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RHONDDA CYNON TAF
COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**A meeting of the
YNYNSANGHARAD WAR MEMORIAL PARK CABINET COMMITTEE**

**will be held at the Block F, The Pavilions, Clydach Vale, CF40 2XX
TUESDAY, 1ST AUGUST, 2017 at 10.30 AM**

Contact: Hannah Williams - Cabinet Business Officer (Tel No. 01443 424062)

LIST OF ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

To receive disclosures of personal interest from Members in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

Note:

1. Members are requested to identify the item number and subject matter that their interest relates to and signify the nature of the personal interest; and
2. Where Members withdraw from a meeting as a consequence of the disclosure of a prejudicial interest they **must** notify the Chairman when they leave.

2. MINUTES

To receive the minutes of the previous meeting of the Ynysangharad War Memorial Park Cabinet Committee held on Tuesday 20th December, 2016.

(Pages 3 - 4)

3. HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND: PARKS FOR PEOPLE PROGRAMME

To receive the report of the Service Director, Public Health & Protection providing an update to the Cabinet Committee on the progress made to date in the development of a Heritage Lottery Fund Parks for People application for Ynysangharad War Memorial Park.

(Pages 5 - 10)

4. YNYNSANGHARAD WAR MEMORIAL FIELDS IN TRUST CENTENARY FIELDS PROGRAMME

To receive the report of the Service Director, Public Health & Protection seeking approval to enter into a deed of dedication providing Fields in Trust 'Centenary Field' status to Ynysangharad War Memorial Park.

(Pages 11 - 14)

5. URGENT BUSINESS

To consider any urgent business as the Chairman feels appropriate.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. S. H.', written in a cursive style.

Service Director and Secretary to the Cabinet

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL

YNYSANGHARAD WAR MEMORIAL PARK CABINET COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Ynysangharad War Memorial Park Cabinet Committee meeting held on Tuesday 20th December, 2016 at 12:30pm at the Council Headquarters, Clydach Vale.

County Borough Councillors – Cabinet Members in attendance:-

M Webber (Chair)

R.Bevan A.Crimmings

Officers in attendance

Mr C Jones – Service Director, Legal & Democratic Services

Mr D Batten – Head of Leisure, Parks & Countryside

Mr P Mortimer – Funding & Implementation Manager

Ms S Mee – Project Team Leader, Funding & Implementation

Ms M Gibbs – Leisure & Parks, Facility Development Manager

Ms H Williams – Cabinet Business Officer

1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, there were no declarations made pertaining to the agenda.

2. YNYSANGHARAD WAR MEMORIAL PARK – HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND PARKS FOR PEOPLE PROGRAMME

The Head of Leisure, Parks & Countryside introduced the report to the Committee which highlighted the progress made to date in the development of a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Parks for People application for Ynysangharad War Memorial Park.

The Project Team Leader and Facility Development Manager explained that since the report was submitted to Cabinet on 19th July, 2016, a new phased approach was recommended. The first phase would request circa £1m on the basis that there was only £4m available within the programme per annum for applications from all of the UK.

Officers referred the Trustees to section 7 of the report where it was explained that a robust consultation had been undertaken with staff members within the Countryside Department and local schools, in order to develop plans. Officers stressed the

importance of the consultation process, in order to submit a quality bid but also to have a pleasing friendship network. It was explained that the consultation should factor in the opinions of a range of groups due to the uniqueness of the park.

The Chair took the opportunity to thank the officers for their hard work in developing the park into its former structure with the Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Tourism & Planning adding that it was a natural continuity to the success of the Lido.

Discussions arose around consulting with the local groups and it was agreed that a terms of reference be put in place to ensure the successful momentum is continued after the Bid.

The Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure & Culture suggested that established local groups, such as OPAG and school councils are utilised during the consultation to add to the meaningful process.

The Deputy Leader questioned the September, 2017 deadline for the bid submission and it was advised that there are two per year and that another meeting of the Ynysangharad War Memorial Park Committee would take place prior to the submission.

