



Grounds and Environmental Services Committee

Date: 5th September 2022

Title: Vandyke Road Capital Expenditure Projects

Purpose of the Report:

To receive an update on the possible projects in the Vandyke Road area using the recently received Capital Expenditure from the sale of land.

Contact Officer:

Ian Haynes, Head of Grounds and Environmental Services

Corporate Objective/s	To provide great public open spaces with varied opportunities for sport and leisure and to exceed expectations in delivering cemetery and allotment services.	
Implications:		
Financial	Yes	£140,000 of potential investment into the Vandyke Road area.
Human Resources		None
Operational/Service delivery		None
Procedural/Legal		None
Risk/Health and Safety		None
Environmental Aims		None

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

Should the Grounds and Environmental Services Committee be minded:-

- 1.1 To note the report.
- 1.2 To recommend to Council the funding of the following five projects;
 - i) Installation of adult outdoor gym £45,000.
 - ii) Improvement to Vandyke Road Playing Field play area £25,000.
 - iii) Creation of a newly constructed footpath £20,000.
 - iv) Creation of a new compound within Vandyke Road Cemetery £30,000.
 - v) Contribution to creating a new community woodland circa £20,000.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At its meeting held 25 July 2022, the Policy and Finance Committee was advised that according to legislation, there were only three possible uses for the capital receipts from the sale of a small parcel of land at Vandyke Road to Central Bedfordshire Council. The Committee agreed the preference was for capital expenditure:

RESOLVED:

- (i) **To note the report.**
(ii) **To endorse that the Grounds and Environmental Services Committee consider proposed projects for capital expenditure from capital receipts, with at least a proportion of funds used for improvements in the Vandyke Road area. Any recommendations to be taken to Council for authorisation.**

- 2.2 Officers have reviewed the following capital expenditure projects for improving assets owned by the Town Council in the Vandyke Road area.

3. POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS

- 3.1 Installation of an adult outdoor gym – The Town Council already has four outdoor adult gyms, with the nearest one to Vandyke Road Playing Field being at Pages Park. Maximum project value £45,000.
- 3.2 Improvements to Vandyke Road Playing Fields play area – First installed almost eight years ago, a well used play area. Consideration of fencing the existing play area and the addition of increasingly challenging equipment. Maximum project value of £25,000.
- 3.3 The creation of a newly constructed footpath across this public open space. The estimated costs for this project are in the region of £20,000 based on creating a 210m long Hoggin footpath that will be 2m wide.
- 3.4 The sale of the land has removed our temporary storage area for surplus soil from our grave digging activities. The creation of a new compound within Vandyke Road Cemetery, utilising an already existing dropped kerb to the rear of the old Mortuary. Maximum project value of £20,000.
- 3.5 Contribution to creating a new community woodland circa £30,000. Officers will look to get additional funding from the Tree Council

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Should it be agreed that these projects be funded to enhance town council assets thereabouts (Vandyke Road Cemetery/Vandyke Road open space), the committee is asked to recommend these projects to Council.

End.