

**London Borough of Sutton
Report to Beddington and Wallington Local
Committee 15th June 2010**

PUBLIC REALM PROJECTS

Ward Location: Beddington North/South
Wallington North/South

Author: Malcolm Barker, Lead
Officer, 020 8770 6801

Area Served: Beddington & Wallington

Lead Councillor: Ruth Dombey

Report for Decision

Summary

This report confirms:

- i) the public realm under spend from 2008/2010 (released for the refurbishment of paths in Beddington Park)
- ii) the public realm funding available for 2010/11
- iii) the availability of additional funding for transport projects and
- iv) feedback on the progress being made on the projects prioritised at the last meeting.

I recommend that the Committee note the:

- i) release of £8,334 for the paths at Beddington Park from the 08/10 under spend.
- ii) public realm funding available for 2010/11
- iii) transport funding available for 2010/11
- iv) progress on identified projects and
- v) agrees the way forward to allocate the remaining funds for 2010/2011.

1. Background

- 1.1 At previous meetings the committee agreed how the public realm funding should be allocated for 2008/2010. This included making use of £17,000 of the 2010/2011 allocation for the Elms pond project and to use any other identified remaining under spend for the refurbishment of paths in Beddington Park.
- 1.2 The reconciling of accounts at the end of the financial year confirmed that the Mellows Park works have yet to be completed (demolition of the toilet block and some ground works remains outstanding) and that some signs have yet to be erected at the air raid shelters at Woodcote Green and Mellows Park. Having put monies aside for their completion there remained an under spend of £8,334 which has now been released for the path works in Beddington park.

- 1.3 The committee was originally allocated £111,000 public realm funding for 2010/2011. At the last meeting I advised that the allocation had been increased and that the committee would also be receiving some transport related funding. I can now confirm the public realm allocation has been increased by £33,000 to £144,000 and the transport related funding is £22,218 (see 4.1 for spend criteria).
- 1.4 It has already been agreed to release £20,000 of the 2010/2011 public realm allocation for the refurbishment of the churchyard flint wall in Beddington Park and £17,000 to part fund the Elms Pond project. This leaves a further £107,000 available to be allocated.
- 1.5 At the 5th January meeting the committee invited residents and members to put forward suggestions about how to spend the 2010/2011 public realm allocation. At the March meeting members discussed the projects that had been identified and requested that further enquiries be made about two projects for feedback to this meeting. The two projects were; match funding (£20,000) for the refurbishment of the Mellows Park pavilion and provision of an entertainment area (£15,000) at the rear of the Old Wallington Town Hall/Orchard Hill College.

2. The Pavilion (£20,000)

- 2.1 It had been hoped to submit a bid to Virador to fund this project with £20,000 match funding being provided from the 2010/2011 public realm funding allocation. Unfortunately, the deadline for the current round of bids could not be met. With this information in mind the Friends of Mellows Park put forward a proposal to improve the outside of the building by undertaking an ambitious painting project involving local people (see appendix 1). Regrettably, the painting of the building would not qualify as capital works and will therefore not qualify as a public realm project.

I have also established that Construction Services have commissioned a full condition survey of the premises. In the circumstances it would be prudent to retain the £20,000 put aside for this project and await the outcome of the survey before reviewing the way forward, consulting with the Friends of the Park and submitting a further report to this committee.

3. Entertainment area (£15,000)

- 3.1 The committee agreed to put aside £15,000 for this project pending further enquiries taking place with colleagues from SCOLA, the Library and Colin Wadeson (community representative) to discuss potential options. A meeting has taken place but at this stage we do not have sufficient information available to present a report to this committee for decision.

4. Transport related schemes

- 4.1 The committee has been allocated £22,218 for transport related schemes. The criteria to be met for this allocation is:

Public realm improvements involving transport-related schemes will be permitted where they comprise local minor road safety schemes. Such transport schemes must also meet one of the Mayor's Transport Strategy goals: supporting economic development and population growth; enhancing the quality of life for all Londoners; improving the

safety and security of all Londoners; or reducing transport's contribution to climate change, and improving its resilience.

5. Remaining unallocated funding

- 5.1 If the £20,000 and £15,000 put aside for the above projects (see sections 2 and 3) is retained there will be a further £72,000 public realm and £22,218 traffic related funding still available to be allocated in 2010/2011. It is important that the committee allocates these monies in the coming months to ensure that they are spent this year. With this in mind members may wish to identify one or more other projects for further investigation from the information provided for the last meeting (see appendix 2 and 3). Alternatively, there may be new projects that members would like investigated.
- 5.2 I have attached a further letter (appendix 4) from the Friends of Mellows Park. The letter asks the committee to support other projects that they have put forward by releasing: i) £50,000 for the refurbishment of the Infants playground ii) £6,000 to provide BBQ's bins, seating and iii) voices some frustration at being advised that the painting of the pavilion would not qualify for funding and asking that the £20,000 previously put aside by the committee be retained to allow time to explore another way forward.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 The Beddington and Wallington local committee had an under spend of £8,334 for 2008/2010. The committee agreed (minute 686) to make the under spend available for the refurbishment of paths in Beddington Park. These monies need to be released to this scheme.
- 6.2 The committee has been allocated £144,000 public realm funding and £22,218 traffic related funding for 2010/2011. The committee has already agreed to release £17,000 and £20,000 public realm funding for the Elms Pond and Churchyard Flint wall projects (see section 1.4). This leaves £107,000 public realm funding to be allocated in 2010/2011.
- 6.2 At the last meeting the committee agreed to put aside £20,000 and £15,000 for the Pavilion and Entertainment area respectively (see sections 2 and 3) pending further enquiries and reports. If the £35,000 public realm funding put aside for these projects is retained for future use £72,000 public realm and £22,218 transport related funding will remain available for other new projects in 2010/11.

7. Influence on the Council's Core values

- 7.1 Working in partnership with local residents in identifying and prioritising projects will ensure that the public realm funding will be invested wisely.

8. Contribution to the Achievement of Council's Policy Aims

- 8.1 The decisions reached by the Local Committee will increase local democracy and promote local regeneration.

9. Background Papers

- 9.1 Beddington and Wallington Local Committee 17th October 2007, 5th December 2007, 13th February 2008, 3rd April 2008, 17th July 2008, 7th October 2008, 3rd February 2009, 8th September 2009. Executive 7th April 2007, Sutton Plan – March 2007, Local Public Service Agreement – Target 9.