



**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**YNYSANGHARAD WAR MEMORIAL PARK CABINET COMMITTEE**

**12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2018**

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

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION &  
COMMUNITIES**

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**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**

- 2.1 To note the progress made and support the ongoing project work in preparation of a submission of a Parks for People stage 2 application for Ynysangharad War Memorial Park during August 2019.

**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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 in line with the August 2017 deadline.

- 4.2 The stage 1 application was successful resulting in the Council receiving a grant (£208,500) to support the preparation of a stage 2 application to be submitted in August 2019.
- 4.3 The stage 2 application is for delivery and requires a minimum of 10% match funding for projects in excess of £1 million.
- 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 stage 2 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 training programme within the park as well as staffing costs.
- 4.8 The proposed timescales are as follows:
- |                    |   |                            |
|--------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Development Phase  | - | April 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: -
- Strategic Heritage Board (internal officer group) developed to oversee all Heritage Lottery Fund grant submissions made by the Council.
  - Terms of Reference developed for the project including task and finish groups that are actively working through specific tasks.
  - The Environment Partnership (TEP) appointed via NPS Wales Construction Consultancy Services Framework. Restoration plans, including costs, to be developed up to RIBA Stage 3 for all key elements identified.
  - TEP will also develop the Horticulture Training Facility Business Plan and the Interpretation and Digital Output Plan as part of the contract.
  - Project Manager (fully funded by HLF) has been appointed for the Development Phase (work programme in appendices).
  - An Activity Plan for the Development Phase has been developed focusing on delivering engagement activities for families,

volunteering opportunities and the development of a Friends of Group.

- Staff attended HLF Monitoring and Evaluation workshop.
- Links made with RCT Learning Curve. Individuals have been repairing park benches over the winter period, during the summer work will focus on planting.
- Links made with Pontypridd High School. Pupils have been repairing the dry-stone wall in the Bandstand.
- The ongoing development of plans and strategies to be submitted as part of the stage 2 submission including:
  - Biodiversity Action Plan
  - Management and Maintenance Plan
  - Communication and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy
  - Activity Plan (delivery phase)
- 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 Initial consultation was carried out 22<sup>nd</sup> May and 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017.
- 7.2 Following the Monitoring and Evaluation workshop it has been advised by HLF that this is carried out annually as part of the Evaluation Plan.
- 7.3 Consultation will be carried out during July and August 2018 using the same format as 2017.

## **8 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)**

- 8.1 If successful with the stage 2 HLF application (August 2019) 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 has been identified via a 2017/18 earmark reserve.

## **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/ 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 heritage and horticulture zone within 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 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.
- 10.4 Ynysangharad War Memorial Park will provide a vibrant visitor offer focusing on culture as well as active recreation.

**11 CONCLUSION**

- 11.1 The Parks for People project work 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.