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**Agenda Item:** Major Projects - Raleigh Crescent MUGA/MUSA

**Meeting Date:** Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**Contact Officer:** Project Officer

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The purpose of this report is to provide members with an update regarding the major capital projects that are currently in flight.

### **Background**

As you are aware, Witney Town Council's Open Spaces Strategy cited five themes to deliver improvements for our community: Parks, Sport, Leisure, Infrastructure & Effectiveness.

This report aims to provide you with an update on **Raleigh Crescent MUGA/MUSA** project linked to Parks and Recreation.



## **Current Situation**

- Officers have received clarification from District Council on the conditions of use for the S106 money allocated to provide a MUGA at Raleigh Crescent.
- Officers have re-issued the tender document to reflect the S106 requirements for WODC to approve and publish.
- WTC Officers have collaborated with WODC Officers to engage with residents regarding the location of the MUGA. Officers from both councils are exploring option of MUGA placement in Deer Park by assessing impacts on practice pitches and topography with interested contractors.
- Once assessment complete WODC will decide on location and update and publish tender accordingly.

## **Impact Assessments**

The Town Council has a duty to consider the effects of its decisions, functions and activities on equality, biodiversity, and crime & disorder. Consideration should also be given to effects on the environment, given the Council's Climate Emergency declaration in 2019.

- a) Equality – inclusivity and accessibility to everyone are important design features of this park, which are highlighted in tender and subsequent evaluation process.
- b) Biodiversity – the project plans to deliver above the minimal uplift in BNG
- c) Crime & Disorder – location is an area subjected to occasional anti-social behaviour, which was raised at consultation events. We have asked for this issue to be addressed within the design and lighting/CCTV innovations.
- d) Environment & Climate Emergency – building construction consists of environmentally friendly materials and lighting will be energy efficient. Muga specification includes soundproof materials to reduce sound of ball strikes.

## **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.

- Differences in Town Council and District Council protocol, processes and cultures could present challenges agreeing tender specifications and transferring ownership to Witney Town Council. We are managing risk by learning from previous experience with Play Park and effective comms through robust procurement process and project management.
- Officers recognise that concepts which were presented at public consultation last year will be different to what is being delivered due to S106 spending criteria. Officers are taking relevant feedback from consultation event to incorporate into new design scope. In addition, officers are working with WODC officers to re-engage community to reset expectations.

## **Social Value**

Social value is the positive change the Council creates in the local community within which it operates.

- A key objective of the park is to encourage exercise through fun activities, which attracts users from every segment of the community to encourage social, generational, cultural and physical integration.
- Another key objective is making a safe and fun area for girls to participate in sporting activities.
- The park will address a growing concern of anti-social behaviour in the existing park, due to its covered seating areas, which are poorly lit.

## **Financial implications**

- The project budget is reliant on S106 monies from District Council, which means the town council must work in partnership to deliver project. Robust processes need to be in place to ensure robust contracts are in place and smooth transfer of ownership is achieved.

## **Recommendations**

This is a project update however any feedback is always appreciated