



REPORT TO:	BOSTON TOWN AREA COMMITTEE
DATE:	7 TH OCTOBER 2021
SUBJECT:	BTAC ASSETS – PUBLIC OPEN SPACES
KEY DECISION:	N/A
PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	TOWN CENTRE (INCLUDING BTAC LIAISON) - COUNCILLOR TRACEY ABBOTT
REPORT AUTHOR:	OPERATIONS MANAGER
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	BTAC
EXEMPT REPORT?	NO

SUMMARY

This report provides members with an update on the improvements to public open spaces during 2021/22 and identifies further improvements for consideration in 2022/23.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:

- i) Note the Wish List
- ii) Agree to fund £2,000 for an annual 'Skate Jam' in Central Park
- iii) Agree to fund £2,000 to enable the Broadfield Lane project delivery 21/22
- iv) Approve saving reallocation of £6,640 for St Johns security fencing

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To provide information to Members in order that informed decisions are made in respect to providing and developing the open spaces and play facilities the Committee is responsible for.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

None

REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION:

- 1.1 This report provides Members an annual update on the position in respect to improvement projects for open spaces and play facilities in the BTAC area.
- 1.2 The report provides information on projects delivered in 2021/22 to date, progress towards the 2021/22 'wish list', identifies funding opportunities and potential projects for 2022/23 following public consultation and engagement.

2.0 Progress on 2021/22 wish list

- 2.1 The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the ability to deliver projects this year, however, the work which has been undertaken is set out below;
- 2.2 At its meeting of 16 December 2020, BTAC approved a budget of £19,700 to install security fencing to Garfits Lane, Sheltons Field, Broadfield Lane and Burgess Pit. This work completed in January and March 2021 (cost £13,060).
- 2.3 Fencing to St Johns was due to be carried out by the Highway Authority as part of highway improvements, however, we have been informed this work will not now be undertaken. A quotation has been requested and it is recommended that BTAC fund this from the budget allocation saving (£6,640).
- 2.4 Broadfield Lane – a tender exercise has identified Kompan to install the new equipment identified in the 2021/22 wish list. The cost of this work is £28,292. External funding of £26,292 has been secured and it is recommended the shortfall of £2,000 be met from BTAC to allow this work to go ahead this year.
- 2.5 Central Park – BTAC agreed £16,000 from the 2021/22 budget, to install new outdoor gym equipment. Following a site meeting with the BTAC Sub Group and Portfolio Holder, it is recommended all existing gym equipment be replaced having become obsolete and beyond economical repair. Quotations have been requested for the replacement of all equipment.

3.0 Public consultation and 2022/23 Wish List

- 3.1 Community consultation in 2021 has been limited due to COVID-19 restrictions, nevertheless, consultation where it was safe to do so has provided valuable information to guide Members to make decisions on future developments.
- 3.2 Details of the Open Space Consultation 2021 is set out at Appendix A, the table below summarises the community wish list consultation;

3.3 *Table identifying community wish list projects*

Site	Improvements identified by the community
St Johns	Zip wire (as requested last year) Play equipment suitable for older children, more challenging If we can't have a new skate park could it be removed and a Pump track be installed?
Central Park	New gym equipment Bandstand Climbing wall Replace old play equipment with more modern
Garfits Lane	Springers – vehicle / animal sit in Teen shelter Goal posts left up all the time
Sheltons Field	Trim trail
Broadfield Lane	Play equipment for older children Teen Shelter Zip wire Spider Net Swings High Slide Goal posts
Woodville Road	Zip Wire Spider Climbing Net Monkey Sticks
Burgess Pit	Zip wire High slide

3.4 Feedback from the Central Park Skate Jam event this year was exceptionally well attended and enjoyed by local people. Users have requested BTAC consider making this an annual event in Central Park, the annual cost being £2,000.

4.0 External Funding Opportunities

4.1 Boston Big Local have pledged a £25,000 contribution to improve St Johns and a further £26,292 for Broadfield Lane. £19,000 Section 106 funding is available support improvements at Garfits Lane.

4.2 Boston Big Local funding can be secured if BTAC fund the shortfall in the cost of delivering improvements.

4.3 Any improvements agreed by BTAC will of course be subject to contract procurement rules. Once any approvals are granted and procurement complete, works will be issued to a relevant service provider so they can be delivered as soon as practicable

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 It is noted that progress in delivering improvement projects in 2021/22 has been limited due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, progress has been made on securing public spaces, public engagement and consultation and seeking external funding.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Further financial implications are outlined in various sections detailing costs and use of external funding.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council is required to meet requirements of the EU Procurement Directive and its own Contract Procurement and Procedure Rules - Part 4 (H) of the Constitution.

Local Council Powers and Duties to provide public space include; Open Spaces Act 1906; Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976; Public Health Act 1906; Local Government Act 1972

The Council is required to comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty. A full equality impact analysis will be undertaken at the appropriate time to ensure new equipment will consider the needs of all individuals.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

All works approved by this report will be procured in accordance with the Council's contract procedure rules and financial regulations and will be project managed to ensure any risk arising from the works is properly controlled.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Climate change and other environmental impacts will be properly controlled during contract procurement.

EQUALITY AND SAFEGUARDING IMPLICATIONS

None

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None

CONSULTATION

Assistant Director – Phil Perry, Assistant Director – Victoria Burgess.

APPENDICES

Appendices are listed below and attached to the back of the report: -

APPENDIX A	<i>Open Space Consultation 2021 and Wish List</i>
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BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers as defined in Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the production of this report.

Document title	Where the document can be viewed

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THIS REPORT

A report on this item has not been previously considered by a Council body.

REPORT APPROVAL

Report author:	Matt Fisher, Operations Manager
Signed off by:	
Approved for publication:	

FINANCE PROFORMA

PROFORMA FOR APPROVAL OF THE RELEASE OF RESOURCES

(CAPITAL AND REVENUE BUDGETS)

FROM: Rachel Chatterton

THIS PROFORMA PROVIDES THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS
IN RESPECT OF THE ATTACHED

REPORT: BTAC ASSETS – PUBLIC OPEN SPACES

REPORT DATE: 7th October 2021

	£ Year 1 2021/22	£ Year 2 2022/23	£ Year 3 2023/24	£ Year 4 2024/25	£ Year 5 2025/26
Revenue					
Annual Skate Jam		2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
St Johns Fencing	6,640				
Capital					
Broadfield Lane	2,000				
Total Cost	8,640	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000

Funding required:

Total capital cost £2,000

Considered by:

BTAC

Date:

07/10/21

Revenue cost £14,640

Enter Council or
Cabinet/Executive here

Financial Services Comments

The committee has already earmarked the funding for the fencing so this is just a reallocation of the surplus funds.

The committee has unallocated funds of £38,437 available. Any future years revenue costs can be built into the budget.

Risk

None.

Procurement

Value for Money Efficiency

This FP is valid for 3 months from FP date	If this FP is no longer required please advise Finance	If there are changes to the original report it may invalidate this document, it must be reviewed by Finance.