

LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE

1. External Grant Funding:

- 1.1 The Parish Council is keen to establish a joint funding approach to the expansion of Rivermead skate park to include a pump track.
- 1.2 Funding outside of the Precept budget can include local fundraising, Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)/S.106 and grant funding. Funding could be sought for the installation costs of an accessible wheels track but also for related projects that would provide added value such as bike loan or bike repair schemes.

2. Funding options

- 2.1 *Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)/S.106*: West Swindon Parish is allocated £9,246.58 for play facilities in the Westlea area.
- 2.2 *Local fundraising* by Cllr Gattapur and Cllr Makofu totals £3834.

Grant Funding Opportunities:

- 2.3 There are a range of grant funding opportunities listed below. It is likely that the funding strategy for the pump track may be more successful if targeting small amounts from multiple providers as all grant funding organisations are over-subscribed. This can be more challenging as grant decisions are made at different times and reporting requirements can vary.
- 2.4 Many funders have responded to the pandemic and many open funds are now orientated towards or prioritizing projects that link to community resilience, community networks, community support and skills development. This has narrowed options for projects like the pump track. Similarly, in order to be successful, the pump track will need to link with grant funders priorities.

Key Funding Opportunities

- Wiltshire & Swindon Community Grants – Small Grants – open to applications
- Police & Crime Commissioner Grants – open to applications – linked to the above; Application would need to link with the priority to *Prevent crime and keep people safe*
- Reaching Communities - open to applications – Grants over £10,000. Process takes 3-5 months to complete
- Landfill Grants – next funding round decision July then October. Advised up to £20,000 available.
- Sport England/British Cycling – possible option, awaiting clarification.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 The work undertaken to date has identified that the pump track budget should be set in the region of £95,000. The Play Renewal Fund for 21/22 is available subject to the additional acquisition of external funding. If the Parish Council is able to bring together £30,000 in external grant funding, this alongside S.106 funding and local fundraising would meet 50% of the overall costs of the project.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 That the Committee consider the options for funding and approves that applications are undertaken to support funding for the pump track project.

Paula Harrison
Parish Manager