

Committee: COMMUNITY

Agenda Item

Date: 14 SEPTEMBER 2006

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Title: GREAT DUNMOW SKATEPARK

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Item for decision

Summary

1. This report informs Members that a letter has been received from Great Dunmow Town Council requesting a contribution towards replacement of the existing Skatepark equipment. The District Council is requested to contribute £30,000 towards the equipment and to underwrite the project.

Recommendations

2. Members are recommended to consider whether or not to make a further contribution of £30,000 towards the equipment and to underwrite the project, in accordance with a suggested criteria format as completed at Appendix 1.

Background Papers

3. None

Impact

- 4.

Communication/Consultation	The Town Council has advised that Young People have been consulted on this project
Community Safety	An operational management plan has been produced
Equalities	Facility available to all young people
Finance	Funding would need to be earmarked from the £2007/08 budgetary process
Human Rights	The provision of a Skatepark enables young people to have access to local facilities
Legal implications	None
Ward-specific impacts	Enhanced facilities in the Ward/any likely disturbance would need to be addressed in the Management Plan
Workforce/Workplace	None

Situation

5. The District Council contributed £16,000 towards the original development of the Dunmow Skatepark in 1998.
6. The Town Council is contributing £15,000 and Essex County Council Community Initiatives Fund has contributed £12,800. Fundraising is ongoing and the Town Council has stated that if the District Council agree to make contribution then any further funds raised will therefore reduce the amount required from the District Council. However, should it not be possible to raise further funds then it would be appreciated if the District Council could underwrite the project for the outstanding £30,000 as requested.
7. The intention is to remove the existing equipment and make good the surface and then to install the following equipment:

Equipment

half-pipe with safety handrails

quarter pipe 7ft high x 15ft wide

quarter pipe 5ft high x 15ft wide

customised quarter pipe to fit existing bank

6 assorted grind obstacles

Install new base with a normal sized mini ramp

Total Cost £59,995

8. The skatepark equipment will be maintained by the Town Council and attached at Appendix 2 is a copy of the Budget for 2006 to demonstrate which the expenditure will be attributed to.
9. A copy of the Operational Management Plan is attached at Appendix 3.

Risk Analysis

10.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
Lack of Council contribution will jeopardise project	Low	Low	Funding could be applied for from other sources

It is necessary to ensure adverse local impact is reduced	High	High	Great Dunmow Town Council is responsible for the Park and has operational measures in place to monitor and maintain the facility.
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COMMUNITY COMMITTEE – AD HOC FUNDING APPLICATION EVALUATION FORM - DUNMOW SKATEPARK

SECTION 1

Please provide brief details of the project in this section and attach supporting information separately.

The Great Dunmow Skatepark was installed in 1998. It was the first in the area and has proved to be very successful and has attracted skaters from all around the area and beyond. The sub-structure is of wooden construction surfaced with steel. It has been regularly maintained over the years by the Town Council but has now reached the point where continued extensive maintenance is becoming less cost effective. In view of this the Town Council has decided that the equipment should be replaced and the opportunity taken to improve and enhance the facility to incorporate the latest design in a layout that will be both challenging to accomplished skaters whilst accommodating those of lesser ability. It will be suitable for all ages and abilities.

Please state if a community project grant has been applied for and if not why

A community project grant has not been applied for because the technicalities of this project had not been finalised within the required timescale.

Is the Funding being applied for capital or revenue and a one-off cost.

The funding being applied for is a one-off capital cost.

SECTION 2

The **purpose** of Uttlesford District Council is to improve the quality of life of the people who live and work or visit Uttlesford. The Council has identified five ways in which the quality of life can be improved and applications for funding will need to demonstrate how projects contribute towards these goals.

