

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting27th September 2007

1. Title of Item/Report

The Regeneration of Stockton's Parks

2. Record of the Decision

Members considered a report relating to the regeneration of parks within the Borough

Members agreed that well-managed, accessible and diverse parks made a significant contribution towards quality of life, helping to make the Borough an attractive place to live, work and visit.

It was explained that the development of parks and greenspaces contributed to a wide agenda, relating to all five core themes within Stockton's Community Strategy.

Cabinet noted that in 2007 Stockton Borough Council was awarded four Green Flags for Ropner Park, Billingham Beck Country Park, Cowpen Bewley Woodland Park and Wynyard Woodland Park. Continuous improvement and development of Stockton's parks would help to achieve the Council's target of five Green Flags by 2009.

The successful implementation of the Council's 'Parks, Open Spaces and Countryside Strategy 2001-2005' had seen the regeneration of the three Thornaby Parks, the £3.5 million restoration of Ropner Park and significant improvements to Tilery Park, Primrose Hill Park and the Great North Park. Newham Grange Park had recently had a new £200,000 play area installed.

Members were reminded that in February 2007 Cabinet approved the commitment of £500,000 expenditure to finance the on-going development and regeneration of Stockton's parks as part of the Council's Medium Term Capital Plan. The proposed projects were:-

- creation of a new park in Ingleby Barwick (Romano Park);
- continued redevelopment of Newham Grange Park;
- redevelopment of John Whitehead Park in Billingham;
- a new approach to play provision at Wynyard Woodland Park.

Further details of the proposed projects were provided to Members, together with information on the financial and legal implications.

The current funding (including external match funding) would be used to deliver discrete projects, providing significant benefits in their own right. However, each project also formed a component of a broader master plan or development plan for each site, delivery of which would be phased over a period of years.

RESOLVED that:-

1. the commitment of £500,000 for park regeneration projects as detailed in this report be approved.
2. it be agreed that any secured external funding should be used to support delivery of the schemes, and additional external funding sought where possible.

3. Reasons for the Decision

To facilitate the phased delivery of Stockton's park regeneration programme, utilising the Council's capital funding and external funding where this had been secured.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Mrs McCoy declared a personal non prejudicial interest in this item as she had been involved in issues relating to the provision of security lights at John Whitehead Park.

6. Details of any Dispensations

None

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Not later than midnight on Friday 5th October 2007

Proper Officer
01 February 2007