

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Report Environmental Projects Manager
by:
To: East Area Committee on 15 April 2011

Wards: Abbey, Coleridge, Petersfield, Romsey

Environmental Improvements Programme

1.0 DECISIONS TO BE MADE

NONE

2.0 BUDGET

Please see over.

EAST AREA COMMITTEE

Environmental Improvements Programme 2010-2011

Total Budget Available to 31/3/11 **£436,199**

	COMPLETE	Total Spend Previous Years £	Forecast Spend 2010/11 £	TOTAL SCHEME COST £	Approved Budget £
ADOPTED PROJECTS					
Mill Road Hanging Baskets 2010	✓	0	7,210	7,210	7,210
Cherry Hinton Road Shop Forecourts		5,650	64,350	70,000	70,000
Rope Walk	✓	41,699	4,042	45,741	47,000
Riverside Conflict Reduction Scheme		60,000	60,000	120,000	120,000
Cavendish Road		26	14,974	15,000	15,000
Staffordshire Street Verge Parking		2,117	82,883	85,000	85,000
Devonshire Road Cycle Bridge Planting	✓	41	17,459	17,500	17,500
Perne Road Pedestrian Crossing	✓	900	64,100	65,000	65,000
Highway Verges Scheme		0	93,500	93,500	93,500
Mill Road Cemetery	✓	0	5,000	5,000	5,000
Romsey Planting		0	22,000	22,000	22,000
Rustat Road Footpath	✓	0	10,000	10,000	10,000
Burnside Toad Crossings	✓	0	2,500	2,500	2,500
total cost to implement adopted projects			448,018		
Uncommitted Budget				-11,819	
SCHEMES UNDER DEVELOPMENT*					
		Total Spend to Date £	Total Estimated Cost £		
Ashbury Close to Golding Rd		0	47,500		
total estimated cost of projects in development		0	47,500		
Uncommitted Budget				-59,319	

*Projects agreed by Cttee to be investigated, but no budget committed. Costs shown are estimated and will depend on detailed design and site investigation. N.B. The estimated costs shown above are merely given as a rough guide until the projects can be designed and costed.

3.0 UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF EXISTING SCHEMES

3.1 Riverside conflict reduction and environmental improvement scheme

This scheme is currently under construction and is 40% complete. Issues with late delivery of granite materials and amendments required to design levels have delayed delivery. The scheme is due to be complete by early June.

3.2 Cherry Hinton Road Shop Forecourts

This scheme continues to require considerable Officer time to deliver. I am however pleased to report that the eleven bespoke agreements with the numerous property owners and lessees have now all been signed, a total of thirty two signatures.

We are now able to instruct our Contractor to commence construction work as soon as possible. This is expected by the end of the month following a lead in period for ordering materials.

3.3 Perne Road

The provision of this new pedestrian crossing is now complete.

3.4 Staffordshire Street

Diversions works to utility apparatus by BT and Virgin Media are currently underway. The construction of the new parking bays will then commence and are expected to be complete by the end of May.

3.5 Romsey Planting

Work to improve the planting areas in the Romsey area is currently underway, with the majority of the replacement planting due to take place in the autumn.

3.6 Greville Rd Verges

The traffic regulation order and associated lining are complete for this scheme, including the installation of the bollards along both verges. The repairs and reseeding of the verges are currently under way and are expected to be complete shortly.

3.7 Birdwood/Chalmers Verges

Construction work is due to start on 11th April to install the verge strengthening system and is expected to be complete by early May.

3.8 Rawlyn Road Verges

The road widening at either end of Rawlyn Road is now complete.

3.9 Galfrid Road Verges

The provision of blockwork surfaced layby at the corner of Galfrid Road and Whitehill Road is now complete.

3.10 Rustat Road Footpath Extension

This scheme is now complete. The replacement hedge will be planted in the autumn.

3.11 Burnside Toad Crossings

These are now complete.

3.12 Mill Road Cemetery

The £5000 grant has been provided.

3.13 Mill Road/Cavendish Road

The scheme to improve the landscaping at the junction of Mill Road and Cavendish Road has been delayed due to the need for a lease agreement with the shoe shop owner for the provision of a disabled parking space on City Council owned land. A signed agreement has not yet been received, but this is expected by the end of the month following further work with legal services and correspondence with the shop owner. Construction work will then commence soon after.

5.0 NEW SCHEMES IN DEVELOPMENT FOR ADOPTION

A new Environmental Improvement Programme has been introduced for the next four years.

Members of the Committee, attendees and local residents are asked to provide suggestions for new schemes. A suggestions sheet, appended to this report, has been provided for the submission of ideas.

Any suggested schemes must comply with the eligibility criteria, which is attached in appendix two of this report.

6.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

APPENDIX 1 - New EIP Programme Suggestions Sheet

APPENDIX 2 - EIP Eligibility Criteria

7.0 IMPLICATIONS

- a) **Equal Opportunities Implications:** These are taken into account on individual schemes.
- b) **Environmental Implications:** All of the projects seek to bring about an improvement in the local environment.
- c) **Community Safety:** This has been included as one of the assessment criteria agreed by Committee and is considered on each project.

8.0 INSPECTION OF PAPERS

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

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APPENDIX 2

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA - as agreed by Executive Councillor (Environment) on 18 March 2003 with amendments agreed 22 March 2005

The essential criteria for consideration of funding of Environmental Improvement works are:

- Schemes should have a direct, lasting and noticeable improvement to the appearance of a street or area.
- Schemes should be publicly visible and accessible.
- Schemes must have the owners consent if on private land – unless there are exceptional circumstances by which Area Committee may wish to act unilaterally and with full knowledge and responsibility for the implication of such action.
- Schemes must account for future maintenance costs.

Desirable criteria – potential schemes should be able to demonstrate some level of:

- Active involvement of local people.
- Benefit for a large number of people.
- ‘Partnership’ funding.
- Potential for inclusion of employment training opportunities.
- Ease and simplicity of implementation.
- Potential for meeting key policy objectives (e.g. improving community safety or contributing to equal opportunities).

Categories of scheme ineligible for funding:

- Where a readily available alternative source of funding is available.
- Revenue projects.
- Schemes that have already received Council funding (unless it can be clearly demonstrated that this would not be ‘top up’ funding).
- Works that the City or County Council are under an immediate obligation to carry out (e.g. repair of dangerous footways)
- Play areas (as there are other more appropriate sources of funding including S106 monies)

The following categories of work were agreed as being eligible for funding by the Area Committees:

- Works in areas of predominately council owned housing
- Works to construct lay-bys where a comprehensive scheme can be carried out which not only relieves parking problems but achieves environmental improvements.