

SUBJECT: USE OF S106 PLAY FUNDING IN WYESHAM

MEETING: SINGLE MEMBER DECISION

DATE TO BE CONSIDERED: 13th MARCH 2019

WARDS AFFECTED: WYESHAM, MONMOUTH

1. PURPOSE

To seek member approval for the use of Section 106 play funding in Wyehsam, Monmouth.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Section 106 funding received for play provision on the former Wyesham Infants School site be used to provide additional play equipment at the existing established play areas at Tudor Road and/or at Woodland View.

3. KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 As part of the Section 106 Agreement for the redevelopment of the site of the former Wyesham Infants School, the developer made a contribution of £17,500 for the provision of a small children's playground on part of the site.
- 3.2 The development was completed before the play area was installed and, as part of the landscaping works for the site, a footpath was installed and tree planting undertaken on that part of the site proposed for the new play equipment.
- 3.3 Due to the very limited size of the site on which it was proposed to install play equipment, officers wrote to the developer requesting agreement to use the funding on one of the other play areas in Wyesham namely Tudor Road and Woodland View. Woodland View is a well-established play area and Tudor Road has recently been upgraded with a range of new equipment.
- 3.4 Unfortunately, no reply was received to that initial request and two further requests have been made in writing by the Council's solicitor again with no response having been received from the developer.
- 3.5 Under the terms of the Section 106 Agreement, the money for the play provision has to be used by 14th May this year, failing which it has to be returned to the developer. Officers want to avoid having to do that, as the significance of the Tudor Road site as a neighbourhood play area will increase in the foreseeable future when the allocated housing site served off Tudor Road is developed.

3.6 The local member and the immediate neighbouring properties have been consulted and they are in favour of the recommendation in this report.

4.0 OPTIONS APPRAISAL

The options are to:

- 1. take no action and return the money to the developer with no additional play provision;
- 2. install a limited amount of play equipment on the originally approved site;
- use the funding to enhance the established play areas at Tudor Road and Woodland View, to which all children living in Wyesham have open access.

5. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Please see evaluation criteria set out in **Appendix A**.

6. REASONS

- 6.1 To ensure the Section 106 funding received from the developer is used effectively to enhance fixed play provision in Wyesham.
- 6.2 Some of the Section 106 funding received from the same development has been used, in partnership with Transition Monmouth, to enhance the existing Claypatch woodland area opposite the former school site and this provides excellent informal play and recreation opportunities for children living in the locality.

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The S106 capital funding identified in this report has been received to improve play facilities in the local area, so the works proposed will not impact on existing capital or revenue budgets.

8. WELL BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS (INCORPORATING EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABILITY, SAFEGUARDING & CORPORATE PARENTING)
See attached at Appendix B

9. CONSULTEES

Cabinet Members Local Member

Section 106 Working Group Monmouth Town Council

Senior Leadership Team Local Residents

Assistant Head of Finance/Deputy S151 Officer

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

None

11. AUTHOR

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