

Committee:	Executive	Agenda Item No.:	11.
Date:	2 <sup>nd</sup> August 2010	Status	Open
Category	2. Decision within the functions of Executive		
Subject:	Transfer of land adjacent to The Sidings Skate Park off Rectory Road, Clowne		
Report by:	Special Projects Officer		
Other Officers Involved	Head of Leisure Senior Valuer Senior Principal Solicitor		
Director	Director of Neighbourhoods		
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor A. Syrett, Portfolio Holder for Arts and Leisure		

#### **RELEVANT CORPORATE AIMS**

COMMUNITY SAFETY – Ensuring that communities are safe and secure by providing recreational areas which are located to maximise informal surveillance  
ENVIRONMENT – Promoting and enhancing a clean and sustainable environment by providing recreational facilities that are designed to enhance existing recreation areas and to facilitate easy maintenance  
REGENERATION – Developing healthy, prosperous and sustainable communities by providing additional recreational facilities for young people

#### **TARGETS**

None.

#### **VALUE FOR MONEY**

By obtaining best value under section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972

#### **THE REPORT**

As part of the ongoing development of the area of former railway sidings off Rectory Road, Clowne and in order to create a skate park and teenage focused play area, funding for phase 3 was secured by Groundwork Creswell from the Landfill tax Credit Scheme through Derbyshire Environmental Trust (DET) in 2008.

Following consultation with local young people in 2009, it was suggested that an informal BMX track be developed within the area of the former Clowne station using part of the funding. This suggestion was raised with DET who are keen to support its development.

The area of land earmarked for the BMX area was originally the end of the two platforms of Clowne South Station and the trackbed between the platforms. The platform edges were removed in the early 1990s and the area landscaped. Since then, the area has become overgrown with a number of large trees separating it from the skate park.

Bolsover District Council's Leisure Services department has been looking to develop a BMX track within the District for a number of years. However, this would be a competition standard track that would be developed in partnership with a local BMX club who would assume responsibility for management and maintenance, rather than an informal 'play' track. Due to concerns over maintenance and safety, Bolsover District Council would not support the development of an informal, unmanaged BMX track on its land due to concerns over safety and liability.

However, as there is support for the proposal amongst local young people it has been suggested that Clowne Parish Council leases the land from Bolsover District Council to facilitate construction of the BMX track. The Parish Council would subsequently be responsible for management and maintenance of the land / BMX track. Initial discussions suggest that the Parish Council would be happy to lease the land for this purpose.

An area of land (0.1 ha) adjacent to the land in question, which includes a multi use games area (MUGA) is already leased to Clowne Parish Council for a period of 10 years which commenced in 2005. It is recommended this area of land is incorporated into the proposed BMX area and that this larger area of land, some 0.3 hectares as shown on the attached plan, is leased for a minimum period of 25 years.

### **ISSUES/OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

1. Whether to lease the area of land to Clowne Parish Council.
2. Whether to impose restrictions on the future use, development and / or disposal of the land

### **IMPLICATIONS**

Financial: Legal costs associated with the transfer of land. Savings on future maintenance costs on the land to the Council

Legal: Ensuring compliance with section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972

Human Resources: None

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1) That an area of land of some 0.3 ha at Clowne Linear Park is leased to Clowne Parish Council for a period of 25 years.
- 2) That a restriction is placed on the future use, development and / or disposal of the land

## **REASON FOR DECISION TO BE GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION**

In order to allow an area of land owned by Bolsover District Council to be leased to Clowne Parish Council for the development of an informal BMX track.

ATTACHMENTS: Plan of the area of land currently leased to Clowne PC  
Plan of the land to be leased

FILE REFERENCE:  
SOURCE DOCUMENT: