

COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

22 JUNE 2011

REPORT OF HEAD OF COMMUNITIES AND NEIGHBOURHOODS

STEPHEN'S FOOTPRINTS MEMORIAL GARDEN

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update member on the progress and development of the proposed memorial garden to be located within Melton Country Park
- 1.2 To seek members support for making a one off contribution of £2k towards securing the site as part of the gardens one-off set up costs

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **Members endorse and support the proposed development and establishment of the Stephen's Footprints Memorial Garden.**
- 2.2 **Members support a donation of £2k contribution towards the gardens set up / establishment capital costs.**

3.0 KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 At the meeting of the Community and Social Affairs committee in March 2011 members received an initial report (attached as appendix A) in regards to the creation of a baby loss memorial garden in Melton Country Park
- 3.2 Members agreed to support the initiative and agreed that a further report be reported back to them in regards to the Council making an appropriate contribution towards the establishment / set up costs for the memorial garden.
- 3.3 Since that time the 'Stephen's Footprint Baby Loss Support Group' has continued to work towards the establishment of the garden with initial groundwork's on site now started, whilst the group continue to seek both financial and practical support from local businesses and organisations.
- 3.4 In addition the group has organised and run a number of fund raising activities and are starting to build a small but increasing fund in order to progress the project through to establishment.
- 3.5 It is the intension of the group to continue to raise funds continuously through on going fund raising events and projects as well as raise income from the sale of memorial pebbles that will become part of the gardens internal pathways
- 3.6 Further details about the group and the memorial garden attached to the previous report presented at the March meeting are attached to Appendix A
- 3.7 In regards to the council making a financial contribution towards the memorial gardens set up costs, members are requested to consider a sum of £2k as being appropriate. That figure is suggested following further set up cost information not available at the time of the previous report. That information is attached as Appendix B
- 3.8 The £2k would be used to purchase and erect the sites perimeter fencing enabling the development of the internal works to be carried out within a secure site

4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no policy or corporate implications as a direct result of this report

5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The Stephen's Footprint group are intending the baby loss memorial garden to be self financing. with on going income from the pebbles they intend to sell.. The group have already enlisted the assistance and support of family and friends and have a number of on going fundraising events and activities programmed to occur during the coming months. A number of these are intended to become annual events.

5.2 In addition the group are also hoping to attract donations gifts and funds from garden visitors and supporters.

5.3 The Council's Environmental Maintenance Team is intending to assist with basic grounds maintenance work (grass cutting / strimming) for the garden , to be undertaken whilst carrying out the regular Melton Country Park maintenance These duties are expected to have minimal impact on EMT's schedules work and are not expected to interfere with the teams scheduled rounds .

5.4 The proposed one off contribution of £2k towards the set up costs (specifically the supply and erecting of the perimeter fence) would be found from within existing budgets.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS

6.1 There are no direct legal implications as a result of this report.

7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY

7.1 There are no community safety implications as a result of this report.

8.0 EQUALITIES

8.1 There are no implications around equality issues as a result of this report.

9.0 RISKS

There are no specific risks associated with this report.

10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE

10.1 There are no implications around climate change as a result of this report

11.0 CONSULTATION

11.1 The Friends of Melton Country Park identified the site in the park they felt was appropriate and fully support the proposal

12.0 **WARDS AFFECTED**

12.1 No specific wards will be affected by this report

Contact Officer Raman Selvon
Date: 6/6/2011

Appendices : Appendix A – Report to CSA Committee on 9 March 2011
Appendix B – Funds raised and estimated costings.

Background Papers: none

Reference : X:\Cttee, Council & Sub Cttees\CSA\2011 12\220611