

Northern Area Committee

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REPORT

RELEASE OF "R2" FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS IN AMESBURY FOR NEW RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

1. Report Summary:

The purpose of the report is to seek Members' approval to release developers' contributions associated with new residential development in Amesbury and collected under the terms of policy R2 of the adopted Salisbury District Plan.

Committee approval for the release of funds is required for the proposed project because the amount sought exceeds the £5000 limit for monies to be released by officers under delegated powers.

2. The Proposal

Amesbury Town Council has requested that the available contributions be used to pay for a new recreational facility on land in Holders Road. The proposed site has been leased by Amesbury Town Council from Wiltshire County Council. This lease agreement is for 99 years as from 1st May 1989. The work will involve the erection of a Youth Shelter and a mesh Ball Wall.

Three quotes were obtained for these facilities and the preferred supplier of the Town Council is Wicksteed Leisure at a cost of £14,815. This was not the cheapest quotation, however it was selected because:

- They offered the best price for an all in package of the preferred design by the Town Council.
- The quote also included surfacing, which the lowest quote did not account for.
- This company has been used before by the Town Council and found to be acceptable.

The lowest quote was £11,230.00 but the broken down figures for the other two quotes show that the surfacing would cost about £5,000. Therefore, if this sum were added to the lowest quote it would amount to more than that of the preferred supplier.

Three other quotes were obtained for boundary treatment. The Town Council's preferred supplier is Woodford Forest and Landscape Ltd priced at £2,373.02. This was the cheapest quotation provided and has been proven as a reliable contractor on previous works for the Town Council. After studying the quotes provided, we concur with the Town Council's choice of contractors.

It is considered that the proposed scheme is an appropriate use of 'R2' contributions. In accordance with policy R2 it will provide an outdoor recreation facility that is publicly available for use by children and teenagers. The Town Council have designed this facility for all age ranges to use.

3. R2 funds available

Financial contributions have been received from a number of separate residential developments in the town. There is approximately £129,108.64 (plus accrued interest) of children and youth adult money available for expenditure on appropriate off-site recreation facilities because the relevant developments have started. Some of this money has been allocated to projects but the majority remains available.

The total cost to purchase and install the equipment is £17,188.02 (excluding VAT). The Town Council has requested that the available R2 monies be released for this scheme.

4. Recommendation

- I It is recommended that £17,188.02 of the 'R2' contributions be released by this Council to fund the recreation scheme outlined above, and that the release of the monies be made following receipt of invoices for the works undertaken.

Background Papers:

Salisbury District Local Plan Adopted June 2003 Policy R2.

Implications:

Legal: None.

Financial: There are no budgetary considerations for the Council as the works will be 100% financed from Developer Contributions.

Personnel: None.

Environmental: None.

Human Rights: None at this stage.

Council's Core values: Excellent Service; Fairness and Equality; open, learning Council and a willing partner; Communicating with the public; Supporting the disadvantaged.

Consultation Undertaken: This proposal is being put forward by the Town Council.

Parish Affected: Amesbury Town Council.