

Ward Discretionary Budget – Greenspace Improvement Projects**Report of the Director of Place Management****1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 A request to consider greenspace improvement projects for the allocation of Ward Discretionary Budget (Marple North)

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 **Brabyns Park** –works has just started on the resurfacing of the mountain bike trail in Brabyns Park. The works is being carried out by volunteers with *Bike at Brabyns* and as in kind work from a local track builder.
- 2.2 Bike at Brabyns are a community group that support improvements to the Brabyns bike track and promote cycling in the park for all levels. They work closely with the Friends of Brabyns Park.
- 2.3 An allocation of Ward Discretionary Budget would allow for the scope of the project to be extended and would be used for the purchase of additional materials and infrastructure such as seating, signage and fencing.
- 2.4 **War Memorials** – there is a need for improvements at the wards three war memorials, Compstall War Memorial, Marple War Memorial and Mellor War Memorial.
- 2.5 An allocation of Ward Discretionary Budget would allow for specialist cleaning, resurfacing works and improved planting as required at each site.
- 2.6 **Inclusive Play-** Marple Memorial Park Play Area is a key recreational space for children and young people in the ward and surrounding areas. There is a need to enhance the play accessibility and opportunities within the play space.
- 2.7 As part of the proposal for the new community hub in Marple Memorial Park one unified play space would be created around the existing junior play equipment.
- 2.8 An allocation of Ward Discretionary Budget towards inclusive play would allow for a ground level wheelchair accessible roundabout to be fitted in the junior play area. This would not affect any future play space improvements.
- 2.9 The investment would be matched with secured commuted sums for play for Marple Memorial Park.
- 2.10 There is currently £50,241.87 in commuted for play available for investment at Marple Memorial Park play area within the next 4 years. Significant future investments will be required to enhance the play opportunity and value within the junior play space, this will exceed that amount currently secured.

3. PROPOSAL

3.1 That Area Committee consider one or more of the following projects for the allocation of Ward Discretionary Budget.

- **Brabyns Bike Track** – an allocation of between £1,000 and £4,000 would allow the scope of the improvement works at Brabyns Park Mountain Park Trail to be extended to include track and fencing improvements, new seating and signage.
- **Compstall War Memorial** – an allocation of £1,500 would allow for specialist cleaning of the war memorial and further allocation of £1,500 would allow for the specialist re carving of the inscriptions.
- **Mellor War Memorial and Marple War Memorial** – an allocation of £2,500 would allow for the resurfacing of damaged surfaces to be undertaken at each site and improved planting at the Mellor War Memorial.
- **Inclusive Play for Marple Memorial Park** - an allocation of £5,500 would allow for the purchase of a wheelchair accessible roundabout.

4. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 The Area Committee is requested to put forward their recommendations for the allocation of the Ward Discretionary Budget (Marple North) to the Cabinet Member for Finance & Resources for approval.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

There are none

Anyone wishing to inspect the above background papers or requiring further information should contact Richard Booker on telephone number Tel: 0161 474 4829 or alternatively email richard.booker@stockport.gov.uk