

**HITCHIN AREA COMMITTEE
1 MARCH 2016**

PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT

AGENDA ITEM No.

10

TITLE OF INFORMATION NOTE: BANCROFT RECREATION GROUND

INFORMATION NOTE OF THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF CUSTOMER SERVICES

1. SUMMARY

- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update on the current situation for the delivery of incremental affordable improvements to Bancroft Recreation Ground.

2. STEPS TO DATE

- 2.1 In order to keep Members updated the Chairman of the Hitchin Area Committee has included an information note on Bancroft Recreation Ground as a regular item on the agenda for Hitchin Area Committee.
- 2.2 At the Hitchin Area Committee meeting of the 12th January 2016 the Parks & Countryside Development Manager provided an update on the following areas of works.
- Water Splash Park
 - Toilet/Baby Changing Facility
 - Improvements to Rive Hiz

3. INFORMATION TO NOTE

3.1 Approved programme of works

- 3.1.1 The plans attached as appendix A, showing the short, medium and long term proposed improvements to Bancroft Recreation Ground are available on the Councils Web site at <http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/home/parks-and-open-spaces/parks-and-open-spaces-projects/bancroft-recreation-ground-redevelopment>.

3.2 Water Splash Park

- 3.2.1 UK Power are scheduled to connect the new 3-phase electric supply within the next four week. Works are still on target for an opening in May 2016.

3.3 Toilet / Baby Changing Facility

- 3.3.1 Works to provide a toilet / baby changing facility that will operate during the water splash park season (normally May – Sept) are nearing completion. Officers to obtain a price for cleaning once works are completed.

3.4 2016/17 Capital Programme

- 3.4.1 On the 11th February 2016 Council approved the following Bancroft projects for inclusion in the 2016/17 capital programme.

• Improvements to play area	£75,000
• Demolish 4 disused tennis courts and landscape area	£35,000
• Renew pathways	£50,000
• Multi Use Games Area (subject to securing £80K external grant)	£170,000

- 3.4.2 In addition to the above project the Hitchin Area Committee contribution of £31,433 will be used for improvements to the river Hiz in 2016/17.

4. NEXT STEPS

- 4.1 These are described in paragraph 3 of this report.

5. APPENDICES

- 5.1 Appendix A: Plans for, short, medium and long term proposed improvements to Bancroft Recreation Ground

6. CONTACT OFFICERS

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7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 10th November 2015 Cabinet report & resolutions item 11. (Available on NHDC web site)