



Cambridge City Council  
**Environment and Community Scrutiny**  
**Committee**

**Date:** Thursday, 7 October 2021

**Time:** 5.30 pm

**Venue:** Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Market Square, Cambridge, CB2 3QJ

**Contact:** [democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk), tel:01223 457000

**Agenda – Second Circulation**

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**Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee Members:** H. Davies (Chair), Healy (Vice-Chair), S. Baigent, Copley, Hauk, O'Reilly, Payne, Porrer, Sheil and Sweeney

**Alternates:** Ashton, S. Davies, Gilderdale and Page-Croft

**Executive Councillors:** Collis (Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Sustainable Food and Community Wellbeing), Moore (Executive Councillor for Climate Change, Environment and City Centre) and A. Smith (Executive Councillor for Communities)

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Item

## **S106 FUNDING ROUND 2021: PUBLIC ART**

**To:**

Councillor Anna Smith, Executive Councillor for Communities and Deputy Leader (Statutory)

Environment & Community Scrutiny Committee    7 October 2021

**Report by:**

Alistair Wilson, Streets & Open Spaces Development Manager  
Tel: 01223 - 458514    Email: alistair.wilson@cambridge.gov.uk

**Wards affected:** All wards, but particularly Abbey, Cherry Hinton, Coleridge, Market, Romsey and West Chesterton wards.

Key Decision

### **1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1 The Council uses S106 contributions paid by developers to mitigate the impact of development in Cambridge. As part of its 2021 generic S106 funding round, the Council has invited grant applications from community groups working with professional artists for small-scale (say, up to £20,000) public art projects in Cambridge. This has focused on those parts of the city where off-site public art generic S106 funding is still available. All eight public art grant applications received have been assessed against the Council's Public Art S106 selection criteria. Officers recommend six of these proposals for funding (subject to further information to address queries raised on five of them).
- 1.2 A further Public Art report will follow in January 2022, focusing on the Public Art Commissioning Strategy and how the remaining off-site public art generic S106 contributions can be used effectively and on time. This will also provide updates on on-going public art projects.

- 1.3 This January 2022 report will also look again at the progress made by two applicants (for proposals D and H) that require further work to meet the public art S106 selection criteria.

## 2. Recommendations

The Executive Councillor is recommended to:

- 2.1 allocate generic S106 funding to the small-scale public art project identified in the 'allocate' column of Table 1 (as detailed the Appendix), subject to business case approval, a public art agreement and project completion or significant progress within 18 months.
- 2.2 delegate authority to the Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities to allocate generic S106 funding to projects to the small-scale public art projects identified in the 'delegate' column of Table 1 (as detailed in the Appendix) that make sufficient progress towards meeting the eligibility criteria set out in paragraph 4.1 by the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

**Table 1:** Public art proposals that require further clarification

	<b>Small scale public art proposals</b>	<b>Allocate</b>	<b>Delegate</b>
A.	Abbey People's Creative canopy (Abbey ward)	c.£20,000	-
B.	Birdwood Area Art project (Coleridge ward) Dinky Doors	-	Up to £10,000
C.	Cherry Hinton Brook mural (brook runs through Romsey, Coleridge & Cherry Hinton wards)	-	c.£6,600
E.	Jesus Green community art project (Market ward)	-	Up to £20,000
F.	Living at Mitcham's Corner (West Chesterton)	-	Up to £12,000
G.	Ride with Pride (City-wide)	-	£18,900

- 2.3 Instruct officers to seek further details from projects (summarised below and detailed in the Appendix) and work with the applicants to further develop their applications and report back to the next Scrutiny Committee with a further recommendation.
- D. Coldham's Lane Bridge public artwork (Romsey ward);
  - H. Romsey Rec Ground public art installation (Romsey ward).

### **3. Background**

- 3.1. The Council has secured off-site S106 funds from developers to help mitigate the impact of local development in Cambridge. This has included off-site public art S106 contributions. An [overview of S106 funding](#) and [Public art](#) pages can be found on the Council's website<sup>1</sup>.
- 3.2 Public art S106 contributions have helped to fund both public art commissions<sup>2</sup> instigated by the Council as well as grants to local community groups (working with an artist)<sup>3</sup> to undertake their own small-scale public art projects in Cambridge. A further grant round has taken place in 2021, both to help identify proposals that might be incorporated in the emerging Public Art Commissioning Strategy and also enable the Council to maintain a flow of spending of public art S106 funding.
- 3.3 The 2021 round has progressed as follows.
- a. S106 proposals were invited between mid-July and the end of August 2021. This has been publicised via the Council's website, social media and news releases.
  - b. Officers have assessed the applications against the public art S106 selection criteria.
  - c. Where S106 funding is available locally, ward councillors have been asked to encourage local community groups also to put forward

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1. The 'Overview' sets out why developer contributions are collected and how they are used. It also explains the difference between generic and specific S106 contributions.

2. The Council's on-going commissions include the 'To the River' public art project and a project that has been developed under the working title of the 'Art of Play'.

3. Previously, small-scale public art grant funding rounds took place between 2014/15 and 2018/19.

eligible proposals and given the opportunity in September 2021 to comment on the proposals received.

- 3.4 As mentioned in S106 funding reports in previous years, the availability of the remaining generic S106 funds is limited and unevenly spread across the city.
- a. This reflects differences across the city in the amount and scale of housing development and S106-funded public art projects (completed or being developed) in each area of the city.<sup>4</sup>
  - b. Small-scale projects supported by public art S106 grants tend to be funded from available off-site contributions from the same ward. Public art commissions (particularly those of strategic significance or relating to more than one ward) can be funded from S106 contributions from the same area of the city or, as appropriate, from public art S106 contributions from across the city.
  - c. Consistent with previous S106 funding rounds, the 2021 generic S106 funding rounds has only been able to seek public art project proposals from those wards that still have S106 funding available locally. In 2021, this is all wards (apart from Newnham and Castle), but particularly Romsey, Abbey, Cherry Hinton, Coleridge, Market and Trumpington wards.

#### **4. Consideration of Public Art grant applications**

- 4.1 The public art grant applications received during the 2021 round have been assessed against the following agreed selection criteria. These have featured in the application pack and on the website throughout the application process. In summary, to be eligible for public art S106 funding, projects should<sup>5</sup>:
- a. be publicly accessible
  - b. be within the city of Cambridge
  - c. engage local communities
  - d. be new and original
  - e. be led by a professional artist or craftsman

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4. That is North Area, East Area, South Area and West/Central Area.

5. On the Council's website, it was also made clear that the Council would encourage proposals that can be delivered within 18 months of the grant being awarded.

- f. involve the appropriate remuneration of professional artists
- g. be site or context sensitive
- h. demonstrate excellent artistic quality
- i. have a lasting legacy
- j. be feasible, deliverable and have an appropriate project management plan

4.2 The eight project proposals are summarised in the Appendix, along with a summary of councillor comments and assessments from the Public Art Panel and officers. The assessments are reflected in the recommendations in Section 2.

## **5. Implications**

### **Financial Implications**

- 5.1 The small-scale public art grants round is a useful way of regularly allocating and spending S106 contributions on eligible public art projects: this helps to make appropriate and timely use of the S106 funds, to mitigate the impact of development and to reduce the risk of having to return to developers any contributions that go beyond their 'use-by' dates. The converse is that allocating funds to projects that do not meet the S106 selection criteria or which are less likely to be delivered in a timely manner increases the risk of challenge.
- 5.2 Following this report, officers will continue the focus on making sure:
- a. there is greater clarity on how much unallocated funding is available in each ward;
  - b. further public art projects are identified and delivered to make use of time-limited public art S106 contributions (not least, those in Romsey ward that need to be used or contractually committed in 2023); and
  - c. the use of S106 contributions continue to be monitored and progressed (not least the current "To the River" and "Art of Play" public art commissions).

### **Staffing Implications**

- 5.3 The delivery of the small-scale public art grant projects will be managed by the grant recipients in line with a public art agreement with the Council. The Council's Streets and Open Spaces team will monitor progress and provide advice.

- 5.4 The Coronavirus pandemic has brought significant implications and additional workload pressures both for Council staff and volunteers within local community groups. It remains to be seen whether further pressures will arise in the coming months. If so, this may cause some delays to the implementation of projects. This will be monitored closely. Any significant delays will be reported back to future S106 reports to this committee.

### **Equality and Poverty Implications**

### **Net Zero Carbon, Climate Change & Environmental Implications**

### **Procurement Implications**

### **Community Safety Implications**

- 5.5 In line with the approach to previous S106 funding rounds, these considerations for project proposals that are allocated S106 funding by the Executive Councillor will be developed as part of the business case process (as appropriate) and signed off by the relevant managers.

## **6. Consultation and communication considerations**

- 6.1 The arrangements taken to publicise the funding available and application process are detailed in paragraph 3.3a. Applications have set out how the public art proposals seek to engage local communities.

## **7. Background papers**

Background papers used in the preparation of this report:

- Small-scale public art grant applications (redacted) received during the 2021 S106 funding round and related assessments;
- Small-scale public art grants – guidance pack, July 2021;
- S106 Funding: Next Steps (Streets and Open spaces)' report to Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee, 21 March 2019;
- Further information can be found on the [Developer contributions - Cambridge City Council](#) web page.

## **8. Appendix**

Summary of small-scale Public Art grant applications, comments and assessments

## **9. Inspection of papers**

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact:

Assessment of open space and play area proposals:

Alistair Wilson, Streets & Open spaces Development Manager

telephone: 01223 - 458514

email: [alistair.wilson@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:alistair.wilson@cambridge.gov.uk)

S106 funding round process and S106 funding availability:

Tim Wetherfield, Urban Growth Project Manager

Telephone: 01233 457313

Email: [tim.wetherfield@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:tim.wetherfield@cambridge.gov.uk)

Summary of small-scale Public Art grant applications, comments and assessments<sup>6,7</sup>

Project summary	Assessment summary
<b>A. Abbey People's Creative Canopy (Abbey ward)</b>	
<p><b>Applicant:</b> Cambridge Curiosity &amp; Imagination (CCI)</p> <p><b>Artist:</b> Hilary Cox-Condron</p> <p><b>Proposed project:</b> To culminate in the creation of a collection of 20 original hangings celebrating the creativity of the community and their relationship with the natural world. These unique artworks will be exhibited in the Barnwell area, before forming part of CCI's larger and ongoing <i>Forest of Imagination</i> project and finding a permanent home as a composite vinyl to be displayed in Abbey People's Community Hub.</p> <p>To be delivered in partnership with Galfrid School.</p> <p><b>Suggested timescales:</b> March to December 2022.</p> <p><b>Grant requested:</b> c.£20,000</p>	<p><b>Public Art Panel feedback:</b> Robust project with clear delivery process and outcomes. The involvement of Cambridge Curiosity &amp; Imagination will help ensure effective management delivery. Support has already been gained from a number of sources.</p> <p><b>Officer assessment:</b> Recommend for funding.</p> <p>Further discussion will be needed with the applicant about the admin costs and how the contingency allowance within the proposed project budget will be managed.</p>
<b>B. Birdwood Area Art project (Coleridge ward)</b>	

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6. Councillor Herbert has also made a general comment about the possibility of public art in the public green space next to Bailey House off Rustat Road, dedicated to Alexander Crummell (a 19<sup>th</sup> century American, the son of a former slave, thought to be the first black person to graduate from Cambridge University).
7. Officers acknowledge the helpful comments on the public art proposals from David Wright, of the Public Art Panel.