The Trustees questioned the future plans of the park in respect of the green houses and it was explained that in 2017, there would be a pilot training opportunity with Learning Curve for the public to volunteer to create hanging baskets etc. The staff at the park would be trained to develop their communication skills in order to run these weekly development schemes. It was advised that a room could be used to conduct any educational training schemes created, or be hired out by Groups.

The Trustees were pleased with the ideas to further develop the park with the Chair stating that she looked forward to meeting again in the near future.

It was **AGREED:**

- a) To support a phased approach to the development of a Parks for People application for Ynysangharad Park. The phase 1 application will be requesting approximately £1 million from HLF.
- b) That the application be submitted to HLF in line with the September 2017 submission deadline.
- c) That officers commence a planned process of consultation over the forthcoming months.

The meeting closed at 1pm

Councillor M Webber

Chair

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

YNYSANGHARAD WAR MEMORIAL PARK CABINET COMMITTEE

1ST AUGUST 2017

YNYSANGHARAD WAR MEMORIAL PARK – HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND (HLF) PARKS FOR PEOPLE PROGRAMME

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR PUBLIC HEALTH & PROTECTION

AUTHORS: Michelle Gibbs (Leisure, Parks & Countryside) / Sarah Mee
(Regeneration and Planning)

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of the report is to provide an update to the Cabinet Committee on the progress made to date in the development of a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Parks for People application for Ynysangharad War Memorial Park.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended:

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Committee note progress made and support the submission of a Parks for People stage 1 application for Ynysangharad War Memorial Park by the 31st August 2017.
- 2.2 That authorisation is given to the Service Director for Public Health and Protection to make changes to the application process in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Leisure providing that the changes do not substantially change the nature of the scheme.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The development of the Ynysangharad War Memorial Park Project has progressed well since December 2016 and the proposals within the overall project have been well received in discussions with HLF Wales.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 On December 20TH 2016 Ynysangharad War Memorial Park Cabinet Committee supported a phased approach to the development of a Heritage Lottery Fund Parks for People application and agreed that the proposed project would be submitted by the 31st August 2017 deadline.
- 4.2 Applications to the Heritage Lottery Fund Parks for People programme are submitted in two stages. The stage 1 application is for project development, match funding has been identified for this stage through project support fund. The stage 2 application is for delivery and requires a minimum of 10% match funding for projects in excess of £1 million.
- 4.3 The Council will submit a stage 1 application to HLF in line with 31st August 2017 deadline.
- 4.4 The core elements of the project include the development of a horticultural training facility, the restoration of the bandstand and sunken garden as well as improvements to the mock rock outcrop area. Furthermore improvements will be made in terms of access and interpretation throughout the park.
- 4.5 The application will also include revenue costs for the provision of an activity programme which includes the development of a volunteering programme and development of a Friends of group within the park as well as staffing costs.
- 4.6 The stage 1 application requests funding from HLF to develop the project in more detail. If successful at this stage The Council will be awarded funds to recruit a project manager and allocated up to 2 years to develop a Stage 2 application
- 4.7 Within the stage 1 application the Council are expected to include an indication of the total project cost. Based on recently commissioned work and having looked at other UK wide Parks for People initiatives the total project for Ynysangharad War Memorial Park will be £1.5 million. The 10% match funding will be made up of staff time in kind and a contribution from the Council..
- 4.8 The proposed timescales are as follows:
- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Stage 1 submission | - | August 2017 |
| Development Phase (18mths) | - | January 2018 – August 2019 |
| Stage 2 submission | - | August 2019 |
| Delivery (18mths) | - | January 2020 – August 2021 |

5. PROGRESS TO DATE

5.1 The development of the application is being led by Leisure, Parks and Countryside with the support of the Regeneration and Planning service. The following progress has been made in relation to the development of the application: -

- The Environment Partnership (TEP) appointed via NPS Wales Construction Consultancy Services Framework. Restoration plans, including costs, developed up to RIBA Stage 1 for all key elements identified.
- Conservation Management Plan updated by TEP
- Consultation has taken place to support project development
- Regular meetings held with HLF development team
- Full tree survey carried out in the park by Cardiff Treescapes
- Developed links with environmental groups in relation to the biodiversity element of the project
- Stakeholder liaison carried out with local primary and secondary schools, voluntary groups, local interest groups and internal departments
- Stage 1 supporting documents compiled including Activity Plan, Development Phase Tender Briefs and Business Plan
- Marketing and promotion of the park is being reviewed to bring it in line with Lido Ponty

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no equality and diversity implications.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 Consultation has been carried out to support the application with a total of 525 respondents.

