



Item:

**S106 FUNDING PROPOSAL AT
ABBNEY SPORTS CENTRE**

To:

Councillor Anna Smith, Executive Councillor for Communities

Environment & Community Scrutiny Committee

04/10/2018

Report by: Ian Ross, Sport and Recreation Manager

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Wards affected: Abbey and Romsey wards

Not a Key Decision

1. Executive Summary

To supplement the specific S106 contributions collected for the on-going upgrade of floodlighting at the existing artificial sports pitch at Abbey Sports Centre with generic outdoor sports S106 contributions (instead of using Council revenue funding).

2. Recommendations

The Executive Councillor is recommended to approve the use of up to £30,000 of generic allocations of generic outdoor sports S106 contributions from Abbey ward in order to supplement specific S106 contributions for upgrading the floodlighting for the artificial pitch at Abbey Sports Centre.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Council uses developer contributions to mitigate the impact of the local development by providing or improving local facilities. An overview of the Council's approach to S106 funding can be found at www.cambridge.gov.uk/our-approach-to-s106. Decisions on the use of outdoor sports S106 contributions (where this has not already been

stipulated within S106 reports) are made by the Executive Councillor following scrutiny by this Committee.

- 3.2 Changes to the official regulations governing the use of S106 funding this mean that, since April 2015, the Council now collects specific S106 contributions, which stipulate where and how those contributions will be used. Specific contributions cannot be used for any other purpose. A report to the Community Services Scrutiny Committee in June 2016 identified sports facilities for which specific S106 contributions were being (and/or could be) from major developments. This included the project to upgrade floodlighting for existing artificial sports pitch.
- 3.3 The Council has already secured and received around £35,500 from a specific S106 contribution for this particular floodlighting upgrade project from the student accommodation development at 315-349 Mill Road (planning ref. 14/1496/FUL). Officers have already developed a business case for taking this project forward this autumn, which has been signed off by the Council's officer-level Capital Programme Board. A summary of the project can be found in the Appendix. This project is now being taken forward.
- 3.4 The overall project costs for the floodlighting upgrade are expected to be £65,000. Officers have currently assigned money from existing revenue budgets to top up the £35,500 specific contribution to the required amount. However the Council's Developer Contributions Monitoring Unit has advised that:
 - a. these top-up costs of up to £30,000 would be eligible for the use of generic S106 outdoor sports contributions (agreed before April 2015) from Abbey ward, instead;
 - b. as well as making use of specific S106 contributions for the floodlighting upgrade, it is also important to make sure that the Council is making timely use of these local, generic contributions (which were received between 2014 and 2017).

4. Implications

- 4.1 **Financial Implications:** Using up to £30,000 of generic outdoor sports contributions from Abbey ward, instead of money from existing revenue budgets would enable the Council both to make more effective use of

the revenue funding as well as appropriate and timely use of the generic S106 funding. Current indications are that this would still leave more than £40,000 of generic outdoor sports S106 funding available from Abbey ward.

4.2 **Staffing Implications:** None from this report.

4.3 **Equality and Poverty implications:** None arising from the recommended use of generic S106 contributions towards this project. No particular equality impacts were identified as part of the consideration of the business case for this project.

4.4 **Environmental implications:** The floodlighting upgrade will deliver an environmental saving over the current halide bulb provision of around 42,500kwh and 15 tonnes of Co2 per annum.

4.5 **Procurement implications:** None. This does not affect the contract, which has already been awarded.

4.6 **Community Safety implications:** None.

5. **Consultation and communication considerations:** None

6. **Background papers**

Background papers used in the preparation of this report:

- “Interim approach to specific S106 funding: follow-up” report to the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 30 June 2016.

7. **Appendices**

Floodlights upgrade for artificial pitch at Abbey Sports Centre

8. **Inspection of papers**

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

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email: ian.ross@cambridge.gov.uk.

Floodlights upgrade for artificial pitch at Abbey Sports Centre

1. This project is to replace and upgrade existing floodlighting on the artificial pitch at the Abbey Leisure Complex. The existing lights are dated and now becoming obsolete, as parts for the control gears and ballasts of the floodlights become increasingly difficult and expensive to find and install.
2. The project will replace the old metal halide fittings with new energy efficient LED lighting heads, new control gear, and lighting columns throughout, which fully meet the current Lux level specifications for various sports using the artificial playing pitch.
3. Light levels over 75lux are required for football and levels of 200lux are required for Hockey training. The new lighting will provide a base lux level coverage of 290lux average, with the system capable of reaching up to 400lux if required.
4. There is a need for better lighting on the entrance to the artificial pitch when exiting at night after the main lights have been switched off which the new system will provide along with the ability to only part switch the Astroturf lights on if only half a pitch is hired and required.
5. New columns will be installed that hinge at the base, which allows them to be lowered and not require the separate hire of a cherry picker and specialist training to access the lamps every time a fault occurs.
6. All electrical switch gear will be mounted in the base of each lighting column, with a central control unit having the ability for wireless communication to switch the lights on and off and set pre-set light levels and pitch coverage options.
7. The LED lights will also be more energy efficient saving around 42,500Kwh per annum and saving an estimated 15 tonnes of Co2 emissions.
8. The budget for this project is £65,000. The project is already under way (it started within the last couple of months) and is expected to be completed by the end of October 2018.