

Report by: Head of Policy and Projects

To: West/Central Area Committee 8 January 2009

Wards: Castle, Newnham and Market

Environmental Improvements Programme

1. DECISION TO BE MADE: -

Auckland Road / Parsonage Street footpath resurfacing and lighting renewal

Recommendation : Officers recommend that the West/Central Area Committee agree one of three surfacing options for the path.

Decision: Agree to one of three surfacing options.

Canterbury Street Traffic Calming

Recommendation : Officers recommend that the West/Central Area Committee agree to public consultation.

Decision: Agree to public consultation.

2. BUDGET

See over.

WEST/CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE - ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS 2008/2009		
	£	£
Budget for 2008/2009 financial year	£89,700	
Add roll-over from 2007/2008 budget	£146,620	
TOTAL BUDGET FOR 2008/2009 FINANCIAL YEAR		£236,320
Minus Actual 08/09 Budget Spend to end Nov 2008		-£5,938
	Estimated Reserved Cost	
Committed Projects	£	
Auckland Road/Parsonage St paving and lighting	£22,000	
Contribution towards Burleigh/Fitzroy Phase 3 refurbishment	£50,000	
Elizabeth Way underpass re-planting costs	£7,250	
Marlow Road/Eltisley Avenue yellow lining	£1,100	
Parker's Piece and Queen's Green tree planting	£14,000	
Lammas Land Pavilion rebuild design costs	£2,000	
Minus Committed project budgets		-£96,350
BALANCE OF 08/09 BUDGET as at end Nov 2008		£134,032
Projects agreed by Ctte to be investigated, but no budget committed. Costs shown are estimated and will depend on detailed design and site investigation	Estimated Cost	
	£	
Canterbury Street traffic calming	£100,000	
Wall adjacent to the Union Society, Park Street	£15,000	
Lammas Land Pavilion rebuild	£20,000	
Histon Road recreation ground planting	£1,000	
Mud Lane lighting	£5,000	
Round Church grounds	£7,500	
Mobility Crossings allowance	£2,000	
Pinch Point Removal allowance	£7,500	
Estimated costs for projects under investigation	£158,000	
N.B. The estimated costs shown above are merely given as a rough guide until the projects can be designed and costed.		

3 APPROVED SCHEMES – PROGRESS

3.1 Elizabeth Way Underpass

Replanting has been carried out and has made a significant improvement to the area.

3.2 Lammas Land Cycle Parking

The cycle parking is complete.

3.3 Histon Road Recreation Ground Replanting Mound

Planting design has been produced which is being discussed with the Lead Councillor, Arboricultural Team and Streetscene prior to consultation with the neighbouring landowner. We would hope to implement the project in early Feb.

3.4 Manor Street / King Street Cycle Parking

Installation of wall mount cycle racks or a rail. We are in consultation with the landowner Jesus College and with King Street Housing and anticipated that a tripartite agreement will be needed between the parties. A draft agreement is being drawn up.

3.5 Round Church Street

The bins have been removed from the street. The Union Society are investigating the cost of the repairs to the wall.

3.7 Oxford Road additional traffic calming

Officers were asked at the September committee meeting to investigate additional traffic calming in Oxford Road. Investigation work has been started but with no firm outcome to report as yet.

3.7 Round Church grounds

Christian Heritage is carrying out research and will put forward proposals for the minor repairs to be carried out in the grounds of the Round Church. They will put forward suppliers, craftsmen and costs in due course.

3.8 Marlowe Road and Eltisley Avenue junction

County Highways have been contacted regarding a Traffic Road Order for the yellow lining of this junction and TRO for the project is being advertised.

3.9 Lammas Land pavilion

Following initial public consultation in the summer, a draft design has been drawn up on which full public consultation can be carried

out in the spring. The budget estimate for the project has increased but it is anticipated that the project can be part funded by S.106 monies.

The draft proposal, together with a budget estimate and funding breakdown will be presented to the West/Central Area Committee in March in expectation of full public consultation shortly afterwards.

3.10 Mount Pleasant Mobility Crossing

One mobility crossing in Mount Pleasant is complete. This crossing was the most essential one for the requester. However two further crossings have been identified in the area to bring the area up to DDA standards. West/Central Area Committee have agreed the budget for the two additional mobility crossings and as soon as the details are drawn up and the Lead Councillors consulted, implementation can take place.

4 APPROVED SCHEMES REQUIRING DECISIONS

4.1 Auckland Road / Parsonage Street footpath resurfacing and lighting renewal

The existing construction of the footpath is insitu concrete panels which are in poor condition with broken panels and trip hazards.

There has been some concern voiced regarding the suggestion that the reconstruction of the path should include a surface dressing of resin bound gravel with either end and a central portion highlighted in block pavers. The reconstruction of the path in any event should be carried out in order to exclude trip hazards. In light of the concerns over the appearance of the path, the surfacing could be one of three options which are listed below with cost estimates.

Officers are at present enquiring as to whether this project requires a licence to carry out work to resurface the existing path on common land in accordance with the Commons Act 2006, Section 38. Work would not be started unless and until this is issue is defined but early indications are that resurfacing works do not require a licence. It should be noted that there will be no increased path width.

Construction/Surfacing Options:

- 1) recreate the granolithic concrete path with an improved substrate to keep it stable at a cost of £22,230,

- 2) construct a tarmac path at a cost of £18,240,
- 3) construct the path with a resin bound gravel surface dressing (omitting areas of block paving) at a cost of £22,000

It should be noted that if the lighting were to be omitted there would be a saving of £5,400.

Recommendation : Officers recommend that the West/Central Area Committee agree one of three surfacing options for the path.

Decision: Agree to one of three surfacing options.

4.2 Canterbury Street Traffic Calming

Officers have been developing ideas for possible traffic calming measures following the workshop in March and have submitted these proposals to the Highway Authority for comment. It is anticipated that a full public consultation exercise could take place early in the new year, though the content of that consultation will be subject to the comments coming from the Highway Authority.

In order to maintain the project momentum, Area Committee are asked to authorise public consultation on proposals agreed in principle with the Highway Authority. The content of the consultation documentation will be submitted to ward councillors and the County Council's Highways Officers for approval prior to printing and distribution. It is hoped that a report on the results of the consultation can be brought to the March meeting of the area committee.

Recommendation : Officers recommend that the West/Central Area Committee agree to public consultation.

Decision: Agree to public consultation.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

7. IMPLICATIONS

- a) **Staffing Implications**: Staff resources will result in only a limited amount of progress on Environmental Improvement projects in the near future.
- b) **Equal Opportunities Implications**: These are taken into account on individual schemes.

- c) **Environmental Implications:** All of the projects seek to bring about an improvement in the local environment.
- d) **Community Safety:** This has been included as one of the assessment criteria agreed by Committee and is considered on each project.

8. INSPECTION OF PAPERS

To inspect or query the background paperwork or report, please contact,
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