



**Note of the meeting of the Neighbourhood CIL Panel for Bath
held on Thursday, 4th June, 2020
in Zoom Online - Private**

Meeting Attendance

In Attendance

Councillor Rob Appleyard

Councillor Colin Blackburn

Councillor Sue Craig

Councillor Jess David

Dave Dixon

Roger Driver

Mark Hayward

Robin Kerr

Apologies Received from

1. Neighbourhood CIL for Bath Financial Position

The sum of available funding that is available for the panel for allocation at the current time is £109,658.36. The funds available do not all need to be allocated to all the projects that are with the panel today.

Funding for projects becomes available in April and September each year. The panel recognises that the amounts of funding in the future could reduce as an impact of developments not going ahead due to Covid-19.

The panel feel that they will continue to meet every six weeks to enable the projects that have been agreed to be reviewed and to look at applications only if funding is available. The next meeting will be useful gain a clearer picture of where some of the larger scale projects are currently at.

The panel recognise that no agreements will be made if the funding has not been released by the developers.

It was suggested that the projects that come forward though future applications should be looked at to see how they are impacted by covid-19 and if they are supporting the community. This will have to take on board the need for project to be in Bath and also within the CIL guidelines.

2. Council Library and Information Service

The application the application for £60,000 that was made by Bath Central Library for new rolling stack bays which would allow the return of rare books which are currently in storage.

The panel raised the following points:

- Insurance costs for books impacted by where they are held.
- The request did not feel like a local impact that should be funded through the local 15% of CIL funding.
- The central library is a broader issue that should be looked at by Council.
- The amount of shelving seemed a lot just for historical books. If the service changes and social distancing is required how will it all fit in.
- This is not an impact of development it is something that is not there currently.
- The idea of have more books is great but this is a need for Council to look at.
- The Covid-19 situation has brought a requirement for all services to look at how they are going to operate going forward and it is not clear at this moment in time how the service will operate once they come out of lockdown.

The panel concluded with a vote, 2 were in favour and 4 against, therefore the application was not successful.

3. Rosewarn Park MUGA

The application the application for £45,000 that was made by Whiteway Community Association for a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA)

The panel raised the following points:

- The surface is going to be a safe artificial surface and not a 3G pitch surface.
- We have met Curo and they are in full agreement with the build and will adopt and carry out safety checks.
- Concerns were raised that this does not become a 'white-elephant' project.
- The use in a similar project in Peasedown was seen to have had a favourable level of use since it opened. The parish council endorsed the local people have welcomed the addition.
- The situation with Covid-19 could see a hold up with installation if there is a continued lockdown period. We do however need to accept that we need to be mindful in the future adaptations to the way of operating the equipment.
- A ten-year guarantee comes with the purchase of the equipment.
- The involvement of Curo with the improvement in the local park will see a managed and well supported approach.
- The community projects need to be positively looked at and we need to look forward to beyond Covid-19. The time it takes to implement will give time for people to plan for after Covid-19 and look forward to.
- There needs to be a clear understanding commitment setting out of the ten-year maintenance, inspection and insurance programme.

The panel concluded with a vote to support this application with the condition that how it is fully usable during and post Covid-19 is set out. Six were in favour and none against, the full £45,000 was recommended.

4. Lighting Combe Down Rugby Club

The application the application for £17,500 that was made by Combe Down Rugby Club to replace the floodlights with energy efficient LED light.

The panel raised the following points:

- Three years ago, the club received funding to improve pathway access and changing rooms. This previous funding was delivered efficiently and has proved to be of great advantage to the local community.
- This application returned to the panel following the questions raised. All the questions have been comprehensively responded to.
- This is an open green space that can go ahead without delay.

The panel concluded with a vote, six panel members were in favour of supporting this application and none against. The full amount of £17,500 was recommended.

5. Calton Road Play Area

The application the application for £22,864 that was made by B&NES Parks Department for a contribution for the redesign of Calton Road Play Area.

The panel raised the following points:

- The use of funding for a park with low patronage and is close to alternative park areas does not give a feeling that the use of funding on this project would be speculative and would require greater detail.
- We need to know what the usage is for the play area.
- We would like to know more details about what a natural play area would look like.
- How would the investment attract additional users to this play area which is relatively hard to find?
- What would happen after the first year of support to play schemes?
- The value of the volunteering hours needs to be better explained.

The panel concluded that they would need to see greater detail on the above points and would need to be convinced the investment would open the space up to a greater level of use.

In conclusion the panel voted five against the application and one abstention. If the applicant wished to resubmit after addressing the above points the panel will take another look at this.

6. Lansdown Playing Fields

The application the application for £10,000 that was made by the B&NES Leisure Team.

The panel raised the following points:

- The application does not fit with what we are looking for in our protects that we wish to support.
- The application should be dealt with through the business as usual operations of the council officers.
- There is no real direct benefit for residents in funding consultation practices.
- Parks projects that include 3G pitches mentioned in them are seen unfavourably.
- Parks and green space projects need to have a direct link to supporting the local community with a tangible delivery element.

The panel concluded by voting and all six were against supporting this application.

7. Friends of Sandpits Park

The application the application for £37,500 that was made by Councillor Jess David and Friends of Sandpits Park for improvements to the play equipment and the creation of a football pitch area.

Councillor Jess David introduced the application and then left the meeting.

The panel raised the following points:

- The park is on route to the two tunnels cycling route
- The park is well used and is popular
- The Sandpits is a destination park that has not seen any recent investment to take the space forward.
- The open space element is a new added space for opening the park for greater usage.

The conclusion by the panel was to vote in favour of the application. All five-panel members choose to recommend funding the full amount of £37,500.