Project summary	Assessment summary
<p><b>Applicant:</b> Birdwood Road Residents' Association</p> <p><b>Artist:</b> Dinky Doors</p> <p>Proposed project: A Dinky Door for the Birdwood Area of Coleridge Ward. It would be a project to include residents' ideas – possibly the history of this area of Cambridge or other ideas depending on what our residents come up with. One initial idea is to include something related to Samuel Taylor Coleridge's poems. Whatever is decided, we will be very careful not to hamper the creativity of the Dinky Doors team.</p> <p><b>Suggested timescales:</b> As soon as can be arranged,</p> <p><b>Grant requested:</b> £7,000-£10,000.</p>	<p><b>Public Art Panel feedback:</b> Clever idea but would need more information about how the designs would be agreed, how project quality would be assured and why the budget is £7,000-£10,000.</p> <p><b>Officer assessment:</b> Probable but needs further information. More information is needed on how the project will engage the community, further details on the proposed artist fees and the expected project timescales are also required.</p>
<b>C. Cherry Hinton Brook mural</b> (Cherry Hinton Brook runs through Romsey, Coleridge & Cherry Hinton wards)	
<p><b>Applicant:</b> Friends of Cherry Hinton Brook</p> <p><b>Artist:</b> Artists and students at Rowan Humberstone.</p> <p><b>Proposed project:</b> To celebrate the importance of the chalk brook for its wildlife. It will incorporate key aspects of the brook as appropriate, such as its wildlife surrounding environment and local history and communities. The mural will be designed to entertain and engage passers-by, will have educational content, and will be particularly relevant to residents of Romsey, Coleridge and Cherry Hinton. There will be an</p>	<p><b>Feedback from Public Art Panel:</b> Strong application. Rowan has a good record of delivery.</p> <p><b>Officer assessment:</b> Probable, but not yet ready to be considered. The application has not secured a site location. Further information on the timescales for the project and are needed and clarification as to whether the budget is sufficient (not least in the context of artist fees).</p>

Project summary	Assessment summary
<p>explanatory notice adjacent to it.</p> <p><b>Suggested timescales:</b> Late 2022 to May 2023.</p> <p><b>Grant requested:</b> £6,600.</p>	
<b>D. Coldham's Lane bridge artwork (Romsey ward)</b>	
<p><b>Applicant:</b> Coldham's Lane Romsey Residents' Association</p> <p><b>Artist:</b> Hilary Cox-Condron</p> <p>Proposed project: To promote community cohesion on Coldham's Lane. The artwork will be inspired by the local heritage, stories, nature and community to raise awareness and positive action. The artist will initially work with Coldham's Lane, Romsey Residents' Association &amp; children from St Philip's School to develop ideas, artwork and links across the Coldham's Lane community, to create a cohesive piece of artwork truly reflective of the rich and diverse local community.</p> <p>Initial contact made with Network Rail.</p> <p><b>Suggested timescales:</b> Four months</p> <p><b>Grant requested:</b> To be clarified.</p>	<p><b>Public Art Panel feedback:</b> Need to clarity on budget as this will define what is feasible: cannot proceed before this is confirmed. Care should be taken to ensure Network Rail support. Already has Councillor support.</p> <p><b>Officer assessment:</b> Possible, but not yet ready to be considered. We need confirmation that permissions for the project are in place and further information about the project concept and the proposed budget.</p>
<b>E. Jesus Green community art project (Market ward)</b>	

**Project summary**

**Applicant:** Park Street residents' Association

**Artist:** Hermione Spriggs

Proposed project: Community Workshops exploring the history Jesus Green and the wildlife of the adjacent river - with an output from the workshops delivering an Art Installation on Jesus Green (by newly established river walkway). The artwork would be a unique piece celebrating Cambridge, the Green, and the River - its unique aspect arises because the work evolves from the community engagement and community workshops prior to design and fabrication.

**Suggested timescales:** Workshops from November 2021 to July 2022. Development of artwork from August 2022 to April 2023.

**Grant requested:** £20,000

**Councillor comment:** Councillor Porrer has commented that she and Councillor Bick support the public art proposal. She would be keen to explore any overlap with the 'To the River' commission to assist promotion of the history of Jesus Green and to see if this project could work together with the existing one.

**Assessment summary**

**Public Art Panel feedback:** Straightforward, well considered project with support already in place from Residents' Associations.

**Officer assessment:** Probable but needs further information. The City Council has a current project called 'To the River'. This new proposal sounds broadly similar. We must avoid duplication.

**F. Living at Mitcham's Corner (West Chesterton)**

**Project summary**

**Applicant:** Friends of Mitcham's Corner

**Artist:** Not yet approached. Once we know we can get the funding we will approach potential (local, national and international) artists.

**Purpose:** A semi-permanent living wall with suspended art mobiles. This will help create a visual enrichment for those living in and passing through the area. Now more than ever having a living artwork will be very important to mental wellbeing.

**Suggested timescales:** Not clear

**Grant requested:** £12,000

**Councillor comment:** Councillor Scutt supports this proposal. It "is timely, well-constructed, engaging and the result would be aesthetically pleasing, a good enhancement of the area, with potential for engaging the community....Mitcham's Corner is a prime area for artistic display". She also points out that "The Friends is a reliable organisation with the capacity to bring to fruition this proposal, effectively, efficiently and in an aesthetically pleasing manner." The lead within the Friends on art projects has a strong record of project delivery (e.g., Mitcham's Models).

Councillors Bird & Sargeant also support this proposal.

**Assessment summary**

**Public Art Panel feedback:** Interesting project. Group has run projects successfully before. Assuming that the project is a vertical planting scheme, this needs very specific technical and artistic skills'. Need to ensure that the group has arranged for these and budgeted appropriately.

**Officer assessment:** Probable but needs further information. This application is short on detail. As such, it is difficult to know where it would engage the local community, be new and original, represent high quality public art and involve a professional artist.

**G. Ride with Pride (City-wide)**

**Project summary**

**Applicant:** The Pink Festival Group

**Artist:** We would seek a curator for this project.

**Purpose:** To help tackle and address a range of health, wellbeing & self-isolation legacies attributable to Covid. Cycles will become individual art installations for the day. The focus will be celebrating Cambridge's rich & diverse community, particularly celebrating LGBTQ+ communities to link to possible Cambridge Pride 2022.

The aim is to engage the local LGBTQ+ community through creative and structured, workshops culminating in an end of project 'finale' or 'moving exhibition' We seek to provide a platform to champion local queer artists and promote environmentally sustainable travel in the form of cycling (in all forms, the funnier the better). We will engage with local businesses and organisations to contribute. We aim to make the activities inclusive to the wider community. We will have a social media campaign to promote the Project in the lead up period to the finale –hopefully, this would be in conjunction with a Pride event in 2022.

**Suggested timescales:** Workshops will take place 8 weeks before the Cambridge Pride event 2022.

**Grant requested:** £18,900

**Assessment summary**

**Public Art Panel feedback:** Approach not necessarily as innovative as suggested, but has the potential to involve lots of people at multiple stages. Suggests that the City Council is involved in the appointment of the artist/curator.

**Officer assessment:** Probable, but needs further information.

The application is similar in nature to a previous application for a River Parade in 2019.

Further discussion is needed to make sure that the proposals would meet the public art S106 selection criteria, particularly in relating to (i) being new & original; (ii) being led by a professional artist; (iii) providing excellent artistic quality; and (iv) providing a lasting legacy.

**Romsey Recreation Ground public art installation (Romsey ward)**

## Project summary

**Applicant:** Councillor Pound

**Artist:** Propose to engage an artist

**Purpose:** Create a sculpture or piece of permanent artwork.

**Suggested timescales:** As soon as possible

**Grant requested:** -

**Councillor comment:** Councillor Baigent has expressed support for public art at Romsey Rec, particularly given a considerable amount of recent development in the ward. He suggests that a railway theme may be a starting point, although there is much in Romsey of historic value. It might also commemorate those involved with the development of the recreation ground.

## Assessment summary

**Public Art Panel feedback:** A lot of unknowns need clarifying. The project's success will depend on the appointment of an 'appropriate' artist. Would be useful for the project to have Council Public Art support.

**Officer assessment:** Possible, but not yet ready to be considered.

This application is short on detail. As such, it is difficult to know where it would engage the local community, be new and original, represent high quality public art and involve a professional artist. The intended size of the project needs to be clarified, particularly in terms of whether this is intended as a small-scale grant project or a large-scale commission.

Given the availability of public art S106 contributions from Romsey ward that will need to be contractually committed or used in 2023, the emerging Public Art Commissioning Strategy will need to address as a matter of urgency how these contributions will be used.



Item

## S106 FUNDING ROUND 2021: COMMUNITY SERVICES

**To:**

Councillor Anna Smith, Executive Councillor for Communities and Deputy Leader (Statutory)

Environment & Community Scrutiny Committee 7 October 2021

**Report by:**

Debbie Kaye, Head of Community Services

Tel: 01223 - 458633 Email: [debbie.kaye@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:debbie.kaye@cambridge.gov.uk)

**Wards affected:** Abbey, Arbury, Coleridge, East Chesterton, Petersfield, Romsey, Queen Edith's and Trumpington wards.

Key Decision

### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Council uses S106 contributions paid by developers to mitigate the impact of development on facilities and amenities in Cambridge. As part of its 2021 generic S106 funding round, the Council has invited grant applications from local groups for improvements to their community facilities (to be made available for wider community use). This has focused on those parts of the city where community facilities generic S106 funding is still available. See section 3.
- 1.2 All six community facilities grant applications received have been assessed against the Council's S106 selection criteria. Officers recommend two proposals for a grant based on generic S106 funding, while another proposal qualifies for funding from an already agreed specific S106 contribution. Other proposals are either not yet ready for consideration (and could be developed further ahead of the next funding round) or would not be eligible for S106 funding: in the case of the latter, alternative sources of funding have been suggested to the applicants. See section 4.

- 1.3 The use of generic S106 contributions for sports facilities is managed separately from the annual S106 funding round (that is, without an application process) because funding is normally focused on needs identified by the Council's sports strategies. This report recommends allocating outdoor sports S106 contributions to a number of projects which could be taken forward soon. See Section 5.

## 2. Recommendations

The Executive Councillor is recommended to:

- 2.1 Agree the following community facilities S106 grants and funding allocations, detailed in paragraphs 4.5 and Appendix C, subject to business case approval, project completion or significant progress within 18 months and the signing of a community use agreement (see paragraph 6.1):

**Table 1:** Recommended uses of community facilities generic S106 funding

	<b>Facility (and ward)</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Award</b>
a.	Akeman Street Community Centre (Arbury)	Equipment and furnishings for new centre	Up to £40,000
b.	Trumpington Village Hall (Trumpington)	Disability access and an outside meeting space	£3,450

- 2.2 Deallocate community facilities S106 generic funding from the following two projects (see paragraph 4.6):
- a. £55,000 allocated to Cromwell Road community meeting space (Romsey) as part of the nursery as it is no longer viable; and
  - b. £100,000 earmarked for St James' Church community facilities improvements (Queen Edith's) as they are not ready to progress now but have been encouraged to reapply in the next funding round.
- 2.3 Agree the following sports facilities S106 grants and funding allocations, (detailed in paragraphs 5.2-5.6), subject to business case approval,

project completion or significant progress within 18 months and the signing of a community use agreement (see paragraph 6.1):

**Table 2:** Recommended uses of outdoor sports generic S106 funding

	<b>Facility (and ward)</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Award</b>
a.	Abbey Leisure Complex (Abbey)	3G pitch enhancement	£100,000
b.	Chesterton Rec. Ground Pavilion (East Chesterton)	Building costs supplement	£54,000
c.	Nightingale Avenue Pavilion (Queen Edith's)	Building costs supplement	£60,000
d.	Coleridge Rec. Ground fit kit equipment and pavilion upgrades (Coleridge)	Repurposing on an existing allocation for improvements to Coleridge Rec & pavilion.	£70,000 (re-purposed)
e.	Outdoor fitness area at Abbey Leisure Complex (Abbey)	Installation of new 'kettlebell' frame alongside existing 'fit kit'	Up to £20,000

- 2.4 Instruct officers to place even greater emphasis in the 2022 generic S106 funding round on welcoming applications from local community and sports groups for small-scale improvements to the equipment, furnishings and equipment at their facilities, which could help them to provide additional benefit to their local communities (see section 6).

### 3. Background: S106 funding and annual funding rounds

- 3.1. The Council has secured off-site S106 funding from developers to help mitigate the impact of local development in Cambridge. An [overview of S106 funding](#) is available on the Council's website<sup>1</sup>.
- 3.2. Generic S106 contributions (for providing or improving particular types of infrastructure) were agreed before changes to the regulations governing the use of S106 funding in April 2015. Whilst most generic S106 funds have already been spent or allocated to projects, the Council still runs annual funding rounds to identify appropriate uses for generic S106 allocations that are not yet allocated.<sup>2</sup>
  - a. As well as seeking grant applications for improving community facilities, the 2021 round has invited proposals for small-scale public art projects and for enhancing play areas and open spaces (these are covered by other S106 reports elsewhere on this agenda).
  - b. The 2021 round has followed the standard process agreed in 2019<sup>3</sup>, albeit later than originally scheduled (given that both Council officers and many community groups have needed to focus on the continuing response to the Coronavirus pandemic).
    - Grant applications were invited between mid-July and the end of August 2021. This has been publicised via the Council's website, social media and news releases. This publicity highlighted the opportunity for applicants to put forward smaller bids for the improving the equipment, furnishings and storage at their community meeting places in Cambridge.

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1. The 'Overview' sets out why developer contributions are collected and how they are used. It also explains the difference between generic and specific S106 contributions. S106 funding has to be used for its intended purposes: the briefing notes gives examples of uses of the main contribution types.
  2. If eligible funding proposals come forward within generic S106 funding rounds that meet the purposes of specific S106 contributions for particular facilities (that have already been agreed by the Planning Committee or Joint Development Control Committee for the Growth sites), the relevant specific contributions can be used to fund the project instead, subject to the standard business case process.
  3. These annual generic S106 funding round arrangements were agreed by the Executive Councillor following a report to the Community Services Scrutiny Committee in March 2019.

- Officers have assessed the applications against the relevant selection criteria in September 2021.
- Where S106 funding is available locally, ward councillors have been: invited to put forward eligible proposals for its use; asked to encourage local groups also to put forward eligible proposals; and given the opportunity in September 2021 to comment on the proposals received as part of the assessment process.

