it would be an option to see the pillars relocated into a safer position.

Feedback will be provided to Combe Down Heritage Society