
PROVISION OF FIVE-A-SIDE FOOTBALL PITCH, POOLES LANE RECREATION GROUND

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 To seek Member approval to the implementation of this initiative following the Council's "in principle" decision to allocate funding for this project.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 At the budget setting meeting of Full Council in January, Council agreed that £17,500 be set aside in the capital programme to provide, in principle, a five-a-side football pitch at Pooles lane Recreation Ground, Hullbridge, in conjunction with Hullbridge Parish Council and other interested parties (Minute 15/2001).
- 2.2 Following that decision, Officers have been working with the Parish and other groups on drawing up a detailed proposal for Members' consideration.

3 DETAILED CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The proposal as drawn up involves the provision of a 5 a side football pitch measuring some 25m x 15m at Pooles Lane Recreation Ground. The attached plan gives details of the proposed siting.
- 3.2 As part of the development of the scheme, the Parish Council has also undertaken a public consultation exercise on the proposal. Some 1000 letters were distributed seeking residents' views on the location of the pitch within the Recreation Ground. [Appendix 1](#) gives a breakdown of the responses received on a road by road basis. Some 494 responses have been received, giving a response rate of almost 50%. Of those who have returned questionnaires, 90% are in favour of the proposal. Only in two areas, the Halcyon Caravan Park and Crouch Caravan Park are there majorities against the scheme, but in neither case does the majority against represent a significant number compared to those in favour.
- 3.3 Given the responses received and the progress made, permission is therefore sought from the Council to implement the scheme.

4 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The provision of such facilities within the Recreation Ground should be of benefit to the youths of the area. Whilst other facilities within the recreation ground have been subject to adverse comment and

complaint from some local residents, the response received to the consultation exercise suggests that this proposal has local acceptance.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There is £17,500 allocated in the capital programme for this project.

6 RECOMMENDATION

It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

That the scheme as outlined be approved for implementation.

Paul Warren

Chief Executive

Background Papers:

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