- 3.3 As mentioned in S106 funding reports in previous years, the availability of the remaining generic S106 funds is limited and unevenly spread across the city.
- a. This reflects differences across the city in the amount and scale of housing development and S106-funded projects (completed or being developed) in each ward to mitigate the impact of development.
  - b. In many cases, S106 contributions from a ward are spent in the same ward. However, it is sometimes appropriate for funds from one ward to be spent on providing/improving nearby community facilities in another ward.
  - c. Consistent with all previous S106 funding rounds, the 2021 generic S106 funding rounds has only been able to seek project proposals from those wards that still have S106 funding available locally. Grant applicants have been advised that their proposed community facility improvements must be in or very close to Abbey, Arbury, Coleridge, King's Hedges, Market, Queen Edith's, Romsey, Trumpington and West Chesterton wards.
- 3.4 Officers regularly review S106 funding allocations to check that there is a clear link in terms of which projects are funded by which developments and contribution types. The S106 funding availability figures are still being finalised, not least because work continues to take account of ward boundary changes in May 2021 and other recent reallocations. Even so, the assessment of proposals recommended for funding in this report takes account of the latest analysis (and can be afforded from relevant unallocated generic S106 funds).

## **4. Consideration of community facilities proposals**

- 4.1 Community facilities S106 funding can be used to provide or improve buildings or structures within the city of Cambridge in which local people/groups can meet for social or community activities. Examples of the types of projects which have already been funded using S106 funding include improvements to meeting halls/rooms and upgrades to their kitchens, toilets, storage, furniture and equipment.
- 4.2 A summary of S106-funded community facilities completed since 2019, as well as additional projects prioritised in the 2019 and 2020 funding rounds, can be found in Appendix A.
- 4.3 The community facility improvement proposals received during the 2021 round have been assessed against the following agreed selection criteria. These were featured in the application pack and on the website through the application process. In summary, proposals need to:
- a. be eligible for community facilities S106 funding (e.g., within the city, not for repairs, maintenance or like-for-like replacements);
  - b. be affordable within the community facilities S106 funding available within that part of the city to which the proposal relates;
  - c. demonstrate that it would represent an effective use of resources in line with the Council's strategic objectives;
  - d. provide additional benefit (for example, providing more or better facilities or equipment that will help to meet increasing demands);
  - e. be accessible, in line with Council equalities policies (involving a legally binding community use agreement detailing arrangements for making the facility available for wide community use);
  - f. be realistic, achievable, and ready to be considered (e.g., with clarity over raising the necessary funding for the overall project and securing any planning permission needed) - priority is given to project proposals which could reasonably be expected to be completed within 18 months of a grant award decision
  - g. be financially viable with robust management plans (with sufficient resources in place to ensure the effective management and running of the facility in the future).

- 4.4 The current community facilities generic S106 funding available is similar to the provisional figures (July 2021) on the Council's website throughout the 2021 S106 funding round application process. Unallocated funding is available in nine wards (particularly Queen Edith's and Coleridge). There is no funding available in four wards (Castle, Cherry Hinton, Newnham and Petersfield) because the S106 funding from those wards has already been spent or is allocated to projects under development<sup>4</sup>.
- 4.5 The six community facilities grant applications received along with the officer assessment against the selection criteria are summarized in Appendix B and comments from local councillors, in Appendix C.
- a. Two applications (equipment and furnishings for the new Akeman Street Community Centre and access improvements at Trumpington Village Hall) meet the selection criteria and are recommended for funding in paragraph 2.1 above.
  - b. One application for generic S106 funding support (at the Clay Farm Centre) is eligible for a specific S106 contribution, which can be used instead. This will help the finite amount of residual generic S106 funding for community facilities funding in Trumpington ward to continue to be available for other purposes.
  - c. Two proposals (for energy efficiency measures at Trumpington Rec Pavilion and enabling the Cambridge Artspace gallery to improve access arrangements for its own purposes) are good projects for accessibility and sustainability improvements, however they would not meet the S106 selection criteria for enabling wider community use of facilities and providing additional benefit to mitigate the impact of local development. Due to the merit of these projects, officers will discuss with the applicants further and signpost to alternative sources of funding.
  - d. One proposal (for better storage for both sports equipment and community centre storage at Trumpington Rec Pavilion) is not yet ready for consideration but could be developed (perhaps as two bids

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4. All available generic community facilities contributions available in Petersfield and Cherry Hinton have already been allocated to equipping the new community facility on Mill Road and the development of Cherry Hinton community hub respectively.

for the use of community facilities and sports provision S106 funding) in time for the 2022 generic S106 funding round (see paragraph 6.2).

- 4.6 In addition to considering new grant applications for generic S106 funding, officers monitor closely the progress of projects which have been allocated S106 funding in previous S106 funding rounds. As well as making sure that S106 contributions can be used within 'use by' dates, the Council's S106 selection criteria also highlight that "priority is given to project proposals which could reasonably be expected to be completed within 18 months of a grant award decision" (see paragraph 4.3f above). In this context, recommendation 2.2 identifies the need for generic S106 funds to be deallocated from two previous S106 projects so that the funds can be reallocated in due course to other appropriate projects benefitting the relevant wards in a timely way:
- a. £55,000 was allocated in June 2019 for a community meeting space within the nursery facility as part of Cromwell Road development (Romsey ward). Since then, however, the procurement process to appoint nursery providers concluded that the community meeting space would not be viable. This issue has been discussed with local councillors. The recommendation in paragraph 2.2 formalises deallocations which have already been processed.<sup>5</sup>
  - b. In the 2020 S106 funding round, £100,000 was earmarked to emerging proposals of improved community facilities at St James' Church, Wulfstan Way (Queen Edith's ward) until the scheme could be developed in more detail, ready for the 2021 funding round. Unfortunately, the community facilities proposal is not ready for consideration to allocate the funding at this point in time. Officers have met with the Church representatives who hope to submit an updated S106 grant application once the project proposal has been developed in more detail, in time for the 2022 generic S106 funding round.

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5. Where the deallocated funds have been nearing 'use by' dates, these have been reassigned to relevant local projects in/close to Romsey ward (for example, the Notts Own Scout Hut on Marmora Road, on the boundary of Coleridge and Romsey wards. Other deallocated amounts with a longer 'shelf life' have been returned to the unallocated funds for use in Romsey ward or on other projects in neighbouring wards that would help to mitigate the impact of the developments in Romsey.

## 5. Sports projects arising from strategic needs

- 5.1 This section of the report outlines proposed projects which are now being recommended for the allocation of available outdoor sports funding. As a reminder, outdoor sports S106 funding can be used to provide or improve sports facilities and pitches in Cambridge. Examples of projects that have been funded using this S106 funding include new or improved outdoor tennis courts, football pitches and hockey pitches; outdoor basketball courts and multi-use games areas, outdoor 'fit kit', sports pavilions/changing rooms for outdoor sport and outdoor sports equipment.
- 5.2 **Abbey 3G pitch:** An additional £100,000 of generic funds are requested to add to £350,000 of specific developer contributions for outdoor sport already collected and paid to the Council for the conversion of the existing artificial sand-based pitch to a new third generation (3G) rubber crumb pitch.
- a. This project for the move to a 3G pitch is identified as a key strategic need within the city for the delivery of a full sized 3G rubber crumb football playing surface within the Council's and South Cambs Playing Pitch Strategy and Cambs FA local football plan.
  - b. The new pitch will be delivered within the existing curtilage of the existing sand-based pitch at the Abbey Sports Complex and does not require planning permission.
  - c. Total cost of delivery of the project is around £900,000 and being an identified key strategic project by the Local Football Association for grass roots provision within the City, the FA will match fund the project and also contribute £450,000 via the Football Foundation to deliver a full sized 3G pitch at the Abbey Complex.
  - d. The new pitch would be a football facility foremost and would not provide league play for hockey. All hockey play both training and league games have already migrated off the Abbey Astroturf to the new Wilberforce Road sand-based astroturf pitches and is as per the succession planning identified within the Playing Pitch Strategy and agreed with English Hockey and all local hockey clubs to provide a Hockey Hub at Wilberforce Road. The Hockey Hub has been delivered and open for use for over two seasons and was also supported with £250,000 of developer contributions to the project

which added two additional floodlit sand-based pitches and additional changing rooms.

- e. The delivery timeline to install the 3G pitch is expected over summer of 2022 (outside of the football season) and be ready for use in September 2022.

5.3 **Chesterton Rec Ground Pavilion:** An additional sum of £54,000 of generic S106 outdoor sports contributions are requested to cover additional costs incurred during construction.

- a. Construction of the Pavilion extension is currently underway and due for handover in October, but additional costs have been incurred and reported to the Place Board for issues mainly related to the construction of the foundations.



- b. The foundation excavations have hit a large fine sand deposit for all areas the new foundations were required to be set within the build.
- c. This has meant that all excavations for the foundations were not stable and the sides collapsed and back filled any trenches dug.
- d. 600mm wide trenches ended up being up to 3m wide in some instances.

- e. Subsequently additional structural engineering and extension of the foundations has been required, along with additional materials and labour needed to form the new foundations within the excavations for concrete pouring which has incurred the additional costs to the project.

5.4 **Nightingale Ave Rec Pavilion:** An additional sum of up to £60,000 of generic S016 outdoor sports contributions are requested to cover additional costs for delivery of the project.

- a. Nightingale Pavilion has been demolished and the site levelled for the new foundations and a modular installation to take place for the new pavilion.
- b. Officers have been working with the modular build company for the final designs of the modular compartments. This has included the deletion of the gas boiler previously proposed at the project inception (prior the climate change emergency and new corporate climate change strategy being adopted).
- c. The removal of the gas boiler has increased costs for supply of new electrical based heating and hot water provision within the building to include hot water storage calorifiers and immersion heaters for the showers, electrical room heating and inclusion of Solar PV panels and battery storage.
- d. Additional general build costs for the supply of the new modular build have also increased over the last 12 months due to restricted supply chains and market forces, and additional funds of up to £60,000 are requested to deliver the modular building to complete installation within the current financial year.

#### 5.5 Coleridge Rec Ground – New Fit Kit & Pavilion improvements:

It is proposed to utilise the existing £70,000 allocated to Coleridge Pavilion for a spend of £10,000 towards improvements of the kitchen area, toilets and central space within the pavilion, with the remaining £60,00 being allocated to the provision of a new fit kit installation. The Fit Kit installation is proposed within Coleridge Recreation Ground to replicate the style of the installation over at Abbey Sports Complex.



Photo above: Abbey Sports Complex Fit Kit

- a. This type of callisthenic workout equipment has dramatically risen in popularity over the last few years and been extremely well used over the pandemic for outdoor based exercise use by all ages of people.
- b. We have seen in other areas of the City different groups of people use the outdoor fitness areas ranging from teenagers to the elderly. At Abbey Sports Complex classes are run for teenagers, boot camps, residents with mental health issues and the Council's exercise referral service have all used the equipment with their clients.
- c. Outdoor exercising allows for regular physical activity which we know is essential to health and well-being and as this fitness equipment is free to use it removes the cost barrier that can be associated with indoor exercising. The equipment allows those from more deprived backgrounds to benefit from the advantages of exercising outdoors, which can be fun, is eco-friendly as the equipment requires no electricity, and is low maintenance.
- d. Numerous requests to the recreation team and ward councillors have also been received requesting this type of equipment to be installed at more locations around the city. Unlike other areas in the City that already have outdoor fitness areas (Abbey, Trumpington, Nightingale Avenue, Ditton Fields, Green End Road) Coleridge does not have this type of facility within its Ward.
- e. Further local consultation will be completed for an agreed location within the recreation ground and on the range of equipment available to be installed.

**5.6 Abbey Leisure Fit Kit expansion – Kettle Bells:** Generic S106 contributions for outdoor sport are requested for up to £20,000 to expand the fit kit currently available at the Abbey Sports Complex.

- a. The outdoor fitness equipment is hugely popular at the Abbey Sports Complex, even more so now that lockdown has introduced a new way of exercising.
- b. The addition of the magnetic kettlebell system allows the users to add a resistance training element to their workouts with options of light, medium and heavy weights.
- c. Individuals and communities are already benefiting from the outdoor fitness equipment, where classes and sessions are run for

teenagers, residents with mental health issues and the Council's exercise referral service also use it with their clients.

- d. As this fitness equipment is free to use it removes the cost barrier than can be associated with exercising and allows those from more deprived backgrounds in the area to benefit from the advantages of exercising and this additional piece will complement the popular installation.



Photo: Example of Kettle Bell installation proposed

## 6. Next steps

- 6.1 Whilst the 2021 round has helped to identify some useful projects for S106 funding, officers are conscious that parts of the city still have substantial amounts of unallocated developer contributions for community facilities and outdoor and indoor sports available, which need to be used. The Coronavirus pandemic has, inevitably, diverted the attention of local community groups and sports clubs in developing their plans for large-scale facility improvements.
- 6.2 To address this officers will give an even greater emphasis, ahead of the 2022 funding round, to raising awareness amongst organisations of the opportunity to apply for smaller grants for improving the furniture,

equipment and storage at their local facilities<sup>6</sup>, which would provide additional and wider community benefit, beyond the groups' own use of these improvements. In the next round this will also cover improvements to indoor and outdoor sports facilities. This is reflected in recommendation 2.4. and there continues to be a key role for ward councillors (in those wards where the relevant generic S106 funding is still available) in promoting these opportunities to local community groups and sports clubs which run local facilities and meeting spaces.

