

**RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION TAKEN BY AN EXECUTIVE MEMBER**

This form **MUST** be used to record any decision taken by the Elected Mayor or an individual Executive Member (Portfolio Holder).

The form must be completed and passed to the Service Manager (Committee & Administrative Services) no later than NOON on the second working day after the day on which the decision is taken. No action may be taken to implement the decision(s) recorded on this form until 7 days have passed and the Service Manager (Committee & Administrative Services) has confirmed the decision has not been called in.

**1. Description of decision**

- (i) To accept the grant funding in the sum of £85,000 from the Kingsbrook and Cauldwell Big Local; and
- (ii) To use the earmarked Section 106 funding of £20,000 to contribute to this project.

**2. Date of decision**

14 October 2016

**3. Reasons for decision**

To provide a concrete skate-park on recreational land off Moor Lane funded from £85,000 of grant from Big Local and Section 106 funding of £20,000.

**4. Alternatives considered and rejected**

The alternative option of not accepting the grant was considered and rejected.

**5. How decision is to be funded**

Receipt of grant from Big Local and the use of S106 funding.

**6. Conflicts of interest**

Name of all Executive members who were consulted AND declared a conflict of interest.	Nature of interest	Did Standards Committee give a dispensation for that conflict of interest? (If yes, give details and date of dispensation)	Did the Chief Executive give a dispensation for that conflict of interest? (If yes, give details and the date of the dispensation).

The Mayor has been consulted on this

N/A

decision

Signed    Dan Hodgson   

Date 14 October ~~September~~ 2016  
*DSH*

Name of Decision Taker - The Mayor

This is a public document. A copy of it must be given to the Service Manager (Committee & Administrative Services) as soon as it is completed.

Date decision published: 14th October 2016

Date decision can be implemented if not called in: 26th October 2016

(Decision to be made exempt from call in..... NO.....)

**Bedford Borough Council – THE MAYOR**

October 2016

**Report by: HEAD OF ENVIRONMENT**

**SUBJECT: BIG LOCAL GRANT FUNDING FOR SKATE-PARK PROJECT AT MOOR LANE, CAULDWELL, BEDFORD.**

**1 Executive Summary**

1.1 The Kingsbrook and Cauldwell Big Local have provided the Council with the option of accepting the grant funding of £85,000 as contribution for a skate-park project at Moor Lane, Cauldwell in Bedford. This report give details of the project and recommends acceptance of the grant and use of the Section 106 funding.

**2 Recommendations**

2.1 That the Mayor considers, and if satisfied , agrees to:

- (i) **Accept the grant funding in the sum of £85,000 from the Kingsbrook and Cauldwell Big Local; and**
- (ii) **Use the earmarked Section 106 funding of £20,000 to contribute to this project.**

**3 Reasons for Recommendations**

3.1 The project proposals are the results of partnership working between the Council, Big Local and the local community. The involvement of young people has helped steer the design and identify a preferred contractor, the wider local community has lobbied to secure funding and is committed to helping make the project a success and Big Local have driven the project forward and secured the majority of the funding. The Council has provided the space, project management and future maintenance. Section 106 funding is proposed to be used to support a sport which doesn't usually benefit from such funding and will engage young people who may not have otherwise benefitted.

## 4 Key Implications

### Legal Issues

- 4.1 There are no particular issues but the Council will need to comply with the Big Local standard terms of grant and will be required to monitor and report on progress and performance of the project.

### Policy Issues

#### **Corporate Plan:** - (themes taken from the 2016-20 Corporate Plan)

- 4.2 The Council's Corporate Plan 2016-2020 focuses on three priority areas which will help ensure that Bedford Borough continues to be a place where people want to live, work and spend their leisure time. One of the three priorities is "A Thriving Local Economy - providing the environment to ensure that the Borough's economy can continue to grow, despite shrinking public spending - without economic growth the Borough will not be able to respond to the challenges of providing the homes and jobs our growing and ageing population need and the places for them to enjoy and learn as individuals and a community". The project will encourage people into the open spaces/ park and also encourage them to exercise in their leisure time.

#### **Sustainable Community Strategy:** - (from the 2009 – 2021 strategy)

- 4.3 Theme 6 "An Inclusive Borough" Social Inclusion, Community Cohesion and Culture. This project supports areas of the Sustainable Community Strategy, including:
- To encourage and support more people... to take on civic roles and volunteer within their communities.
  - To encourage and enable more people to participate in local arts, culture and sporting activities.

