

## Report

**Report subject:** Release of "R2" Financial Contributions In Mere For New Recreational Facilities

**Report to:** Western Area Committee

**Date:** 13 October 2005

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### Report Summary:

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

Committee approval for the release of funds is required for the proposed project because the total amount sought exceeds the £30,000 limit for monies to be released by officers under delegated powers.

### The proposal

Mere Parish Council have requested that the available contributions be used towards payment for a new pavilion for the Recreation Ground extension site (formerly Mere Duchy Middle School). The pavilion would be positioned between the cricket pitch and the bowling green. Architects (Quartley Hodges Hood) have already completed a site survey, feasibility study, adaptations, formulation of specification and tendering exercise.

Three tenders were obtained for the project as follows:

Rigg Construction	£174,572.00 plus VAT
P F Parsons Ltd	£178,840.62 plus VAT
Castleway	£214,437.07 plus VAT

Architect fees – Quartley Hodges Hood at a cost of £9,500.00 plus VAT

As they were above budget with the tender figures, Quartley Hodges Hood asked the two lowest contractors to put forward suggestions for savings. P F Parsons put forward the possibility of a £45,000.00 saving and Rigg Construction £31,839.00.

This would bring Parsons tender figure down to **£133,841.62 plus VAT**. This sum added to the Architect's professional fees, brings the total to **£143,341.62 plus VAT**.

The parish council have been allocated **£87,000.00** from the Community Initiatives budget to go towards payment for the scheme and they also have **£23,000.00** from their own funds. This comes to a total of



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**£110,000.00**. Therefore, deducting this from Parsons figure means that the parish council need to apply for **£33,341.62** from R2 funds.

It is considered that the proposed scheme is an appropriate use of 'R2' contributions. In accordance with policy R2 it will provide outdoor recreation facilities that are publicly available for use by children, teenagers and adults. The parish council has designed these facilities with all age ranges in mind.

### **R2 funds available**

Financial contributions have been received from a number of separate residential developments in the parish. There is a total of **£74,960.82** (plus accrued interest) R2 money available for expenditure on appropriate off-site recreation facilities because the relevant developments have started. (This is made up of £58,975.43 for adult/youth use and £15,985.39 for children's use.) £21,965.26 of this available money is already allocated for other use. This means that there is a total of £52,995.56 of available R2 money which could possibly be used for the provision of a pavilion.

### **Recommendation**

**It is recommended that £33,341.62 of the 'R2' contributions from both the adult/youth and child allocations be released by this Council to assist the funding of 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:** Within existing budgets / funded 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 Parish Council.

**Parish Affected:** Mere Parish Council.