

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	Charitable Trust Board
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	29 January 2020
TITLE:	Alice Park Trust Sub-Committee – Annual Report
WARD:	Lambridge
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	
List of attachments to this report: None	

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 2018/19 was £38,378; this was offset by income of £15,786.
- 3.2 The deficit of £22,592 has been subsidised from the Bath & North East Somerset Council Parks revenue budget, 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 £189,734. 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 2018/19 have been prepared by the Council's Finance team and have been independently audited 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 has also been prepared for submission to the Charity Commission.
- 3.7 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 twice since the last annual report. There were fewer meetings than usual in this period due to the local elections which took place in May 2019. This led to a change of membership.
- 5.1.2 The current membership of the Sub-Committee is:
- Cllr Rob Appleyard (Chair)
- Cllr Paul Myers (Vice Chair)
- Cllr Joanna Wright
- Graham Page (Independent member non-voting)
- 5.1.3 The term of office of Paul Hooper, the other independent member on the sub-committee, expired on 31 October 2019. The vacancy was advertised but no applications were received. It is hoped that a new member will be found shortly following further publicity in the local area.

5.2 Activities Undertaken

- 5.2.1 Last year the Trust was awarded CIL funding of £43k to provide two sections of additional paths to create connections and to allow circular travel around the park. This work has now been completed and the new sections of footpath have brought a huge benefit to park users with many positive comments being received.
- 5.2.2 A replacement flagpole has now been erected in the park. A flag will be flown at half mast on Alice MacVicar's birthday each year as required by the terms of the original conveyance

- 5.2.3 A new petanque area has been created resulting in an extended terrain with 4 lanes which is approximately 4m larger than the previous area. The Bath Grand Cru Petanque Club now intends to use the park as its base.
- 5.2.4 Working in conjunction with local volunteers, a new self-sustaining wildlife garden has been created in the pond area of the park. The volunteers organised and carried out the work and the Trust met the cost of materials.
- 5.2.5 Work is ongoing to finalise the lease for the tennis courts in the park which will be refurbished and then operated and managed by a third-party operator on behalf of the Council. In the interim the Trust has funded some remedial works to the tennis courts to improve the playing surface.
- 5.2.6 Work is also ongoing to finalise the lease for the skate park and it is anticipated that this will be constructed in time for the summer holiday season.
- 5.2.7 The Clerk has submitted applications for Charity Commission consent to both leases on behalf of the Trust.

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.

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Background papers	None
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