

### Wharf Lane Recreation Ground Play Area Refurbishment

Open Spaces Committee 10 September 2019

#### Introduction

1. The Town Council has over a number of years discussed the refurbishment of the play area in the Wharf Lane Recreation Ground with the aim of making it a destination play space.
2. Following consultation a sketch design for a redesigned play area was compiled and further consultation was undertaken including specific consultation with children via Greenfyld and Swanmead schools. The sketch design is attached as Appendix 1
3. The Town Council have already agreed Module 1 – which is the activity trail and planting around the skate park – this will be at least part funded by S106 money and currently the paperwork required is awaited from South Somerset District Council. Quotations have been obtained and approved through Committees and Council so orders can be formally placed as soon as the S106 paperwork is completed.
4. The Committee Chair together with the Town Clerk and specialist support from South Somerset District Council has been working to develop a budget and timetable to progress the project.

#### Timetable

5. The broad timetable is:
  - Autumn 2019 - Advertise for and appoint a person / organisation as Contract Administrator – responsible for issuing contract documents and implementation of The Construction (Design and Management) (CDM) Regulations 2015
  - Winter / Spring 2020 - Contract Documents published, completed documents returned and evaluated; Council decision made regarding contractor
  - Late spring 2020 orders placed
  - Late Summer - build started
  - Majority completion end October 2020 (completion for mounds etc will be later as they have to have time to settle)
6. Milestones - the key milestones in the process are:
  - Appointment of Contract Administrator
  - Publication of contract documents
  - Closing Date for completed contract documents
  - Appointment of Contractor
  - Start Date for build
7. Phasing - at present it is intended for the work to be split into a number of continuous phases so that as a phase is finished the next will begin. This approach would mean that some sections of the play area would always be open and available and contractors would not be leaving site and returning perhaps

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months later which would incur repeat set-up costs. The feasibility of this approach would need to be confirmed by the Contract Administrator.

8. Build Time – the estimated build time is 12 weeks.

### 9. Budget Estimate

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Acquisition of equipment and installation<br>(items as described on sketch design) | £273,000        |
| Prelims  | £10,000         |
| Contingency (10%)  | £30,000         |
| Professional Fees  | £30,000         |
| <b>Estimate Total</b>  | <b>£343,000</b> |

### Funding

10. The Town Council's Financial Consultant (Mr Latham) has suggested that the costs could initially be met from the Town Council's existing earmarked and revenue reserves and then repaid to those budgets over a period of time.
11. Repayment could be via a number of methods including grants and future Section 106 / CIL funding.
12. Further work will be done on the funding when this Committee has decided on its recommendation to Town Council.

**Report Prepared: 09.09.19**

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