7.2 Online questionnaire live between 22nd May and 3rd July 2017 on the Cwm Taf HUB

7.3 Consultation events took place in Pontypridd town centre (31st May 2017) and Ynysangharad War Memorial Park (1st June and 10th June 2017).

7.4 Overall feedback supports what is proposed and more in depth consultation will be undertaken during the development phase if successful with the stage 1 application.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

- 8.1 The Council has identified the required match funding required for the stage 1 application, for the Development Phase, via existing project support.
- 8.2 If successful with the stage 2 HLF application the Council will be required to provide 10% match funding for the duration of the Delivery Phase, planned for financial year 2019/20 and 2020/21. This will be funded from a review and reprioritisation of existing resources going forward.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

- 9.1 The Park is held in trust by Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council for the charity of 'the Ynysangharad War Memorial Park'.
- 9.2 The conveyance contains a restrictive covenant restricting the use of land for the purposes of a public parks and recreation ground for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Pontypridd town and the adjoining district.

10. LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES/ SIP / FUTURE GENERATIONS – SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

- 10.1 The proposed developments will assist in the economic regeneration of Pontypridd town centre and wider county borough developing a prosperous Rhondda Cynon Taf for future generations. It will provide park users with an additional offer creating a park and town centre that people are proud to live and work in and also visit.
- 10.2 The development of the park will provide a safer place for people to visit reducing the levels of anti-social behaviour and other crime, protecting people from repeat offenders.
- 10.3 The upgraded facilities present the opportunity to develop a healthier Rhondda Cynon Taf enhancing the wellbeing of future generations.
- 10.4 The upgraded facilities will provide a unique opportunity for the Parks Department to develop and deliver a comprehensive training package developing green skills among staff, apprentices and also park users. The training programme will also be offered regionally to surrounding local authorities.

10.5 Ynysangharad War Memorial Park will provide a vibrant visitor offer focusing on culture as well as active recreation.

11. CONCLUSION

11.1 The submission of a HLF Parks for People stage 1 application, in August 2017, presents the Council with the opportunity to enhance the visitor experience within the wider park further developing Ynysangharad War Memorial Park as a regional tourism attraction.

11.2 The phased development and improvement of the Park's infrastructure, management and maintenance will ensure future sustainability.

11.3 An enhanced Ynysangharad War Memorial Park presents an opportunity to impact on the economic regeneration of Pontypridd town centre and the Rhondda Cynon Taf overall.

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RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

YNYSANGHARAD WAR MEMORIAL PARK CABINET COMMITTEE

1ST AUGUST 2017

YNYSANGHARAD WAR MEMORIAL PARK FIELDS IN TRUST CENTENARY FIELDS PROGRAMME

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR PUBLIC HEALTH & PROTECTION

