

Runnymede Borough Council

Second Supplementary Agenda

22 September 2022 at 7.30pm

Item 9: Referral from Community Services Committee 15 September 2022

Recommendations:

- i) a Capital Estimate in the sum of £168,000 for the works to the courts be approved, to be entirely funded from the grant awarded by the Lawn Tennis Association; and**
- ii) the creation of a new Earmarked Reserve and an annual transfer of any unused court maintenance budget into it to specifically fund future maintenance works associated with the courts, be approved.**

At its meeting on 15 September 2022, Community Services considered an opportunity to secure funding for a significant investment into the borough's outdoor facilities for tennis via funding from the Lawn Tennis Association.

The five sites that would benefit were Gogmore Farm Park, Ottershaw Memorial Fields, Victory Park, Chertsey Recreation Ground and Heathervale Recreation Ground.

The Committee was fully supportive of the initiative which the Council's Leisure Client and Development Officer had actively pursued. He was commended for work undertaken so far to bring this exciting project to realisation. Members agreed this actively met the Council's ambition with regard to the Health and Wellbeing Strategy (item 5 on this agenda, within the Corporate Business Plan).

The Committee agreed that improving tennis facilities would benefit people of all ages and abilities as well as having access for disabled people and opportunities for more community use.

Flexibility in service provision and delivery was emphasised within the criteria set by the Lawn Tennis Association with whom the Council would enter into partnership for the project.

This Committee's approval is sought for the financial aspects of the project. These are to approve a Capital Estimate in the sum of £168,000, to be funded by the grant awarded by the Lawn Tennis Association, and approve the creation of a new earmarked reserve and an annual transfer of any unused court maintenance works associated with the courts.

Further detail of the proposed charging structure and budget approved by Community Services are set out in the report attached to item 9 of this Committee's main agenda.

Members are advised that Community Services Committee approved that delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of that Committee once full details had been received and considered. Therefore, approval of the recommendation is sought, and is subject to funding being secured and the proposed terms incurring expenditure no more than the sum of £168,000 to be approved by this Committee.

(To resolve)