## **7. Implications**

### **Financial Implications**

- 7.1 The annual S106 funding rounds are a useful way of regularly allocating and spending S106 contributions to eligible project proposals: this helps to make appropriate and timely use of the S106 funds, to mitigate the impact of development and to reduce the risk of having to return to developers any contributions that go beyond their 'use-by' dates. The converse is that allocating funds to projects that do not meet the S106 selection criteria or which are less likely to be delivered in a timely manner increases the risk of challenge.
- 7.2 Following this report, officers will continue the focus on:
- a. clarifying on how much unallocated funding is available in each ward
  - b. and liaising with local community groups which are developing plans to refurbish and upgrade their local community facilities.
- 7.3 Officers will also continue to monitor closely the progress of projects so that generic S106 funding can be used on time and for the intended purposes.
- a. Attention is drawn in particular to the S106 funding allocations for the Cherry Hinton Community Hub and East Barnwell Community Centre projects, which are mentioned in Appendix A.

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<sup>6</sup>. Please remember, however, that S106 funding cannot be used for repairs, maintenance, running costs or like-for-like replacements of existing equipment.

- b. Considerable efforts have already been made to ensure that the current allocations give these projects as much time as possible for these projects to move forward.
- c. However, if sufficient progress cannot be made officers may need to explore with this committee in June/July 2022 options for re-allocating some or all of the S106 funding to these projects so that long-standing S106 contributions can be used in a timely way.

### **Staffing Implications**

- 7.4 Most projects funded from Community Facilities S106 contributions tend to be based on grants to community groups and local organisations. Council officers are involved in developing business cases and community use agreements, before grants can be issued, and then supporting and monitoring the grant recipients' project delivery progress and compliance with grant agreements. Alongside those activities, the pavilion projects at Nightingale Avenue and Chesterton Rec Grounds are being managed within the Sports & Recreation team.
- 7.5 The Coronavirus pandemic brought significant implications and additional workload pressures both for Council staff and volunteers within local community groups. It remains to be seen whether further pressures will arise in the coming months. If so, this may cause some delays to the implementation of projects. This will be monitored closely. Any significant delays will be reported back to future S106 reports to this committee.

### **Equality and Poverty Implications**

### **Net Zero Carbon, Climate Change & Environmental Implications**

### **Procurement Implications**

### **Community Safety Implications**

- 7.6 In line with the approach to previous S106 funding rounds, these considerations for proposals that are allocated S106 funding by the Executive Councillor will be developed as part of the standard business case process (as appropriate) and signed off by the relevant managers.
- 7.7 The S106 funding round arrangements and selection criteria aim to provide a fair and consistent approach for priority-setting decisions. All successful S106 external grant applicants are required to sign a

community use agreement. This confirms that the facilities being improved through a S106-funded project will be made accessible to the public and this clearly highlights all the protected characteristics.

- 7.8 Nightingale Pavilion works are designed to meet carbon reduction policy with the removal of the gas boiler and inclusion of Solar PV and battery storage.
- 7.9 In terms of procurement arrangements:
- a. For the Abbey 3G pitch, procurement would be carried out through the Football Foundations Framework contract and would be a condition of their match funding. The Council's procurement team have been consulted on this point and agree it will be acceptable to use the Football Foundations framework for delivery of the project.
  - b. The Coleridge 'Fit Kit' project would go through the Council's procurement portal (Due North) for submission of tenders for supply and installation of equipment within Coleridge recreation ground.
- 7.10 The Fit Kit provision at Abbey Sports Complex have been found to support community safety and can offer free diversionary activities.

## **8. Consultation and communication considerations**

- 8.1 The arrangements taken to publicise the funding available and application process are detailed in paragraph 3.2b. As part of the community facilities S106 grant application forms, applicants have set out how they have engaged with local communities and any next steps. Officers consider the readiness of grant-funded projects for delivery as part of the standard business case process.
- 8.2 Coleridge Fit Kit - local consultation will be undertaken to agree a location and range of available equipment to be provided.

## **9. Background papers**

Background papers used in the preparation of this report:

- S106 project proposals received during the 2021 S106 funding round for community facilities S106 contributions;

- ‘S106 funding: next steps (Communities)’ report to Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019;
- ‘Strategic review of community provision – Building Stronger Communities: community centres strategy’ report to Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 19 January 2017;
- Cambridge and South Cambs Playing Pitch Strategy 2015–2031 Development Plan Scrutiny Sub Committee – 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2016;
- Local Football Facility Plan – Greater Cambridgeshire 2019;
- Further information can be found at the Council’s Developer Contributions web page ([www.cambridge.gov.uk/s106](http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/s106)).

## 10. Appendices

- A. Community facilities S106-funded projects completed since 2019 or being implemented
- B. Assessment of Community Facilities applications in 2021 S106 round
- C. Comments received from local councillors on the community facilities and outdoor sports proposals

## 11. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact:

Community facilities:

Jackie Hanson, Community Funding & Development Manager

telephone: 01223 - 457867

email: [jackie.hanson@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:jackie.hanson@cambridge.gov.uk)

Sports facilities:

Ian Ross, Sport & Recreation Manager

telephone: 01223 - 458638

email: [ian.ross@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:ian.ross@cambridge.gov.uk)

S106 funding round process and S106 funding availability:

Tim Wetherfield, Urban Growth Project Manager

Telephone: 01233 457313

Email: [tim.wetherfield@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:tim.wetherfield@cambridge.gov.uk)

## Community facilities S106-funded projects completed since 2019 or being implemented

The S106 report to the Community Services Scrutiny Committee in March 2019 featured lists by ward of completed S106 projects by ward since 2012. This appendix provides an update on those projects that were identified at that time as 'on-going' plus other projects that have been allocated S106 funding (e.g., in the 2019 and 2020 generic S106 funding rounds).

The pandemic over the last 18 months has, inevitably, had an impact of the delivery of on-going S106-funded projects. Not only have Council officers taken on additional Covid-19 roles and workloads, but the many of the volunteers who lead on projects and the development of proposals within local community groups, have also been heavily involved in the community response to the Coronavirus.

PROJECT	PROGRESS
<b>Arbury Court CCVS Office</b> S106 funding: £3,000 Ward: Arbury	Community meeting space <b>completed</b>
<b>Brown's Field Community Centre</b> S106 funding: £15,000 Ward: East Chesterton	Community kitchen <b>completed</b>
<b>Cherry Hinton Hub</b> S106 funding: c.£201,000 allocated <sup>7</sup>	Additional community meeting room. Planning application approved. Currently

7. The Council aims to make sure that S106 contributions can be used or contractually committed within ten years of receipt. The community facilities S106 funding allocated to this project comprise a number of generic and specific S106 contributions (mainly from Cherry Hinton ward), which were received at different times. Officers have re-profiled these allocations to give this project as much time as possible to move forward and so that the 'use by' dates are staggered. There are now no 'use by' dates before September 2022, only c.£12,500 before September 2023, and a further c.£28,500 before September 2024.

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>PROGRESS</b>
Ward: Cherry Hinton	reviewing overall funding availability (from a range of sources).
<b>Chesterton Methodist Church</b> S106 funding: £15,000 Ward: East Chesterton	Accessible toilet block, and improvements for wheelchair access <b>completed</b>
<b>East Barnwell Community Centre</b> S106 funding: £255,000 <sup>8</sup> Ward: Abbey	Additional community meeting room in new centre. Insufficient project progress. Either grant agreement signed with acceptable project timeline or funding deallocated to be confirmed by the next funding round.
<b>Mill Road community centre: furnishing &amp; equipment</b> S106 funding: £85,000 Ward: Petersfield	Centre under construction and is due to open in March 2022.
<b>Nightingale Community Gardeners</b> S106 funding: £8,650 Ward: Queen Edith's	Outside covered informal kitchen and activity area. Grant agreement prepared. Previous project now complete so can move onto this one. Completion: Winter 2022
<b>Notts Own Scout Hut</b> S106 funding: £40,000 Ward: Romsey	Kitchen and toilet improvements. Grant agreement signed. Project in progress. Completion: Spring 2022
<b>Nun's Way Pavilion</b> S106 funding: £800 Ward: King's Hedges	Shelving for community storage <b>completed.</b>
<b>Romsey Mill</b> S106 funding: £21,000	Improvements to community room, kitchen, multi-purpose community hall,

8. Similar to Cherry Hinton Community Hub, the community facilities S106 funding allocated to this project comprise a large number of generic contributions from Abbey ward, which were received at different times. Officers have re-profiled these allocations to give this project as much time as possible to move forward and so that the 'use by' dates are staggered. There are now no 'use by' dates before December 2025, but around £72,000 before December 2025.

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>PROGRESS</b>
Ward: Romsey	arts room and music studio Project delayed due to coronavirus. Completion: Spring 2022
<b>St George's Church</b> S106 funding: £15,000 Ward: East Chesterton	Hearing loop and AV equipment to enhance the facilities in the hall. Ceiling for church kitchen. Project under review by applicant due to change in personnel and increase in costs. Decision required by December 2021

## Assessment of S106 applications in 2021 S106 round

An assessment matrix can be found at the end of this appendix.

	Project	Officer assessment
A.	<p><b>Akeman Street Community Centre</b> (Arbury)</p> <p>Applicant: Cambridge City Council</p> <p>Purpose: furnishings, equipment, signage, and storage for the new centre, which has recently been constructed and fitted out</p> <p>Overall project costs: £55,000 Already raised: £17,000 S106 funding requested: £35,000</p>	<p>Assessment: Meets the eligibility criteria.</p> <p>The purpose outlined will enable improved, increased and wider use of the centre by local people and will be flexible to meet their needs going forward</p> <p><b>Recommended S106 funding: £35,000</b></p>
B.	<p><b>Cambridge Artspace</b> (West Chesterton)</p> <p>Applicant: Cambridge Artspace Ltd</p> <p>Purpose: ramp for disabled access to the gallery and studios; accessible toilets in the main building; outside slope with a handrail; change the direction the fire door</p> <p>Overall project costs: £3,500-£4,500 Already raised: £0 S106 funding requested: £3,500-£4,500</p>	<p>Assessment: Does not meet the eligibility criteria.</p> <p>It does not provide or improve a community meeting space and cannot meet the agreement terms.</p> <p>Good project to improve accessibility. Officers will discuss further with the applicant and signpost to alternative potential funding sources</p>
C.	<p><b>Clay Farm Community Centre</b> (Trumpington)</p> <p>Applicant: Cambridge City Council</p> <p>Purpose: playground surface to the garden space adjacent to meeting room; awning; storage sheds and cages; tables and umbrellas</p> <p>Overall project costs: £17,000</p>	<p>Assessment: Meets the funding criteria.</p> <p>An alternative funding source (from specific S106 contributions for community facilities improvements at Clay Farm Centre) has been identified to enable this project to proceed which enables the</p>

	<b>Project</b>	<b>Officer assessment</b>
	<p>Already raised: £0 S106 funding requested: £17,000</p>	<p>generic S106 to be available for future projects. <b>Proposal to be funded from a specific S106 contribution</b></p>
D.	<p><b>Trumpington Pavilion</b> (Trumpington) Applicant: Trumpington Residents Association Purpose: additional external storage unit for storing community and sports equipment. Overall project costs: £10,000-£25,000 Already raised: £2,000 S106 funding requested: £10,000-£25,000</p>	<p>Assessment: The project is not sufficiently developed to consider at this stage. Officers will work with the applicant to develop for the next funding round.  Officers will work with the applicant to support project development for them to reapply for the next round</p>
E.	<p><b>Trumpington Pavilion</b> (Trumpington) Applicant: Trumpington Residents Association Purpose: to make Trumpington Pavilion more energy efficient: replacement of existing gas boilers in the main building and changing rooms; replacement of the existing under-floor heating in the hall and youth room with an alternative system which provides heating and cooling; replacement of the flooring in these areas with a more durable surface. Overall project costs: £tbc Already raised: £7,000 S106 funding requested: £tbc</p>	<p>Assessment: Does not meet the funding criteria as is about energy efficiency modifications. Officers will consider it as a Council asset, work with the organisation and look for appropriate funding.  This is a good energy efficiency project and a City Council asset. Officers will pick this up as part of a wider programme of work and discuss further with the applicant.</p>
f	<p><b>Trumpington Village Hall</b> (Trumpington) Applicant: Trumpington Village Hall Charity Purpose: enlarge an internal doorway to provide disabled access to the existing toilets; widen an external Fire Exit to meet safety standards; create a new open-air</p>	<p>Assessment: Meets the funding criteria. The fire safety adaptations cannot be considered but they have alternative funding for this element of the project. The applicant stated a fundraising target of £750 which officers</p>

Project	Officer assessment
<p>space at the back of the hall; create a wheelchair and bike friendly ramp improve access from Trumpington High Street and install additional covered bike racks</p> <p>Overall project costs: £5,150 Already raised: £1,750 (£750 fundraising target) S106 funding requested: £2,700</p>	<p>have added to the recommended award.</p> <p><b>Recommended S106 funding: £3,450</b> Increased the award requested to include the fundraising target.</p>

**Officer Assessment, based on S106 selection criteria**

			Eligible	Affordable	Effective use	Additionality	Accessible	Ready	Viable
	Proposal for	Ward							
a.	Akeman Street Community Centre	Arbury	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
b.	Cambridge Artspace	West Chesterton	✗		✗	✗	✗		
c.	Clay Farm Community Centre	Trumpington	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
d.	Trumpington Pavilion (store)	Trumpington	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc	✗	✗
e.	Trumpington Pavilion (energy efficiency)	Trumpington	✗		✗	✗	✗		
f.	Trumpington Village Hall	Trumpington	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

## Comments from local councillors on the community facility and outdoor sports proposals

### Community facilities proposals

	Proposal	Comment from
a.	Akeman Street Community Centre	No comments received
b.	Cambridge Artspace	No comments received
c.	Clay Farm Community Centre	Councillor Slatter: Support application which will enrich the safe outdoor play space which has already proved a great asset for groups hiring the meeting room  Councillor Flaubert: Fully supported. Our community really need the proposed facilities
d.	Trumpington Pavilion (store)	No comments received
e.	Trumpington Pavilion (energy efficiency)	No comments received
f.	Trumpington Village Hall	Councillor Slatter: Strongly support the upgrading of inadequate fire exits which will reduce evacuation times from the Jubilee room. Strongly support proposal to open up the southern side of the Hall following the removal of the GP surgery, and enabling the provision of secure parking for family bikes and the future enhancement of the parking area for community use.