### Resource Implications

- 4.4 There are no onerous conditions associated with accepting the Grant. There will be no additional ongoing maintenance costs given its construction materials and as its installation will be concurrent with the removal of the existing steel ramps and shelter. Litter picking and graffiti removal will be contained within existing resources and the local community have committed to undertaking three litter picks per year. The inspection of the facility will be undertaken alongside the existing inspection of the adjacent MUGA therefore no additional resources are required as a result of this proposal.

#### Risk Implications

- 4.5 By not accepting the grant the Council would be unable to provide all the funding for the skate-park and the improvements to the Moore Lane open space and potential health improvement benefits that it could bring to the users of this facility.

#### Environmental Implications

- 4.6 By accepting the grant award the Borough and its residents would benefit from the improved facilities at this location. The skate-park would encourage more people into the open space and the environment rather than sitting at home on electronic devices.

#### Equalities Impact

- 4.7 In preparing this report, due consideration has been given to the Borough Council's statutory Equality Duty to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations, as set out in Section 149(1) of the Equality Act 2010.
- 4.8 A relevance test for equality has been completed. The equality test determined that there are no equality and diversity implications in connection with the proposals that are set out in this report, and no differential impacts are reasonably foreseeable.

### **5 Details**

- 5.1 Kingsbrook and Cauldwell Big Local are promoting the installation of a new skate park installed in the Moor Lane open space in Cauldwell.
- 5.2 The Kingsbrook and Cauldwell Big Local are an externally funded trust with a mission is to enable residents to make their communities and their areas even better places in which to live. The Trust helps residents develop and use their skills and confidence to identify what matters most to them, and to take action to change things for the better, now and in the future. The Trust will fund projects supported by residents in order to deliver sustainable change, maximise impact and make the best use of scarce resources.
- 5.3 There is currently a small steel ramped skate area on the site which will be removed to provide space for the larger and more comprehensive proposed concrete skate area. This facility will enable skaters to have vastly increased options and possibilities for skating runs, jumps and tricks.

- 5.4 A skating event was organized jointly with Bedford Sports Development (Just Turn Up) in June 2015. This was successful with over 50 skaters attending.
- 5.5 As a result of the event the skater group liaised with Gravity, a company specialising in the design and construction of skate parks, and worked extensively with them to design a skate-park. The resultant design for a completely new skate park for Moor Lane (to be located next to the existing MUGA) has been costed at £100,000. The proposed appointment of Gravity as the preferred contractor has been determined by Big Local. This follows a competitive tendering process in collaboration with Wootton Parish Council for a similar project implemented in 2015. Big Local will contribute more than 80% of the capital cost. Bedford Borough Councils procurement officers are satisfied that the Big Local preferred contractor can be appointed on a fixed price contract on condition they meet technical and financial tests.
- 5.6 The project would be supported by £20,000 Section 106 contribution secured from the Telecom House St Johns Street redevelopment. Officers have been working with Big Local to improve the facilities on the recreational land off Moor Lane. Big Local carried out consultation in 2015 with young people living in the area, pupils of the local Bedford Academy and users of the existing sports court and small skate facility. As a result of the consultation design proposals have been developed and a fixed price contract negotiated with the preferred contractor Gravity. Section 106 funding of £20,000 is proposed to be used and grant funding from Big Local has been secured of £85,000 towards the total contract cost of £105,000. (£5,000 of this will be retained for contingencies).

#### Maintenance

- 5.7 The construction requires very little maintenance, it is anticipated that litter and any graffiti will be the most onerous maintenance tasks. In this respect the local community group and users have pledged to work with the Council and carryout at least 3 litter clearance sessions each year. Inspections and regular maintenance visits will continue in line with those that are currently undertaken for the existing small steel ramped skate facility and multi-use games area. Specific maintenance tasks for the steel ramps and shelter will cease as these will be removed.

#### Public consultation

- 5.8 Big Local undertook consultation with local residents, on a one to one basis to ensure nearby residents are aware of the proposals and had the opportunity to discuss their concerns. Residents from 9 properties were consulted including residents living closest to the site. Details of the proposals were provided. No objections were received.

### Planning and Archaeology

- 5.9 Planning consent is not required; construction / earthworks are within the threshold required for Permitted Development. There are potential archaeological objects in the locality. The Council's archaeological officer has been consulted and will be informed when works proceed. Due to the existing built up ground levels, excavations into original ground levels will be minimal. This will keep inspections to a minimum.

