



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

YNYSANGHARAD WAR MEMORIAL PARK CABINET COMMITTEE

15TH MARCH 2023

**POTENTIAL TO CREATE AN ADDITIONAL EVENT SPACE AT
YNYSANGHARAD WAR MEMORIAL PARK**

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROSPERITY & DEVELOPMENT

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Cabinet Committee on progressing the potential redevelopment opportunity for an event space within Ynysangharad War Memorial Park which will support the delivery of major events and to bid for funding from the Visit Wales Brilliant Basics Programme.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Cabinet Committee:

- 2.1 Consider the concept design proposal presented in the report and to instruct officers to proceed with its further development and bid for funding from the Visit Wales Brilliant Basics Programme.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To ensure that the Council can make the best possible use of Ynysangharad War Memorial Park for major events and provide local communities with useable green spaces and take advantage of the funding opportunity provided by the Brilliant Basics Programme.

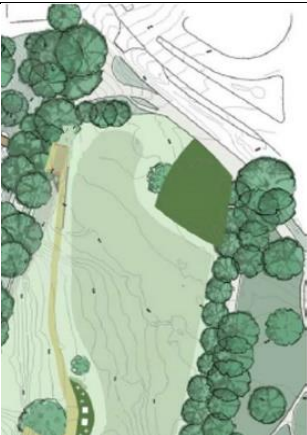
4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 To maximise the space available to host events at Ynysangharad War Memorial Park, the Council appointed consultants to produce a feasibility report on the potential to introduce an Events Space at the large green area adjacent to the bridge access from the Lllys Cadwyn development.

- 4.2 This area of the park under consideration, was previously the site of a pitch-n-putt golf course and was later used for footgolf. It has not been used for some time and currently offers little amenity value due to the undulating topography designed for golf.
- 4.3 An existing but under-utilised green space occupies much of this top corner adjacent to the footbridge. The space has the potential to facilitate an events area and community gatherings that can be enjoyed by all but retains as much useable green space as possible.

5. EVENT SPACE PROPOSALS

- 5.1 A feasibility report and a concept design has been developed for the event space. Establishing this space is essential to expand the existing facilities to host large events within the park and provide an additional option to avoid disrupting the regular users of the park when events take place.
- 5.2 The high-level cost estimate and description of the concept design are set out below:

<p>Upper Event Space and Path Works = £249k</p>	<p>The upper plateau will be flattened to make a useable space with the potential for temporary or permanent hardstanding for flexible uses. It is proposed that a new footway be introduced to access the upper and lower event spaces. This will run along the site's western edge, following the existing topography and bank along Main Avenue, and connect with Central Avenue as it meets the Bandstand area.</p>	
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- 5.3 This proposal also facilitates the potential for further phases to bring the embankment and 'dead space' adjacent to the kiosk back into more beneficial use.

6. PROJECT TIMESCALES AND DELIVERY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The proposed concept design outlined above has the potential to be completed by the summer of 2024. However, the design and tendering process must be initiated by late summer 2023 to ensure a timely start on-site in the autumn of

2023. This will align with appropriate planting seasons, enabling optimal growing conditions before use.

- 6.2 In addition, it is proposed that the upper plateau will be levelled and therefore re-seeded to allow it to be used as a temporary event space and will require a settling-in period before it can be used.

7. FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- 7.1 To support the delivery of this project, the Visit Wales Brilliant Basics Fund is a potential funding source. The purpose of Brilliant Basics is to deliver basic small-scale tourism infrastructure improvements across all of Wales to ensure that visitors have a positive and memorable experience throughout all aspects of their stay.

- 7.2 The Brilliant Basics Fund is capital-only, and grants are available up to a maximum of £300,000 with a maximum intervention rate of 80%. The 2023/24 round of funding is currently open with a deadline for the submission of Expressions of Interest being 16th March. This maximum award would cover the estimated cost of the proposal outlined above if a funding bid is successful.

8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY

- 8.1 An Equality Impact Assessment will be considered as part of the project design and development should it proceed.

9. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The Welsh Language implications will be considered as part of the project design and delivery should it proceed.

10. CONSULTATION / INVOLVEMENT

- 10.1 There is no requirements for consultation in respect of this report will be considered further should the project proceed to detailed design and development.

11. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 A successful single application to the Visit Wales Brilliant Basics Fund would enable the design and delivery of the concept design, along with a match funding contribution from RCT CBC's own resources as set out in Paragraph 7 of the report.

12. LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

- 12.1 These will be considered in detail as part of the project design and development process should it proceed.

13. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT.

- 13.1 The regeneration project detailed in the report will collectively boost the local economy and provide job opportunities for local people.
- 13.2 The development will directly contribute to the goals of the Well Being of Future Generations Act. In particular, the economic and environmental well-being of Wales, supporting the delivery of a prosperous Wales, a more resilient Wales, and a Wales of cohesive communities.

14. CONCLUSION

- 14.1 This report provides information seeking approval from Cabinet Committee on whether to progress the concept design option for the potential redevelopment opportunity in Ynysangharad Park and seek funding from the Brilliant Basics Fund to support the project design and delivery.