

<b>REPORT TO</b>	<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>
Governance Committee	15 April 2015

Report template revised June 2008



<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>PORTFOLIO</b>	<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>ITEM</b>
Capital Programme for Parks and Open Spaces 2014/15	Neighbourhoods and Streetscene	Mark Gaffney	5

## SUMMARY AND LINK TO CORPORATE PRIORITIES

This report provides an update on the delivery of the Capital Programme for Parks and Open Spaces 2014/15. The update includes schemes that have been completed and those where, following initial scoping and planning, the physical works have needed to be put on hold due to events occurring during the course of the year that have changed the nature of the project .

The borough's Parks and Open Spaces contribute to all of the corporate priorities but especially Clean Green and Safe.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee notes and comments on the report.

## DETAILS AND REASONING

The approved budget for the 2014/15 Capital Programme for Parks and Open Spaces was £379,830.

The funding was allocated to the following schemes:

Cockshott Wood Footpaths and Steps  
 Middleforth Green Footpath  
 Worden Park Boundary Wall Repairs  
 Worden Park Brickfield Wood Drainage  
 Worden Park Overflow Car Park  
 Worden Park Driveways Hall to Walled Garden  
 Hurst Grange Park Footpaths  
 Todd Lane South Footpath  
 Gregson Green Drainage  
 Longton Brickcroft Footpaths and Fencing  
 Wither Grove Park Footpaths

The attached table in Appendix A shows those schemes which have been completed and those that have been put on hold.

The reasons for those schemes which have been put on hold are as follows:

### **Worden Park Brickfield Wood Drainage**

Extensive work has been carried out with the Environment Agency (EA) including ground and level surveys to design a suitable scheme. Unfortunately due to the land levels it is not possible to drain the water to a suitable outlet. Solutions to the drainage issue are now focussed on holding the water until it can naturally drain away. Some works have been carried out using funding provided by the EA. Once this work has been completed any outstanding capital funding can be reallocated to another scheme.

### **Todd Lane South Field Footpath**

This scheme was tendered early in the year and a contractor appointed to carry out the work. However, the scheme was put on hold pending the outcome of a lottery grant funding application for the WW1 War Memorial. The Council has now provided capital funding for the War Memorial and the first phase of Central Parks. The smaller footpath scheme will now be integrated into this larger project.

### **Gregson Green Drainage**

The majority of this budget is to be used as match funding for a bid to Sport England which has now been submitted. At the time of writing it is not known whether the bid has been successful or unsuccessful.

### **Withy Grove Park Footpaths**

This scheme has been put on hold as Railtrack has approached the Council with a proposal to install a footbridge over the railway into Withy Grove Park. As part of this scheme Railtrack will need to build a road across the park for construction traffic. Positive discussions are ongoing with Railtrack about the route of the road and its construction detail. It is intended that this road will fit into the Council's plans for the network of paths within the park and that only minimal work will be required after Railtrack has left site to make the road suitable for the Council's needs.

Railtrack is planning to carry out the work this summer. Once this is complete a footpath scheme will be designed taking into account the road left by Railtrack resulting in an overall enhanced scheme.

### **WIDER IMPLICATIONS**

In the preparation of this report, consideration has been given to the impact of its proposals in all the areas listed below, and the table shows any implications in respect of each of these

<b>FINANCIAL</b>	There are no financial implications as a result of this report.
<b>LEGAL</b>	There are no legal implications as a result of this report.
<b>RISK</b>	There are no risks to consider. However, should the Council have continued with the schemes that have been delayed, this would have resulted in ineffective use of the Council's resources.
<b>THE IMPACT ON EQUALITY</b>	There are no impacts on equality as a result of this report.

<b>OTHER (see below)</b>			
<i>Asset Management</i>	<i>Corporate Plans and Policies</i>	<i>Crime and Disorder</i>	<i>Efficiency Savings/Value for Money</i>
<i>Equality, Diversity and Community Cohesion</i>	<i>Freedom of Information/ Data Protection</i>	<i>Health and Safety</i>	<i>Health Inequalities</i>
<i>Human Rights Act 1998</i>	<i>Implementing Electronic Government</i>	<i>Staffing, Training and Development</i>	<i>Sustainability</i>

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

None