
REPORT TO:	FINANCE & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 14
DATE OF MEETING:	19th OCTOBER 2006	CATEGORY: RECOMMENDED
REPORT FROM:	DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	CHRIS MASON Ext 5794	DOC:
SUBJECT:	BADGER HOLLOW LEISURE PARK, COTON PARK, LINTON	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	CHURCH GRESLEY, CASTLE GRESLEY, SWADLINCOTE	TERMS OF REFERENCE: FM01

1.0 Recommendations

1.1 That approval be given to:

i) the grant of a lease of the recreation area at the Badger Hollows Leisure Park, Coton Park, Linton to the Linton Parish Council for a term of 25 years at an initial peppercorn rent, with detailed heads of terms to be agreed with the Director of Community Services. .

ii) the payment by the District Council to the Linton Parish Council of revenue support of £14,000 phased over the first three years of the lease.

2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 To provide background information to support the above recommendations.

3.0 Detail

3.1 At the meeting of Housing and Community Services Committee on 3rd February 2005, Members considered a report outlining the background to the Council's acquisition of the Badger Hollows Leisure Park and its plans, on full completion of the capital works, for the future management of the site. These works are now substantially complete and establishing and formalising on going management of the site is now an imperative.

3.2 In that report it was mentioned that the Linton Parish Council were committed to managing the recreation area once work on site had been completed, possibly by taking a long lease of the site. Members resolved, in principle, to grant revenue support of £14,000 to the Parish Council for the ongoing management and maintenance of the site, the payment to be phased over a three-year period. It was also agreed, in principal, that this could be front loaded with say £8k in year 1, £4k in year 2 and £2k in year 3. The Parish Council would then fund the future maintenance and management of the site.

- 3.3 Discussions have taken place with the Parish Council and it is proposed that they now be granted a 25-year lease of the site, at an initial peppercorn or nominal rent, subject to confirmation of the revenue support from the District Council. At their meeting on 31st August 2006, Members of Housing and Community Services Committee resolved to recommend to this Committee approval of the granting of a lease and the payment of £14,000 over a three year period to support the on-going management and maintenance of the new site.
- 3.4 Now that the establishment of the new recreation area is substantially complete it was intended, at the October meetings of this Committee and Finance and Housing and Community Services Committee to provide options for disposing of the existing recreation area. Unfortunately, staff changes in the Council's Property Services Unit mean that these reports are temporarily in abeyance.
- 3.5 A plan identifying the new and the existing recreation area is attached at Annexe A.

4.0 Financial Implications,

- 4.1 Allowances for the £14k contribution have already been made in the Council's financial forecast for future years.

5.0 Community Implications

- 5.1 The completed new leisure area offers an excellent community facility for both the residents of Coton Park and the wider catchment area of Linton, Castle Gresley and parts of the Swadlincote urban area.

6.0 Conclusions

- 6.1 The grant of the lease to the Parish Council will finalise the management and maintenance arrangements for the recreation area at the Leisure Park.

7.0 Background Papers

- 7.1 The Director of Community Services' report of 3rd February 2005. Report to Housing & Community Services Committee dated 31st August 2006.