

## Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	<b>Charitable Trust Board</b>
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	<b>29 June 2021</b>
TITLE:	<b>Alice Park Trust Sub-Committee – Annual Report</b>
WARD:	<b>Lambridge</b>
<b>AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM</b>	
<b>List of attachments to this report:</b>  Alice Park Trust Accounts 2019/20 – Appendix 1  Trustee Annual Report 2019/20 – Appendix 2	

### 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 The Alice Park Trust accounts for 2019/20 have now been submitted to the Charity Commission. The Commission agreed an extension for the submission this year, following discussions about how the accounts are produced. These issues were satisfactorily resolved, and the accounts were submitted by the required deadline of 31 March 2021.
- 3.2 Expenditure incurred for Alice Park Trust in 2019/20 was £87,820; this was offset by income of £58,628.
- 3.3 The deficit of £29,192 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.
- 3.4 Net Assets of the Trust are valued at a cost of £189,476. 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.

- 3.5 The accounts for 2019/20 have been prepared by the Council's Finance team and have been independently examined by One West.
- 3.6 The accounts for the Trust are prepared on a cash basis, in line with reporting requirements and guidelines issued by the Charity Commission.
- 3.7 An annual report for the Trust has also been prepared for submission to the Charity Commission.
- 3.8 Subject to Covid closures, 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 Alice Park 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 4 times since the last annual report. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic all these meetings were held virtually.
- 5.1.2 The current membership of the Sub-Committee is:
- Cllr Rob Appleyard (Chair)
- Cllr Sally Davis
- Cllr Joanna Wright
- Bill Shaw (Independent member non-voting)
- 5.1.3 Bill Shaw was appointed to the Sub-Committee in January 2021 following the public advertisement of the independent member vacancy. Graham Page, Independent Member, resigned from the Sub-Committee in March 2021. The current vacancy for an independent member has been advertised and interviews are scheduled to take place shortly.

##### **Activities Undertaken**

- 5.1.4 An operator has now been appointed to run the new tennis court provision. This means that park users can now look forward to an improved provision, refurbishment of the tennis courts and a high-quality service.

- 5.1.5 The sub-committee has agreed policies to prohibit drones (without prior permission), sky lanterns, barbeques and open fires in the park (without prior permission).
- 5.1.6 A process for charging commercial users of the park has been put in place and this is now generating income for the Trust.
- 5.1.7 A new lease has been agreed for the café.
- 5.1.8 The sub-committee has permitted the reconfiguration of the front entrance area to the community garden.
- 5.1.9 Work to construct a skate park is ongoing and this will be open for use as soon as security fencing has been erected between the skate park and the sandpit.
- 5.1.10 The priority issues for the forthcoming year are improvements to the children's play area and the provision of outdoor gym equipment.

## **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 EQUALITIES**

- 7.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment has not been carried out as this report is for information only.

## **8 CLIMATE CHANGE**

- 8.1 A well-managed park provides a valuable habitat for all forms of wildlife. The plant life and trees found within urban parks and green space play an important role in improving the air quality in urban environments and reducing pollutants.

## **9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 9.1 None.

## **10 CONSULTATION**

- 10.1 The Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer have had opportunity to review and input into this report.

## **11 RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 11.1A 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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<b>Background papers</b>	None
<b>Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format</b>	