AUTHOR: Michelle Gibbs, Leisure & Parks Facility Development Manager

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the approval of the Ynysangharad War Memorial Park Committee to enter into a deed of dedication providing Fields in Trust 'Centenary Field' status to Ynysangharad War Memorial Park.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Cabinet Committee agree to the dedication of Ynysangharad War Memorial Park as Centenary Field.
- 2.2 That Cabinet Committee agree to submit an application to Fields in Trust for the dedication of Ynysangharad War Memorial Park as Centenary Field, subject to Cabinet approval.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The development work undertaken to date to support the submission of a Heritage Lottery Fund Parks for People application for Ynysangharad War Memorial Park has highlighted the need to raise the profile of the park as a dedicated war memorial park. The Fields in Trust enable this due to the programmes promotion both regionally and UK wide.
- 3.2 Land protected through the Centenary Fields programme ensures valuable green space is protected as a living remembrance to those who fought and lost their lives in World War I.
- 3.3 Dedicating a Centenary Field is in keeping with the spirit of The Armed Forces Community Covenant.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Fields in Trust Centenary Fields initiative aims to protect at least one green space in every local authority area across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland to commemorate the centenary of World War I. Safeguarding these sites will create a living UK wide legacy in commemoration of the sacrifice made by those who lost their lives in World War I.
- 4.2 Fields in Trust is working in partnership with the Royal British Legion to deliver the programme. This will commemorate this significant milestone in our history and create a tangible local legacy that will be valued by communities for generations to come.
- 4.3 The Centenary Fields programme sets out a number of objectives:
- I. To protect the existing network of war memorial fields that were given in memory of those who lost their lives during World War I. This will be done through a legal Deed of Dedication between the landowner and Fields in Trust;
 - II. To ensure at least one of these spaces is protected in each local authority area thereby creating a living UK wide legacy from the World War I Centenary;
 - III. To raise money for improvements to war memorial parks and fields, leveraging funding from other partners;
 - IV. To encourage schools to 'adopt' their local war memorial and park and undertake research into the war memorial and the green space, in order to understand the historical aspects of both, as well as the importance of preserving them for the future as an important part of local heritage;
 - V. To provide an opportunity, and resources, for local communities to come together and take part in an annual event focused on the World War I Centenary. This will enable people to explore community life as it was 100 years ago and to reflect on the momentous events that took place then and the impact on their local community.
- 4.4 If the site is accepted as a Centenary Field, the legal process then starts and sites will be protected via a deed of dedication. Fields in Trust will draw up the draft deed and then the landowner has a chance to make amendments. When all parties are satisfied with the deed, it

will be signed and then registered with the Land Registry. The site is then able to order a Centenary Fields commemorative plaque and can organise an unveiling event.

5. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no equality and diversity implications.

6. CONSULTATION

6.1 Consultation carried out within Pontypridd Town Centre and Ynysangharad War Memorial Park as part of the Heritage Lottery Fund Parks for People application identified that a number of people were unaware that the park was a dedicated war memorial park. The Centenary Field status alongside the HLF application will further promote the war memorial dedication.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

7.1 The costs are as follows:

- I. Any legal costs associated with agreeing the deed;
- II. The cost of installing the commemorative plaque – which will be provided free of charge;
- III. The cost of registering the resulting restrictions with the Land Registry – currently £80 for up to three titles.

7.2 There are no direct resource implications as the Parks and Countryside section can absorb this work within the existing revenue budget.

8 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

8.1 The Park is held in trust by Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council for the charity of ‘the Ynysangharad War Memorial Park’.

8.2 The conveyance contains a restrictive covenant restricting the use of land for the purposes of a public parks and recreation ground for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Pontypridd town and the adjoining district.

8.3 There is a restrictive covenant preventing the erection of any buildings such as may not be suitable for public open space.

9. LINKS TO THE COUNCIL'S CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES/ SIP / FUTURE GENERATIONS – SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

- 9.1 The emphasis of the war memorial dedication will help to develop equal and cohesive communities for war veterans linking with The Armed Forces Community Covenant.
- 9.2 The deed of dedication makes positive contribution to the cultural well-being of Wales.
- 9.3 The promotion of Ynysangharad War Memorial Park on a national level as a vibrant visitor offer focusing on heritage and culture as well as active recreation.
- 9.4 The dedication of the park as a Centenary Park link to the Armed Forces Covenant and local authorities Community Covenant. The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise by the nation ensuring that those who serve or who have served, and their families, are treated fairly. Community covenants complement, at a local level, the Armed Forces Covenant.

10. CONCLUSION

- 10.1 The submission of an application to the Fields in Trust Centenary Parks programme for Ynysangharad War Memorial Park, in August 2017, presents the Council with the opportunity to reaffirm the war memorial dedication of the park as well as enhance the profile on a UK wide level.
- 10.2 Land protected through the Centenary Fields programme ensures the protection of valuable green space for Rhondda Cynon Taf residents, visitors and future generations.
- 10.3 An enhanced Ynysangharad War Memorial Park presents an opportunity to impact on the economic regeneration of Pontypridd town centre and the county borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf.
- 10.4 Following the application and subsequent site visit by Fields in Trust, and subject to the appropriate legal documentation being completed, further discussion will take place with the relevant Cabinet Member in respect of a location for the commemorative plaque and unveiling event.