### Proposed programme

- 5.10 If the proposals are approved the Big Local contribution of £85,000 will be transferred to the Council. The preferred contractor Gravity will be appointed on a fixed price contract. Council officers will manage the contract.
- 5.11 Works will commence on site 10 weeks following appointment. It is anticipated works will commence early in 2017, with works completed by April 2017.

## **6 SUMMARY OF CONSULTATIONS AND OUTCOME**

- 6.1 The following Council Units or Officers and/or other organisations have been consulted in preparing this report:
- 6.2 Consultation has been undertaken with:

Management Team  
The Commercial Hub  
The Assistant Director (Environment, Regulatory & Recreational Services)  
Design Services  
Legal

No adverse comments have been received.

## **7 WARD COUNCILLOR VIEWS**

- 7.1 The project is supported by Cllr James Saunders, Kingsbrook Councillor and Big Local Partner and both Cauldwell Councillors Councillor Sue Oliver and Randolph Charles (Cauldwell) are supportive.

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*Report Contact Officer:* Paul Pace – Head of Environment,  
Phil Nicholls, Commercial Business Officer

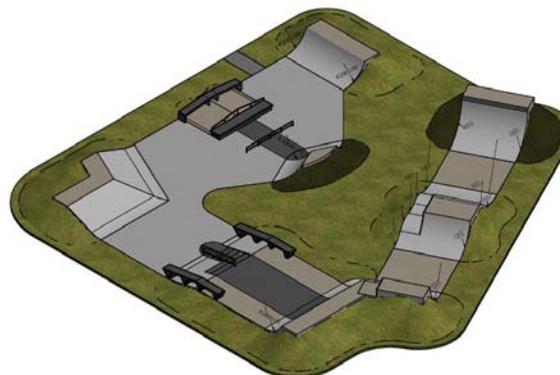
*File Reference:* ET002

*Previous Relevant Minutes:* None

*Background Papers:* None

*Appendices:* Appendix 1 - Location plan  
Appendix 2 - Skate-park design  
Appendix 3 – Letter to BBC Skate-park funding





**MOOR LANE SKATEPARK ~ BEDFORD** *Gravity* SKATEPARKS  
REVISION 01

The footer contains the project name 'MOOR LANE SKATEPARK ~ BEDFORD' in a bold, sans-serif font, followed by the 'Gravity SKATEPARKS' logo in a stylized script. Below the main text are three logos: 'RoSPA Member' (a red square with white text), 'D&B' (a blue square with white text), and 'H&S' (a blue square with white text).

19<sup>th</sup> September 2016



**Appendix 3**

Community  
Voluntary Service

Strengthening local social action

Community Voluntary Service | 43 Bromham Rd | Bedford | MK40 2AA

Phil Nicholson  
Commercial Business Officer  
Environment and Sustainable Communities  
Bedford Borough Council  
Borough Hall  
Cauldwell Street  
Bedford  
MK42 9AP

Tel: 01234 354366  
Email: [info@cvsbeds.org.uk](mailto:info@cvsbeds.org.uk)  
Web: [cvsbeds.org.uk](http://cvsbeds.org.uk)  
Twitter: [@volunteerbeds](https://twitter.com/volunteerbeds) | [@cvsbeds](https://www.facebook.com/cvsbeds)

Dear Phil

**Big Local – Moor Lane Skatepark/BMX project**

Further to your discussions with David Whitmore and the agreement of the Big Local Partnership, I am able to release £85,000 of funding towards the capital costs of the above project.

Please note that the funding can only be used for the above project.

Any unspent funds should be returned to CVS, or another party as directed by Local Trust, the national managing agent for the Big Local programme.

CVS is the locally trusted organisation for the Kingsbrook and Cauldwell Big Local area, and by agreeing to this offer of funding, you are required to support CVS in meeting the Local Trust terms and conditions, in particular conditions relating to publicity. A copy of the standard terms and conditions is enclosed.

**Acceptance**

Please signify your acceptance of this offer by signing (below) one copy of this letter and returning it to the Chief Officer of CVS at the above address.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Trinder', written over a horizontal line.

Martin Trinder  
Chief Officer

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I confirm that we have read and understood this funding offer and all the terms and conditions, which we hereby formally accept and agree to comply with.

Signed .....

Name ..... Date .....

Strengthening local social action