

HALLS AND GREEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Date: Monday 13th January 2020

Title: Bowls Green – Request for Disabled Ramps

Contact Officer: Operations and Estates Officer – John Hickman

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this is to advise Councillors of a request from the Bowls Clubs that the Bowls Greens are not DDA compliant as they lack disabled ramps to enable disabled access to greens.

ACTION TAKEN

The Operations and Estates Officer asked the clubs to look into disabled ramps in order to establish which ramps were suitable for their club's requirements. They were reluctant to do this however West Witney Bowls Club did eventually send through details of ramps that they felt suited their needs. The Operations and Estates Officer then passed this information to the Witney Town Bowls Club and asked if they felt the same ramps were suitable for their club's requirements to which they have responded yes.

CURRENT POSITION

The Operations and Estates Officer has measured the difference in height in order to purchase suitable length ramps to meet current legislation of 1 in 8 and requested quotes for the ramps selected by the clubs. These ramps can also be used by the contractors getting equipment on and off the green if required.

The company has provided quotes as follows 1 x pair of ramps including delivery £700 a pair of ramps would be required for each green hopefully there would only be one delivery charge for 2 pairs of ramps rather than one with costs then being £1,300.

Specialist disabled equipment may be required to allow disabled users to use the green without damaging it. The Operations and Estates Officer has emailed clubs regarding disabled access and if disabled people are to be using the green what disability equipment they will be using and who the clubs will be expecting to provide this the disabled user or the clubs.

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. Providing disabled ramps at both West Witney and the Leys Recreation Ground will ensure both greens are DDA compliant.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The associated cost of providing 2 x sets disability ramps to Bowls Greens of £1,300 to be taken from budget lines 4046/202 Leys and 4046/203 West Witney £750 as appropriate.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Member are invited to note the report and consider the provision of disabled ramps to both West Witney and the Leys Recreation Ground bowls greens.