## Comments from local councillors on the outdoor sports proposals

	Proposal	Comment from
a.	Abbey Leisure Complex: 3G pitch	Councillor Bennett: Outdoor pitch is an excellent proposal that would be widely welcomed in the ward and would be my first pick for funding.
b.	Chesterton Rec. Ground Pavilion	Councillor Bird: happy with the East Chesterton proposals
c.	Nightingale Avenue Pavilion	Councillor Davies: support any action which is likely to secure the delivery of Nightingale Pavilion within this financial year
d.	Coleridge Rec. Ground fit kit equipment and pavilion upgrades	No comments received
e.	Outdoor fitness area at Abbey Leisure Complex	No comments received

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Item

## **S106 FUNDING ROUND 2021: OPEN SPACES AND PLAY AREAS**

**To:**

Councillor Alex Collis, Executive Councillor for Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Sustainable Food and Community Wellbeing

Environment & Community Scrutiny Committee      7th October 2021

**Report by:**

Alistair Wilson, Streets & Open Spaces Development Manager  
Tel: 01223 – 458514    Email: [alistair.wilson@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:alistair.wilson@cambridge.gov.uk)

**Wards affected:** Abbey, Coleridge, East Chesterton, Market, Petersfield, Queen Edith's, Romsey, Trumpington and West Chesterton wards.

Key Decision

### **1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1 The Council uses S106 contributions to mitigate the impact of development on facilities and amenities in Cambridge. Through its 2021 generic S106 funding round, the Council has invited proposals for improvements to open spaces and play areas, focused on those parts of the city where the relevant generic S106 funding is still available.
- 1.2 Sixteen proposals for improvements to open spaces and play areas have been received through this 2021 funding round. The Council thanks all those who have taken the time and effort to apply. The proposals have been assessed against the relevant S106 selection criteria. Seven (either in whole or in part) are eligible, affordable and ready to be allocated S106 funding now. A number of other eligible proposals are also being actively considered, subject to S106 funding availability. In addition, three other projects allocated S106 funding in the 2020 round are recommended for additional funding, which has become available.

## 2. Recommendations

Recommendations 2.1, 2.2 & 2.4 are subject to business case approval and project completion or significant progress within 18 months.

The Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Sustainable Food and Community Wellbeing is recommended to:

- 2.1 Allocate informal open space generic S106 funding to the following projects (see the assessments in paragraphs 4.1-4.2 and Appendix B).

**Table 1:** Recommended 2021 S106 funding proposals

No.	Project proposal	S106 funding
2.1.1	Alexandra Garden Rec: additional seating (West Chesterton ward)	£5,000
2.1.2	Jesus Green: seating, benches and additional trees (Market ward)	£13,000
2.1.3	Midsummer's Common community orchard: improved seating, bins, paths and new raised beds (Market ward)	£15,000
2.1.4	Coldham's Lane play area: benches, bins noticeboards (Romsey ward)	£10,000
2.1.5	Parker's Piece tree-planting: supplement for information boards (Market ward)	Up to £5,100
2.1.6	Trumpington Rec Ground environmental enhancements (Trumpington ward)	£70,000

- 2.2 Delegate authority to the Director of Neighbourhoods & Communities to allocate open space and play area generic S106 funding formerly from Trumpington ward but now in Petersfield, still available for eligible open space and play improvements in Petersfield (see paragraphs 4.3- 4.4). This could include some play area improvements at St Barnabas Court play area. These allocations would be in consultation with Petersfield councillors, the Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Sustainable Food and Community Wellbeing, Opposition Spokes and the Chair of the Environment and Communities Scrutiny Committee.
- 2.3 Instruct officers to seek detailed updated estimates of the likely construction costs of the Coldham's Common BMX track improvement project and to take appropriate follow-up action (see paragraph 4.5).

- 2.4 Allocate additional informal open spaces S106 funding to the following projects supported in the 2020 S106 funding round (paragraph 4.6).

**Table 2:** Recommended additional allocations to existing projects

No.	Project proposal	S106 funding
2.4.1	Chesterton Recreation Ground wheelsports project: landscaping (East Chesterton ward)	£15,000
2.4.2	Five Trees open space: wildflower and tree-planting (East Chesterton ward)	Up to £10,000
2.4.3	Pearl Close play area and community garden improvements (East Chesterton ward)	£5,000

- 2.5 Instruct officers to take a more targeted approach for the 2022 generic S106 funding round to seeking eligible proposals for open space and play improvements from the remaining generic S106 funds, with a greater focus on dialogue with councillors (see paragraph 4.7).

### 3. Background

- 3.1. The Council has secured off-site S106 funding from developers to help mitigate the impact of local development in Cambridge. An ‘Overview of S106 funding’ briefing note is available on the Council’s website<sup>1</sup>. The key point is that S106 funding can only be used for the purposes for which it has been agreed. Table 3 provides examples of projects that have been funded using S106 funding for informal open spaces and play provision.

**Table 3:** Examples of open spaces and play area S106 projects

Types	Mitigation projects can include:
Informal open spaces <sup>2</sup>	For council-owned/managed parks & open spaces: paths, signs, landscaping, fencing/gates, trees/shrubs, drainage, habitat creation, benches, bins, noticeboards.

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1. The ‘Overview’ briefing note explains why developer contributions are collected, how they are used and the difference between generic and specific S106 contributions.
  2. Informal open space S106 funds can be used on protected open spaces in the city, as set out in the Open Spaces & Recreation Strategy 2011.

Types	Mitigation projects can include:
Play provision	New/improved outdoor, public play areas and facilities for children and teenagers (council-owned/managed), plus related safety surfacing.

- 3.2 To qualify for S106 funding proposals for open space and play area improvements must meet the following criteria<sup>3</sup>. In summary, proposals need to be:
- a. eligible for S106 funding<sup>4</sup> (e.g., within the city of Cambridge and **not** for repairs, maintenance, like-for-like replacements or running costs);
  - b. affordable within the S106 funding available in the appropriate contribution type<sup>5</sup>;
  - c. about providing additional benefit<sup>6</sup>;
  - d. an effective use of resources (e.g., related to relevant Council strategies, such as the Outdoor Play Investment Strategy 2016-21<sup>7</sup>);
  - e. accessible, in line with Council equalities policies;
  - f. realistic, achievable & ready (i.e., deliverable within around 18 months of a funding decision);
  - g. financially viable, with a robust business case and/or management plans.
- 3.3 Over many years of S106 funding, all wards have benefitted from the provision or improvement of local open spaces and play areas, funded by local S106 contributions. A summary of S106-funded open spaces

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3. The S106 selection criteria are publicised on the Council's website and are included in the applicant packs for each annual S106 funding round. The criteria formed part of the funding round arrangements agreed by the Executive Councillor in March 2019.

4. All S106 contributions have to be used in line the with terms set out in the particular S106 agreements through which they were secured. These terms cannot be altered simply by changing the Council's S106 selection criteria. S106 funding agreed for one type of infrastructure cannot be used for another type.

5. See also paragraph 3.6 and the related footnote.

6. Again, it is important to emphasise that the purpose of S106 funding is, first and foremost, about mitigating the impact of development (not addressing other pre-existing needs or, indeed, the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic).

7. The Outdoor Play Investment Strategy aims to maximise the use of available resources and associated future investment opportunities to deliver high quality, high value, well used outdoor play provision for children and young people.

and play area improvements completed since March 2019, and other projects that have been initiated via more recent S106 funding rounds, can be found in Appendix A. The Covid-19 pandemic over the last 18 months has, inevitably, led to delays in delivering on-going S106-funded projects: officers have been called upon to address the implications for the Council's parks and open spaces. The Coronavirus has also contributed to restrictions on the availability of building materials and associated rising costs. Appendix A includes revised timescales for completing on-going projects.

3.4 Whilst most generic<sup>8</sup> S106 funds have already been spent or allocated to projects, the Council still runs annual funding rounds to identify appropriate uses for those not yet unallocated. As in previous years, the 2021 funding round has focused on seeking project proposals from those wards that still have S106 funding available locally, that is for:

- open spaces in (or close to) Abbey, Coleridge, East and West Chesterton, Market, Petersfield, Queen Edith's, Romsey and Trumpington wards; and
- play area(s) in Trumpington ward<sup>9</sup>.

3.5 The 2021 round has followed the standard process agreed in 2019, albeit later than originally scheduled (again, a reflection of competing workload pressures arising from the Coronavirus pandemic).

a. S106 proposals were invited between mid-July and the end of August 2021. This was publicised via the Council's website, social media and news releases. Officers have then assessed the applications against the S106 selection criteria in September 2021.

b. Where S106 funding is available locally, ward councillors have been invited to put forward eligible proposals and asked to encourage

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8. Generic S106 contributions (for providing or improving particular types of infrastructure) are ones that were agreed before changes to the regulations governing the use of S106 funding in April 2015.

9. As well as seeking proposals for public open spaces and play areas in Cambridge for the Council to improve, the 2021 generic S106 funding round has invited grant applications for small-scale public art projects and community facilities improvements (covered by other S106 reports elsewhere on this agenda)

local residents to do the same. Last month, all councillors were given the opportunity last month to comment on eligible proposals<sup>10</sup>.

- 3.6 As mentioned in previous S106 funding round reports, the availability of the remaining generic S106 funds is limited and unevenly spread. This reflects differences across the city in (i) the amount and scale of housing development in each ward from which developer contributions have been collected and (ii) spending on/allocations to S106-funded projects in each ward to mitigate the impact of development<sup>11</sup>.
- 3.7 Officers regularly review S106 funding allocations to check that there is a clear link in terms of which projects are funded by which developments and contribution types.
- a. The assessment of proposals recommended for funding in paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 takes account of this latest analysis (and can be afforded from relevant unallocated generic S106 funds).
  - b. At the same, officers are still working through the availability of S106 funding for open spaces and play area improvements in East Area, in particular. For example:
    - i. In the context of the changes to ward boundaries in May 2021, officers are currently clarifying how much S106 funding from developments formerly in Trumpington ward, but now in Petersfield, might now be available for the new ward<sup>12,13</sup>.

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10. Comments from councillors on proposals received (and initial officer assessments of those proposals) are included in Appendix B. While every effort is made to take account of councillors' views, the requirements of S106 funding mean that it can only be used on projects that meet the S106 selection criteria.

11. Local projects (mitigating the impact of local development) tend to be funded from nearby S106 contributions from the same ward (at the time that the project was allocated fund) or from nearby developments in neighbouring wards that would also benefit. Meanwhile, strategic projects (benefitting larger parts of Cambridge) tend to be funded from around half the S106 contributions from major developments from the same Area or from major developments in other areas which would also benefit.

12. Please note, however, that much of this funding has already been used appropriately on improvements in Trumpington, and at other locations near the developments (including in Petersfield) and also on strategic open space and play improvement projects in East, South and West/Central areas.

13. These issues are considered further in paragraphs 4.3 and 4.4 and are also addressed by recommendation 2.2.

- ii. Questions relating to the costs of the Coldham's Lane BMX track improvement project, already allocated £85,000 of generic S106 funding from Abbey and Romsey ward, are also being considered.<sup>14</sup>

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14. This issue is considered further in paragraph 4.5 and are also addressed by recommendation 2.3.

## 4. Consideration of open spaces and play area proposals

- 4.1 The 16 proposals for open space and play area improvements that have been received during the 2021 round have all been assessed against the selection criteria summarised in paragraph 3.2.
- a. Seven (in whole or in part) have been assessed as meeting the selection criteria have been recommended for S106 funding now<sup>15</sup>.
  - b. Four are not recommended for various reasons, including that they are unlikely to be deliverable within 18 months of a funding decision.
  - c. Five are not eligible for S106 funding – where appropriate, applicants are being pointed in the direction of other sources of funding.

See Table 4. A more detailed assessment can be found in Appendix B.

