

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Date: Monday, 22 May 2023

Title: Committee Objectives and Work Programme for The Municipal Year

Contact Officer: Town Clerk - Sharon Groth

Background

The purpose of this report is to give consideration to this Committees objectives/priorities in order for the Town Clerk to come up with a manageable programme of works, so that she can deploy the necessary resources appropriately.

The following agenda item 8 – Open Spaces Strategy and Major/Strategic Projects and agenda item 13 in confidential session may also have a bearing on the Committees objectives and priorities so Members may wish to defer this item until after considering these agenda items.

Current Situation

Due to demands on the Town Clerk's time at the time of writing this report she has not been able to update the Open Spaces Strategy and the projects funded during the budget setting cycle – these will be circulated under separate cover/tabled at the meeting in order for members to prioritise these.

In addition, there are several larger projects where funding has been accumulated over numerous years with funding set aside within the Council's Earmarked Reserves. In particular:

Skate Park Refurbishment Project: [EMR a/c 374 £90,000 + £12,000 S106] making a total of £102,000 currently available – with a further £50,000 pledged as part of the Leys Masterplan Project

Leys Masterplan Members will be receiving a presentation update from Courtside CIC prior to this meeting. The Town Council has pledged £250,000 towards the project

Burwell Sports Changing Rooms: Earmarked Reserve (A/c 368) £47,030 and S106 funding £25,000, total available £72,030* [suggest any shortfall could be met from EMR a/c 319]

Splash Park Renewal: Lifespan of facility was estimated to be 10 years from 2015, therefore a sinking fund was set up EMR a/c 361

– which currently stands at £172,500 but is also available for major repairs.

West Witney Sports Ground: Known S106 funding £310,325 + a further C£200k pledged waiting on legal agreement – also EMR a/c 319
*see below footnote

Leys Ground Sewerage/pavilion: Problems identified by the Bowls Club and the sewage problem – an EMR set up a/c 367 balance currently stands at £57,900.

Play Equipment/Renewals: An EMR set up a/c 365 balance currently stands at £33,679.

** Sports Improvement EMR (A/c 319) amounts to £156,662*

Environmental impact

Having declared a Climate Change Emergency at its Council meeting on 26 June 2019 – with this in mind Councillors should have due regard to the environmental impact of any decisions they make with regard to its facilities and services it operates.

Risk

In decision making Councillors should give consideration to any risks to the Council and any action it can take to limit or negate its liability.

When considering its priorities the committee should be mindful of all resources – financial as well as human resources.

Financial implications

The financial implications are detailed above with further information to be available at the meeting.

Recommendations

Members are invited to note the report and consider its objectives/priorities for the coming municipal year.