

REPORT OF: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
DATE: 24th OCTOBER 2019

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MATTERS REQUIRING FINANCIAL APPROVAL

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To inform the Committee of a request for financial support from Burnley FC in the Community towards the installation of a High Ropes Facility (and associated facilities) at Whitehough Outdoor Education Centre.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. The Policy and Resources Committee is recommended consider the request for financial support from Burnley FC in the Community as outlined in the report.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3. For the Committee to consider whether it wishes to support the installation of the High Ropes Facility (and refurbishment of related facilities) at Whitehough Outdoor Education Centre.

ISSUE

4. Councillors will be aware that, as part of the disposal and redevelopment of the site of former High Ropes Facility at Vivary Way, Colne, and following a tender exercise, the High Ropes Facility was disposed of to Burnley Football in the Community (BFCC). BFCC acquired the High Ropes Facility with the intention of installing it at the Whitehough Outdoor Education Centre in Barley.
5. BFCC acquired Whitehough Outdoor Education Centre on a long lease from Lancashire County Council in 2017. Since then, BFCC have since invested in the site with a view to modernise the facilities and expand the range of activities.
6. BFCC have approached the Council seeking financial support of £30,000 towards the cost of installing the High Ropes Facility and the refurbishment of part of the facilities (for those users of the Centre that will be using the High Ropes) at the Whitehough Outdoor Education Centre. They have indicated that, in addition to the £20,000 already spend in the removal and transport of the High Ropes equipment to Whitehough, that further total spend of £70,000 is anticipated on the project.

7. Once in place, the structure will provide additional activity and capacity at the Centre, enabling more people from the local area to benefit from the facilities. It will also contribute to BFCC's long term commitment to the development of the Centre which, as outlined above, has already undergone many refurbishments to bring it up to date and introduce new activities.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy

8. There are no policy implications arising directly from the contents of this report.

Financial

9. As indicated in the report, the request from Burnley FC in the Community is for £30,000 towards the costs of the installation of the High Ropes Facility. There is no specific budget provision for this activity and so agreeing to the request would require a supplementary capital estimate funded from the Budget Support Reserve (via a revenue contribution to capital expenditure).

Legal

10. There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

Risk Management

11. There are no risk management implications arising directly from the contents of this report.

Health and Safety

12. There are no health and safety implications arising directly from this report.

Sustainability

13. There are no sustainability implications arising directly from this report.

Community Safety

14. There are no community safety issues arising directly from the contents of this report.

Equality and Diversity

15. There are no equality issues arising directly from the contents of this report.

APPENDICES

None

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS: None