- 4.2 Officers are keen to see as many proposals as possible succeed in their bid for S106 funding. At the same time, officers take care and attention in applying the S106 selection criteria fairly and consistently across all wards and in making sure that S106 contributions are only used for the intended purposes. Regrettably, this means that it is not possible to recommend all proposals for S106 funding. Wherever possible, officers are pointing unsuccessful applicants in the direction of other sources of funding or advice.
- 4.3 As part of a fair and consistent approach to supporting all wards within the city, officers are also mindful of the need to work particularly closely with councillors in Petersfield ward at this time.
- a. Even though officers stand by the assessment of the proposals in this report, the potential for disappointment within the ward is recognised<sup>16</sup>.
  - b. Local councillors are keen to make sure that Petersfield has access to remaining unallocated open space and play contributions from developments formerly in Trumpington, which could be made available for local use.

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15. This includes the six proposals featured under recommendation 2.1 and the proposal for improvements to St Barnabas Court play area, covered by recommendation 2.2.

16. Only one of six open space and play proposals from Petersfield in the 2021 round has passed the S106 selection criteria and have been recommended for funding.

**Table 4:** Summary of assessments of S106 proposals in 2021 funding round

	Project	Officer assessment
A.	Alexandra Gardens play area: additional benches	Recommended
B.	Barnabas Court: play area improvements	Recommended within local S106 funding still available
C.	Coldham's Lane: green canopy tree pits for 15 street trees	Not S106 eligible. Referred for EIP funding
D.	Coldham's Lane play area / Coldham's Common: open space improvements	Recommended (in part)
E.	East Road: environmental improvements	Not S106 eligible. Referred for EIP funding
F.	Hinton Ave & Cavendish Ave: environmental improvements	Not S106 eligible. Referred for EIP funding
G.	Jesus Green: open space improvements	Recommended (in part)
H.	Parker's Piece & Christ Pieces: wildflower meadow & tree planting information boards	Recommended (in part)
I.	Midsummer Common community orchard: open space improvements	Recommended
J.	Mill Park: new play area	Not recommended
K.	Mill Road Cemetery: Gwydir Street entrance and path	Not recommended
L.	Donkey Common: skate park changes	Not recommended
M.	Petersfield area: window box scheme	Not S106 eligible. Referred for EIP funding
N.	Trumpington Meadows Country Park: Under-5s play area (and space for storage container)	Not recommended (and may not be eligible in part)
O.	Trumpington play groups: indoor play equipment	Not S106 eligible.
P.	Trumpington Recreation Ground: environmental enhancements	Recommended

- 4.4 S106 funding rounds, although useful, can set applicants and assessors on different sides, with officers having to critique which proposal meet the S106 selection criteria. Officers are keen to develop a greater dialogue to help the local councillors to help find a more constructive way forward to identify proposals that would be S106 eligible and achievable within 18 months.
- a. Recommendation 2.5 proposes how this would be applied to any ward with informal open space and play provision S106 contributions still available after the 2021 S106 funding round: this is discussed further in paragraph 4.7.
  - b. In the meantime, applying this approach to Petersfield, in particular, this means that:
    - i. Officers are in the process of clarifying how much local generic S106 funding for open space and play provision improvements might reasonably be freed up for local use now<sup>17</sup>;
    - ii. An informal open space S106 allocation (amount to be confirmed) is being recommended (see paragraph 2.2) for Petersfield in this 2021 round to help achieve local open space improvements in a ward where few eligible proposals of this type have previously come forward<sup>18,19</sup>.

This does not change the assessment of any of the proposals from Petersfield in the 2021 funding round. However, it is hoped that this offer will be recognised as a sign of the continuing commitment to support Petersfield, in the same way as all wards are supported.

- 4.5 Whilst recommendation 2.1.4 proposes a S106 funding allocation for Coldham's Lane play area: benches, bins noticeboards, officers are not yet in a position to recommend funding also for the amphitheatre

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17. This will help to clarify how much funding can be made available for the eligible proposal for some play equipment improvements at St Barnabas Court play area

18. ....apart from over £135,000 of S106 funding for main path improvements at Mill Road Cemetery, which was approved in 2015 and delivered in early 2019.

19. For example, eligible open space improvements in Petersfield might include new benches, bins and wildflower or tree-planting in a park or protected open space within the ward (e.g. Ainsworth Street Play Area, Donkey Common, Flower Street Play Area, Mill Road Cemetery, Petersfield, Ravensworth Gardens, St Matthew's Gardens, St Matthew's Piece and Shenstone Play Area).

landscaping proposal at Coldham's Lane play area. This is in the context of the on-going uncertainty about the budgetary requirements for the longstanding the Coldham's Common BMX track improvements project.

- a. In view of rising construction costs arising from the Coronavirus pandemic, there are questions about how far the project should go in improving play provision and open space improvements and whether the project would still be affordable within the current S106 budget of £85,000<sup>20</sup>.
- b. Recommendation 2.3 seeks to achieve greater clarity on likely BMX track improvement project costs now in order to identify the way forward.
  - i. If it transpires that sufficient eligible improvements project can be funded from within the existing S106 allocation, officers would update the Executive Councillor for Open Spaces, Sustainable Food and Community Wellbeing, the Opposition Spokes, the Scrutiny Committee Chair and the local councillors for Abbey and Romsey wards. If there is a consensus of opinion that the project can proceed, officers will then develop a business case for the scheme in the normal way.
  - ii. If, however, the likely costs of the BMX track improvement project are likely to require more than the current funding allocation (or if there is not a consensus on the way forward), officers will report back to this scrutiny committee on the options and the implications for the use of the existing S106 allocations.

4.6 In the 2020 S106 funding round, the (then) Executive Councillor agreed to allocate the limited amounts informal open space S106 funding from East Chesterton to three projects in the ward. Since then, the regular officer review of S106 allocations (mentioned in paragraph 3.7) has identified ways to adjust the funding to S106 projects that reflect the nature of those projects better. This has freed up more informal open space S106 funding from East Chesterton. As a result, there is an

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20. These questions about the level of BMX track and wider and open space improvements are likely to affect the levels of play provision and informal open space S106 funding which would be appropriate for the project.

opportunity to supplement the last year's limited allocations to the following three projects. This is covered by recommendation 2.4.

- a. Up to an additional £15,000 of informal open space S106 funding is requested to supplement the existing £70,000 budget for the Chesterton Rec wheelsports project. This is needed in part to fund the additional material needed to landscape or blend the existing half-pipe into the new track, but more notably because of the rise in supply and delivery costs post-Covid 19, which is affecting all of industry nationwide. (Please note that the Trumpington Rec wheelsports project in 2019 cost £80,000, so the new total for the Chesterton Rec project is similar). Councillor Bird has given her support for this proposal<sup>21</sup>.
- b. Up to an additional £10,000 of informal open space S106 funding is requested to supplement the existing £5,000 budget for the five Trees wildflower and tree-planting project. This is alongside separate grant funding from other sources that is being secured.
- c. Up to an addition £5,000 of informal open space S106 funding is requested to supplement the existing £5,900<sup>22</sup> budget for the Pearl Close play area & community garden improvements project. This would help to increase the levels of landscaping improvements possible.

4.7 Following the 2021 round, the levels of residual generic S106 funding for open space and space area improvements is likely to be dwindling and limited to a small number of wards. Paragraph 4.3 suggests that a more effective way to identify suitable projects for the remaining generic funds might be by developing greater dialogue with the local councillors. This could be a starting point for identifying proposals with greatest prospects of being eligible, rather than raising expectations unduly via an open application process. Recommendation 2.5 asks

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21. The proposals for increasing S106 funding for the Pearl Close and Five Trees projects were not included in the summary of proposals sent to councillors. This explains why no Member comments have been received in support of these two proposals.

22. Based on existing allocations of £2,900 (play) and £3,000 informal open space). It is unlikely that any further play provision S106 funds will become available locally.

officers to develop this approach further for the 2022 funding round for open space and place area S106 proposals<sup>23</sup>.

## **5. Implications**

### **Financial Implications**

- 5.1 The annual S106 funding rounds are a useful way of regularly allocating and spending S106 contributions to eligible project proposals: this helps to make appropriate and timely use of the S106 funds, to mitigate the impact of development and to reduce the risk of having to return to developers any contributions that go beyond their 'use-by' dates. The converse is that allocating funds to projects that do not meet the S106 selection criteria or which are less likely to be delivered in a timely manner increases the risk of challenge.
- 5.2 Following this report, officers will continue the focus on making sure that:
- a. there is greater clarity on how much unallocated funding is available in each ward (especially, in Petersfield with its revised boundaries);
  - b. the use of S106 contributions continue to be monitored and allocated to relevant projects (with on-going adjustments to allocations, as necessary)<sup>24</sup>;
  - c. projects keep on being brought to completion in good time and that a clear way forward is reached on long-standing projects (e.g., the Coldham's Common BMX track improvement project);
  - d. arrangements for future S106 funding rounds help to find suitable projects for remaining unallocated generic S106 funds in a constructive and effective way that engages councillors.

### **Staffing Implications**

- 5.3 The delivery of the open space and play area improvement projects, to which the Executive Councillor decides to allocate S106 funding, will be

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23. This will lead to different approaches for different contribution types, as appropriate. For example, the allocation of community facilities generic S106 funding will still be based on a grant application round because there is more funding available in a greater number of wards in Cambridge.

24. If it transpires that not all the S106 funding allocations requested are needed for the recommended projects, any underspend can be returned to the unallocated S106 fund for local use in future rounds.

managed within existing resources within the Streets & Open Spaces team.

- 5.4 The Coronavirus pandemic has brought significant implications and additional workload pressures. The team is completing the delivery of on-going projects featured in Appendix A. It remains to be seen whether further Covid-related pressures will arise in the coming months and whether this might affect on-going or new project delivery timescales. This will be monitored closely. Any significant delays will be reported back in future S106 reports to this committee.

### **Equality and Poverty Implications**

- 5.5 In the light of concerns raised about the earlier proposals for a Trumpington Rec Ground landscaping project, an equality impact assessment (EqIA) has already been completed for the refocused Trumpington Rec environmental improvements scheme.
- 5.6 In line with the approach to previous S106 funding rounds, EqIAs for other project proposals that are allocated S106 funding by the Executive Councillor will be developed as part of the business cases process (as appropriate<sup>25</sup>) and signed off by the relevant managers.

### **Net Zero Carbon, Climate Change & Environmental Implications Procurement Implications Community Safety Implications**

- 5.7 In line with the approach to previous S106 funding rounds, these considerations for project proposals that are allocated S106 funding by the Executive Councillor will be developed as part of the business case process (as appropriate) and signed off by the relevant managers.

## **6. Consultation and communication considerations**

- 6.1 The arrangements taken to publicise the funding available and application process are detailed in paragraph 3.5a. Those proposals recommended for S106 funding, if approved, will be subject to further consultation as part of the business case process (as appropriate).

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25. This applies especially to projects over £15,000.

## 7. Background papers

Background papers used in the preparation of this report:

- Open space and play area proposals (redacted) received during the 2021 S106 funding round, and related officer assessments;
- Equality Impact Assessment for Trumpington Recreation Ground environmental enhancements proposals
- ‘S106 Funding Round 2020: Play Areas and Open Spaces’ report to Planning and Transport Scrutiny Committee, 29 September 2020;
- ‘S106 Funding: Next Steps (Streets and Open spaces)’ report to Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee, 21 March 2019;
- ‘S106 Priority-Setting: Open Spaces, Play Areas, Public Real and Public Art’ report to Community Services Scrutiny Committee, 8 October 2015;
- Open Space and Recreation Strategy 2011, Cambridge City Council.
- Outdoor Play Investment Strategy 2016-21, Cambridge City Council
- Further information can be found on the [Developer contributions - Cambridge City Council](#) web page.

## 8. Appendices

- A. Open space and play provision S106-funded projects completed since 2018 or being implemented
- B. Assessment of open space and play area proposals in the 2021 S106 funding round

## 9. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact:

- For Assessment of open space and play area proposals:  
Alistair Wilson, Streets & Open Spaces Development Manager  
telephone: 01223 - 458514  
email: [alistair.wilson@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:alistair.wilson@cambridge.gov.uk)

- S106 funding round process and S106 funding availability:  
Tim Wetherfield, Urban Growth Project Manager  
Telephone: 01233 457313  
Email: [tim.wetherfield@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:tim.wetherfield@cambridge.gov.uk)

## Open spaces and play provision S106-funded projects completed since 2019 or being implemented

The S106 report to the Community Services Scrutiny Committee in March 2019 featured lists of completed S106 projects by ward since 2012. Here is an update on those projects that were identified at that time as ‘on-going’ plus other projects that have been allocated S106 funding since then (e.g., in the 2019 and 2020 generic S106 funding rounds).