	GOALS	DEMONSTRATE PROJECT CONTRIBUTION	SCORE 5 points per goal
2.1	Provide strong community leadership and openness		
2.2	Protecting and enhancing the environment and character of the district		
2.3	Improving access to value for money services	Use of the Skatepark is free of charge and provides young people with an opportunity to undertake constructive activities in their leisure time.	5
2.4	Improving community safety and the health of the population	Providing a free use facility available from dawn until dusk in a location where the activity is clearly visible contributes towards young people congregating in other areas and possibly causing a nuisance to the wider community. Additionally, skateboarding is a physically demanding activity that improves the fitness levels of the participants.	5
2.5	Supporting lifelong learning and developing better opportunities for young people	Skateboarding is a skill that young people learn from each other and the facility provides opportunities for social interaction and young people to develop methods of raising and competing with each other.	5

SECTION 3

	EVALUATION POINTS (Items 3.2, 3.7, 3.8, 3.9, 3.10, 3.11 and 3.13 to be allocated a score)	COMPLIANCE YES/NO	SCORE 2 points – fully met 1 point – part met
3.1	Is the organisation applying for funding a properly constituted body with a bank account/registered charity? Will that organisation be responsible for the project in the future (if not which organisation will)	YES, the Town Council is the budget holder YES, the Town Council will be responsible for the park	
3.2	Evidence provided demonstrating the need for this project	The existing skatepark has been very well used and the level of maintenance now required is proving to be less cost effective	Score 2

	EVALUATION POINTS (Items 3.2, 3.7, 3.8, 3.9, 3.10, 3.11 and 3.13 to be allocated a score)	COMPLIANCE YES/NO	SCORE 2 points – fully met 1 point – part met
3.3	Positive impact of the project	The Town Council will operate the management plan and can therefore deal with any complaints by ensuring that the conditions of the plan are adhered to. The replacement facility is essential for young people in Dunmow to continue to be able to skateboard.	
3.4	Negative Impact of the project	Unlikely to be any negative impact because the park is set in a low lying area and it is also screened by a mature hedge and the nearest houses are on the other side of a busy road.	
3.5	Is planning permission required for this project/development	No	
3.6	Is it necessary to obtain a lease for land required for this development	No	
3.7	Evidence provided that three quotations have been sought for the work required	Three quotations have been sought from the following companies: Fearless Ramps (£60,000), Wickstead Leisure (£46,000) and Freestyle Ramps (£53,486).	Score 2

	EVALUATION POINTS (Items 3.2, 3.7, 3.8, 3.9, 3.10, 3.11 and 3.13 to be allocated a score)	COMPLIANCE YES/NO	SCORE 2 points – fully met 1 point – part met
3.8	Evidence of Funding secured - 50% or 75% of funding must already have been raised	Approximately 50% of the funding has been raised i.e. £27,800. Further funding is being pursued with Biffa, Viridor and Stansted Airport Community Fund.	Score 1
3.9	Details of further fundraising being pursued	Further funding applications are being submitted to Stansted Airport Community Trust, Essex Environment Trust, Heritage Lottery Fund Awards for All, Biffa, Viridor and Stansted.	Score 2
3.10	Evidence of numbers of individuals likely to benefit from this project	A survey of events has identified that there are approximately 30 - 50 regular users of the park although numbers could be in the low hundreds during the holidays etc.	Score 2

	EVALUATION POINTS (Items 3.2, 3.7, 3.8, 3.9, 3.10, 3.11 and 3.13 to be allocated a score)	COMPLIANCE YES/NO	SCORE 2 points – fully met 1 point – part met
3.11	Management or Business Plan produced	An Operational Management Plan has been produced	Score 2
3.12	Longevity of project	The estimated life of the equipment is at least 10 years but with a comprehensive maintenance programme in place it is likely to be much longer.	
3.13	Evidence of consultation carried out and outcome of responses provided	Consultation has been carried out via initial meetings with young people to identify what they would like resulting in a formal presentation and discussion at the Annual Town Council meeting involving young people and subsequently a visit by the Downs and Commons Committee to meet with young people on site.	Score 2
	TOTAL SCORE		28

Number of Points Scored	26 - 39	19 - 25	14 - 18	10 - 14	1 - 2
Percentage payment of total requested	100%	75%	50%	25%	Nil