Project	Progress
<b>CITY-WIDE PROJECTS</b>	
<b>‘Bee banks’ in large parks</b> Open spaces S106 funds: £5,000 (Allocated in 2019) Wards: East Chesterton, Coleridge, Trumpington and Market	We have consulted on one site at Logan’s Meadow to be delivered in the first phase of the Local Nature Reserve extension in Summer 2022. One other site is yet to be identified for delivery in 2022.
<b>NORTH AREA</b>	
<b>Alexandra Gardens play area improvements &amp; landscaping</b> Play provision S106 funds: £15,000 Open spaces S106 funds: £20,000 Ward: West Chesterton	Now complete
<b>Arbury Court play area: landscaping &amp; equipment</b> Play provision S106 funds: £15,000 Open spaces S106 funds: £15,000 (Allocated in 2019) Ward: Arbury	Now complete
<b>Bramblefields LNR: open space improvements</b> Open spaces S106 funds: £10,000 Ward: East Chesterton	Works to extend the successful Brownfield Habitat Creation and the creation of a reptile hibernaculum have been specified. The aim is to consult in Winter 2021 and deliver in Summer/Autumn 2022.

Project	Progress
<p><b>Bramblefields local nature reserve: more planting</b></p> <p>Open spaces S106 funds: £10,000 (Allocated in 2019) Ward: East Chesterton</p>	<p>Trees have been planted, with additional planting to be completed as part of above improvements.</p>
<p><b>Chesterton Rec Ground wheelsports park</b></p> <p>Play provision S106 funds: £70,000 (Increased allocation in 2020) Ward: East Chesterton</p>	<p>Seeking an additional £15,000 to proceed (see paragraph 4.5 and recommendation 2.4.1). If confirmed, aim to deliver in Spring 2022</p>
<p><b>Chestnut Grove Play Area: benches and bins</b></p> <p>Open spaces S106 funds: £7,500 (Allocated in 2019) Ward: West Chesterton</p>	<p>Completion expected in Autumn 2021.</p>
<p><b>Five Trees open space: wildflower and tree planting</b></p> <p>Open spaces S106 funds: £5,000 (Allocated in 2020) Ward: East Chesterton</p>	<p>Consultation currently live on the proposals for a new meadow and 'Tiny Forest'. Up to an additional £10,000 of S106 funding is now proposed (see paragraph 4.5 and recommendation 2.4.2). Aim to complete in Autumn 2022.</p>
<p><b>Jubilee Gardens: improved access, landscaping, planting and seating</b></p> <p>Open spaces S106 funds: £40,000 (Allocated in 2019) Ward: West Chesterton</p>	<p>Current public consultation ends on 30/9/21. One the findings have been taken into account; the works will be put out to tender. Works programmed to be completed in Spring 2022.</p>
<p><b>Logan's Meadow: provide more benches and bins</b></p> <p>Open spaces S106 funds: £7,500 (Allocated in 2019) Ward: East Chesterton</p>	<p>The Project is under development and linked to the Local Nature Reserve extension work planned for 2022.</p>

Project	Progress
<p><b>Pearl Close play area &amp; community garden improvements</b></p> <p>Play provision S106 funds: £2,900 Open spaces S106 funds: £3,000 (Allocated in 2020) Ward: East Chesterton</p>	<p>This Project has been scoped. A request for an additional £5,000 is proposed in paragraph 4.5 and recommendation 2.4.3.</p>
<b>EAST AREA</b>	
<p><b>Accordia open space improvements</b></p> <p>Open spaces S106 funds: £10,000 Ward: Petersfield</p>	<p>Now complete</p>
<p><b>Accordia open space: drainage swales &amp; biodiversity information boards</b></p> <p>Open spaces S106 funds: £5,000 (Allocated in 2020) Ward: Petersfield</p>	<p>The swale management has been agreed and will be implemented in Winter 2021/22.</p>
<p><b>Coldham's Common BMX track improvements</b></p> <p>S106 funds allocated: £85,000<sup>26</sup> Ward: Abbey</p>	<p>This has progressed with the completion of report that was commissioned to assess the feasibility different improvement options. The current budget uncertainties, given the impact of the Coronavirus on construction costs, is considered further in paragraph 4.5 and recommendation 2.3.</p>
<p><b>Coleridge parks and open spaces: tree planting</b></p> <p>Open spaces S106 funds: £13,000 (Allocated in 2020) Ward: Coleridge</p>	<p>28 new trees identified for Coleridge Recreation Ground in the first phase of planting this year at an estimate cost of £6k. More planting to be identified in the second phase of planting on 2021/22.</p>

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26. The Coldham's Common BMX track will be funded predominantly from play provision S106 funds, supported by some open spaces S106 funding for landscaping.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Progress</b>
<b>Hobson's Brook footbridge</b> Open spaces S106 funds: £69,000 Ward: Petersfield	Now complete
<b>Robert May Close play area: equipment and benches</b> Play provision S106 funds: £35,000 Open spaces S106 funds: £5,000 (Allocated in 2019) Ward: Coleridge	Now complete
<b>St Matthew's Piece play area improvements</b> Play provision S106 funds: £25,000 Open spaces S106 funds: £10,000 Ward: Petersfield	Now complete
<b>Thorpe Way Rec Ground: new footpath</b> Open spaces S106 funds: £15,000 Ward: Abbey	Currently being scoped. A public consultation may be required with delivery expected in Spring 2022.
<b>SOUTH AREA</b>	
<b>Cherry Hinton Hall grounds improvements - phase 2</b> Open spaces S106 funds: £400,000 Ward: Cherry Hinton	Now complete
<b>Cherry Hinton Hall play area improvements &amp; landscaping</b> Play provision S106 funds: £90,000 Open spaces S106 funding: £60,000 (Allocated in 2019) Ward: Cherry Hinton	Now complete
<b>Consort Way play area fencing</b> Open spaces S106 funds: £5,500 (Allocated in 2019) Ward: Trumpington	Now complete

<b>Project</b>	<b>Progress</b>
<p><b>Holbrook Road play area improvements</b></p> <p>Play provision S106 funds: £46,000 Open spaces S106 funds: £1,000 (Allocated in 2019) Ward: Queen Edith's</p>	Now complete
<p><b>Nightingale Avenue Rec Ground: new all-weather footpaths</b></p> <p>Open spaces S106 funds: £25,000 (Allocated in 2019 and 2020) Ward: Queen Edith's</p>	First section of footways has been completed. The aim is to complete the second section in late Winter 2021/22.
<p><b>Nightingale Ave Rec community garden: accessible poly-tunnel</b></p> <p>Open spaces S106 funds: £1,500 (Allocated in 2019) Ward: Queen Edith's</p>	Now complete
<p><b>Nightingale Avenue Rec Pavilion: landscaping</b></p> <p>Open spaces S106 funds: £10,000 (Allocated in 2020) Ward: Queen Edith's</p>	This landscaping work will take place once the Pavilion construction works have been completed.
<p><b>Trumpington Rec Ground trim trail</b></p> <p>Open spaces S106 funds: £20,000 Ward: Trumpington</p>	Now complete
<p><b>Trumpington Rec Ground wheelsports project</b></p> <p>Play provision S106 funds: £80,000 Ward: Trumpington</p>	Now complete
<b>WEST/CENTRAL AREA</b>	
<p><b>Jesus Green ditch: landscaping &amp; biodiversity improvements (plus ecological &amp; educational space)</b></p> <p>Open spaces S106 funds: £53,000 (plus £7,000) (Allocated in 2019) Ward: Market</p>	An outlined design has been finalised. Public consultation is planned for this autumn, to be followed by a planning application.

Project	Progress
<p><b>Jesus Green: new wildflower meadow</b></p> <p>Open spaces S106 funds: £18,000 (Allocated in 2019) Ward: Market</p>	<p>Now complete</p>
<p><b>Jesus Green: BBQ area &amp; signs, drinking water fountain</b></p> <p>Open spaces S106 funding: £12,500 (Allocated in 2019) Ward: Market</p>	<p>BBQ area and signage/bins completed. Water Fountains opened in July 2020 (on easing of Covid-19 restrictions) at Lammas Land and, Jesus Green.</p>
<p><b>Midsummer Common Community Orchard: drinking water fountain</b></p> <p>Open spaces S106 funding: £2,500 (Allocated in 2019) Ward: Market</p>	<p>Working with Cambridge Water to secure supply to point in orchard. Delivery expected in late 2021.</p>
<p><b>Parker's Piece paths: grass reinforcements</b></p> <p>Open spaces S106 funds: £75,000 Ward: Market</p>	<p>Now complete</p>
<p><b>Sheep's Green LNR: biodiversity bank improvements at Mill Pond</b></p> <p>Open spaces S106 funds: £22,000 (Allocated in 2019) Ward: Market</p>	<p>Currently reviewing the proposed location of this project to maximise the environmental enhancement. The project may be moved to adjacent ditches in the surrounding area.</p>

## Assessment of Open Space and Play Provision proposals in 2021 S106 round

Proposal:	<b>A. Alexandra Gardens play area: additional benches</b>
Ward:	West Chesterton
Applicant:	Local resident
Purpose:	To provide two additional wooden benches between the two existing benches for the play area. The play area has become more popular, and the current seating is now insufficient.
Councillor comments:	Councillor Bird (East Chesterton) has given her support for this proposal.
Officer assessment:	Landscaping and play area improvements at Alexandra Gardens were completed in 2020. Additional benches within the play area would be possible.  Funding recommendation: £5,000 (informal open space)

Proposal:	<b>B. St Barnabas Court play area improvements</b>
Ward:	Petersfield
Applicant:	Councillor Robertson
Purpose:	To enhance existing play equipment at the play area. For example, perhaps provide a larger roundabout, replace the single swing with a double, replace the seesaw with a small climbing frame.
Officer assessment:	As mentioned in paragraphs 3.7b, officers are currently clarifying how much play provision S106 funding from developments formerly in Trumpington ward might be available for play area improvements in Petersfield. This might be sufficient for a small number of pieces of new play equipment. This play area is small and therefore restricts the scope for additional play equipment. However, there may be scope to add play value with new features and design improvements.  Officers could also explore possibilities for making further small improvements to the play areas at Ravensworth Gardens (Petersfield), subject to local consultation.

	<p>This could make use of play provision S106 contributions from development around Cambridge Station, which could be freed up. These contributions are for play area improvements within the local vicinity.</p> <p>Funding recommendation: Amount to be clarified (play provision)</p>
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Proposal:	<b>C. Coldham's Lane green canopy</b>
Ward:	Romsey
Applicant:	Coldham's Lane Resident's Association
Purpose:	An improvement to the green canopy of Coldham's Lane (Sainsbury's roundabout - Beehive), by funding tree pits for 15 trees (gifted to the Residents' Association by the Queen's / Woodland Trust's 'Green Canopy').
Councillor comments:	Councillor Pounds strongly supports the proposals for the tree pits for trees along Coldham's Lane. "This is a community which suffers badly from heavy, fast-moving traffic and trees will considerably improve their environment in terms of pollution and also make traffic more aware that this is a residential area."
Officer assessment:	<p>Regrettably, this is not eligible for open spaces S106 funding. The proposal relates to street trees, not trees within parks &amp; open spaces.</p> <p>This proposal is being referred to the Project Team that administers the Council's Environment Improvement Programme (EIP) funding. It is also being referred to the Tree Team so that other sources of funding can be explored, and the scheme feasibility be determined. Often utilities and services in the highway constrain tree planting locations.</p>

Proposal:	<b>D. Coldham's Lane play area / Coldham's Common open space improvements</b>
Ward:	Romsey
Applicant:	Coldham's Lane Resident's Association
Purpose:	(i) Signage to prevent mopeds driving across Coldham's Common and to prevent idling on Coldham's Lane (Sainsbury's roundabout - Beehive); (ii) a green amphitheatre within the play area; (iii) benches, picnic benches and

	additional bins within the play area, and along the Chisholm Trail; and (iv) a community noticeboard within the play area.
Councillor comments:	Councillor Pounds strongly supports. “The number of residents in the area will shortly increase considerably with the development of the Timberworks site in Cromwell Road, including a large number of council tenants <sup>27</sup> . Alongside improvements to the play area and trees we are also working with the County Council for additional zebra crossings on Coldham’s Lane to the play area to facilitate safe access.”
Officer assessment:	<p>Proposal recommended in part: for benches, bins and community noticeboards for Coldham’s Lane play area. Funding recommendation: £10,000 (informal open space)</p> <p>Other elements of this proposal are not recommended.</p> <p>Proposal (i) is a revenue budget item, which can be addressed separately, not using S106 funding.</p> <p>Whilst proposal (ii) could be eligible for S106 funding, given the uncertainties around S106 funding requirements for the existing Coldham’s Common BMX track project, it is not possible to recommend S106 funding for this project at this stage. See paragraph 4.6. Recommendation 2.3 aims to clarify the situation in the coming months. Depending on the outcome, it may be possible for the amphitheatre proposal to be re-considered in due course.</p> <p>Again, in this context, the use of S106 monies to provide additional litter bins and benches on the Chisholm trail is not supported at this time. The applicant may wish to approach the project team managing the Chisholm trail.</p>

Proposal:	<b>E. East Road environmental improvements</b>
Ward:	Petersfield
Applicant:	Local resident
Purpose:	Seek funding to plant trees to provide shade for open play spaces/shrubs/bee beds on our council estate to create habitat for wildlife and improve our open spaces.
Councillor comments:	Councillor Robertson has queried why the proposal is not eligible when it includes trees/shrubs and habitat creation.

27. Officer note: mitigations for the impact of the recent developments in Romsey ward referred in this councillor comment are covered by specific S106 agreements.

Officer assessment:	Regrettably, this is not eligible for open spaces S106 funding. This site is not classified in the Open Space and Recreation Strategy 2011 as a protected open space. This proposal will be referred to the team that administers EIP funding.
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Proposal:	<b>F. Hinton Avenue and Cavendish Avenue environmental improvements</b>
Ward:	Queen Edith's
Applicant:	Local resident
Purpose:	To improve biodiversity through planting on Hinton Avenue, specifically on a strip of the triangle of green space on the intersection of Hinton Avenue and Cavendish Avenue.
Officer assessment:	Not eligible for open spaces S106 funding. The land forms part of the Highway, managed by the County Council. This site is not classified in the Open Space and Recreation Strategy 2011 as a protected open space. This proposal will be referred to the team that administers EIP funding.

Proposal:	<b>G. Jesus Green open space improvements</b>
Ward:	Market <sup>28</sup>
Applicant:	Park Street Residents' Association
Purpose:	To provide re-seeding and landscaping improvements to the north east corner of Jesus Green (bin enclosure) as well as seating/benches and additional trees.
Councillor comments:	Councillor Porrer has commented that both she and Councillor Bick support the proposal. "We support the improvements proposed to Jesus Green by Park Street Residents' Association around the North East corner and would urge the council to address the issue with bins as soon as possible via the new litter strategy if it cannot be provided by S106 funding."

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28. In relation to the three proposals in Market ward (shown here as G, H and I), Councillor Porrer has commented that, "We note that our green spaces within Market ward have been heavily used by residents from across the city during the pandemic, as well as by Market residents, so any improvements taken forward will benefit all users, as well as our returning visitors now that we are out of lockdown."

Officer assessment:	<p>Proposal recommended in part: seating, benches and additional trees. Funding recommendation: £13,000 (informal open space)</p> <p>Other elements of this proposal are not recommended.</p> <p>The litter bin components are not recommended as this amount to repairs and therefore ineligible for use of S106 monies. Items relating to bins and bin locations will be addressed in the forthcoming Litter Strategy. Nor can S106 funding be used for maintenance &amp; repairs (e.g., re-seeding).</p>
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Proposal:	<b>H. Parker's Piece &amp; Christ Pieces: wildflower meadow &amp; tree planting information boards</b>
Ward:	Market
Applicant:	Councillor Porrer and Councillor Bick
Purpose:	Information and interpretation signage for residents and visitors at the wildflower meadows and new tree planting sites on Parker's Piece and Christ's Pieces, to help inform park visitors of the rationale for the city's planting strategies. To explain the recent investments in green infrastructure, the new tree species and why these were chosen, plus an explanation on how these are managed.
Councillor comments:	In response to the suggestion that only S106-funded planting projects may be eligible for S106-funded information boards, Councillor Porrer has commented, "If the boards for wildflower meadows cannot be funded this way, we are very keen to explore other means of doing this. Boards explaining the tree planting would still be very welcome."
Officer assessment:	<p>Proposal recommended in part: Information boards relating to the S106-funded tree-planting project on Parker's Piece. Funding recommendation: £5,100 (informal open space) in addition to the £9,900 existing funding allocation.</p> <p>Information boards can only be S106-funded if they support S106-funded open space biodiversity projects. This does not include the wildflower meadow projects on Parker's Piece or Christ's Pieces, which have been funded from other sources. However, Streets &amp; Open Spaces aims to fund the boards for those other projects from revenue funding, if possible.</p>

Proposal:	<b>I. Midsummer Common community orchard: open space improvements</b>
Ward	Market
Applicant:	Friends of Midsummer Common
Purpose:	Improving seating, paths, and bins in Midsummer Common Community Orchard, some new raised beds, and improving irrigation arrangements in the orchard.
Councillor comments:	Councillor Porrer has commented that she and Councillor Bick support the proposal are grateful for all the work that the Friends have put into this special community area to make it such a great space. "The community orchard has been a welcome and well-used resource as more and more people use the common. We hope that the issues with water can be resolved in discussion with the Friends Group."
Officer assessment:	Proposal recommended in part: improved seating, bins, paths and new raised beds.  Other elements of this proposal are not recommended.  There are concerns relating to the installation and use of drinking water for irrigation and officers would welcome further discussion with the Friends Group about alternatives (e.g., the use of water butts instead). At this stage, however, this proposal is not ready to be considered <sup>29</sup> .

Proposal:	<b>J. Mill Park: New play area</b>
Ward:	Petersfield
Applicant:	Councillor Robertson
Purpose:	To provide the children in the Mill Park / Warren Close / Vinter Terrace area with a play park, with equipment suitable particularly for younger children.
Councillor comments:	Councillor Robertson points out that there is a local proposal to negotiate with Brookgate for them to hand back part of the land which the council owns and is leased to them.
Officer assessment:	This proposal is not recommended.  Following on from the S106 agreement for the CB1 Station Area Redevelopment, the Council entered into a licence

29. Further analysis will also be carried out by officers following the 2021 funding round, to establish the remaining levels of informal open space S106 funding availability.

	<p>agreement to transfer to Brookgate responsibility for the use of the land on which the councillor proposes a play park.</p> <p>This play area proposal would require a change to the current licence. The timescales required to negotiate such a change (assuming that Brookgate are willing to consider it), to consult locally (assuming that nearby residents raise no objections) and to source future maintenance funding are expected to take in excess of 18 months. In this context, the proposal is not yet ready to be considered.</p> <p>If this proposal were to become ready for consideration in due course, there is a concern that there could be insufficient time to deliver the project using time-limited local S106 contributions.</p> <p>Local S106 funding has already been used to improve play areas in the vicinity and a local public art project is also being developed to support informal/creative play in the locality. The City Council has allocated up to £90,000 of S106 public art contributions to develop the 'Art of Play' public art project in the CB1 area.</p> <p>The proposal to improve the nearby play area at St Barnabas Court is recommended for approval.</p>
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Proposal:	<b>K. Mill Road Cemetery: Gwydir Street entrance and path</b>
Ward:	Petersfield
Applicant:	Mill Road Cemetery Working Group
Purpose:	(i) To create a new properly-surfaced path in keeping with a Grade II listed cemetery to connect the unofficial gate into cemetery with the main north to south path; and (ii) to eliminate other desire paths from the Gwydir Street entrance to the main path and protect the grassland of this county wildlife site.
Councillor comments:	Councillor Robertson believes that the footpath could be completed with 18 months. He points out that, via regular meetings of the cemetery's stakeholders, there have been positive discussion with the Diocese and with Streets & Open Spaces. It was extremely beneficial that that main paths project were completed before Covid because the volume of people using the cemetery for exercise grew enormously during lockdown and has continued at a high level.

Officer assessment:	<p>This proposal is not recommended. There are concerns that it is not yet ready to be considered, not least because a Faculty will be needed for this project from the Diocese.</p> <p>The previous main footpath improvement project at Mill Road Cemetery (over £135,000 of S106 funding) took three years to complete, in part because of the time needed for Faculty approval.</p> <p>When S106 funding for the main footpath improvements was agreed in October 2015, the committee report ruled out the possibility of improving secondary and cut-through paths (given the risk of laying new surfacing on top of unmarked graves). The applicants would need to clarify how the new proposal would mitigate this risk and how this potential added complexity might affect the timescales for securing new Faculty approval.</p> <p>Whilst the dialogue within the Mill Road Cemetery Working Group is useful, local consultation would also be needed with owners of land adjacent to the Gwydir Street entrance.</p> <p>By the time that this project proposal is ready to be considered, there is a concern that the time-limited local S106 funds currently available might be getting too close to their ends dates.</p>
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Proposal:	<b>L. Donkey Common: changes to skate park</b>
Ward:	Petersfield
Applicant:	Cam Skate
Purpose:	To remove the existing skate ramps on Donkey Common and introduce a new, flat ground smooth surface for skating. This would enable flexible community use, including wheeled sports and community events. Also seek additional trees and landscaping. Estimated cost: £70,000-£100,000.
Councillor comments:	<p>Councillor Robertson has commented that:</p> <p>The existing provision is badly designed, and under-used as a result. He believes that a better designed skate park at Donkey Common would attract users from this part of the city, particularly younger ones who are less likely to travel across to the other sites.</p>

	<p>That said, Councillor Robertson has raised concerns about the amount of concrete surfacing in the latest Cam Skate proposals. The biodiversity issues would also need to be scrutinised. He is surprised about the proposals for trees and landscaping and would question their appropriateness.</p> <p>At an on-site meeting he attended with officers &amp; Cam Skate in 2019, no increase in the hard surface area was proposed.</p>
Officer assessment:	<p>This Cam Skate proposal is not recommended.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are concerns about the loss of grass to concrete and creating hard surfaces close to established trees.</li> <li>• The proposal new facility would join the path directly, with limited segregation from other path users on a busy corner (a considerable safety risk).</li> <li>• A £70,000+ proposal would not be affordable locally from the appropriate S106 contribution types (e.g., play provision as well as informal open space).</li> <li>• There are also questions about whether this project would represent an effective use of resources given in the context of the Jesus Green skate park, Accordia scooter park facility (for younger children) in Petersfield, as well as the existing and planned wheelsports projects (e.g., at Trumpington Rec Ground and Chesterton Rec Ground).</li> </ul> <p>The officer who attended the on-site meeting with Councillor Robertson in 2019 confirms that Cam Skate's proposals now are different from their earlier ideas for simplifying the existing facility, removing ramps, resurfacing and replacing with a handful of small steel bar/bench skate features.</p>

Proposal:	<b>M. Petersfield window box scheme</b>
Ward:	Petersfield
Applicant:	Councillor Robertson
Purpose:	To provide window boxes and plantings beds in the streets where almost all houses have no front gardens.
Councillor comments:	Councillor Robertson takes the point that this proposal would not qualify for informal open space S106 funding. He thinks that this is a great pity given the great shortage of such space in Petersfield ward and wonders whether we should look at the criteria in that light for future funding.

Officer assessment:	Regrettably, this is not eligible for open spaces S106 funding, which is about improvements to parks and protected open spaces within the city. This proposal will be referred to the Project Team that administers the Council's Environment Improvement Programme (EIP) funding.
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Proposal:	<b>N. Trumpington Meadows Country Park: Under-5s play area (and space for storage container</b>
Ward:	Trumpington
Applicant:	Trumpington Meadows Delivery and Action Group
Purpose:	Seeks permission to maintain and make use of an open space at the country park, owned by the council but currently unused and over-grown. This would be for an under 5's play area with wooden frame baby & toddler swings, picnic tables as well as 2-3 child size Teepee tents for 'community' play. Additionally, a 20-foot secure storage container would be installed for desperately needed storage requirements by the 1st Trumpington Scouts.
Councillor comments:	Councillor Flaubert has commented "The application should be extended to older children range to benefit more families in the community. Given that the area is near to the nature reserve area, I would suggest wooden play equipment."
Officer assessment:	<p>This proposal is not recommended.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council is the leaseholder of this site. Any material change to the use and function would need consent from the freeholder. There are also concerns relating to risk and liability associated with activities set out in the project.</li> <li>• Play areas have already been provided within the new developments on the Cambridge Southern fringe.</li> <li>• The applicants may also need to discuss their ideas for a storage container on the land with the Planning Service.</li> <li>• The applicants may also wish to contact the Trumpington Residents Association in respect of storage and facilities' that could support the 1<sup>st</sup> Trumpington Scout, Beavers and Cubs. The 2022 community facilities S106 funding round will particularly encourage bids from those organisations running community meeting spaces for improving storage facilities for their users.</li> </ul>

Proposal:	<b>O. Trumpington play groups: indoor play equipment</b>
Ward:	Trumpington
Applicant:	Councillor Robertson Connected Lives, Cambridgeshire Hub
Purpose:	New furniture and play equipment for a newly established 'Hands-on-the-Circle' (HONC) stay-and-play group in Trumpington (at Trumpington Village Hall), plus improved play equipment for an existing stay-and-play group in Trumpington (at Clay Farm Centre).
Councillor comments:	County Councillor Slatter is "sorry to see this is not eligible."
Officer assessment:	Regrettably, this proposal is not eligible for play provision (or community facilities) S106 funding. This is not an outdoor, free-to-use public play area (and the equipment would not be available for use by children in the wider community).

Proposal:	<b>P. Trumpington Rec Ground: environmental enhancements</b>
Ward:	Trumpington
Applicant:	Council Streets & Open Spaces team
Purpose:	To implement a range of biodiversity measures as well as providing an amenity to the widest possible community. Enhancements around the edge of the rec ground include: planting 20 trees, 5 bee banks (recycled timber /stone), intermittent earth mounds/rills, benches, reclaimed/recycled boulders and access points (with lockable gate).
Councillor comments:	County Councillor Slatter has commented that she is "very pleased to see this proposal making progress. Happy with constructive suggestions being made by the team in conversation with councillors. Good local support."
Officer assessment:	Since an earlier proposal in the 2020 funding round was deferred, officers have developed the underlying concepts further, in consultation with local councillors, to ensure that it is focussed on mitigating the impact of development. An equality impact assessment has also been developed to ensure the fairness of the revised project proposals. The project is now ready to be considered and would be eligible for S106 funding. Recommended funding: Open space S106 funds: £70,000.

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