

**FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES**

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>APPOINTMENTS TO PERSONNEL SUB-COMMITTEE</b>
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	<b>Matthew Gleadell</b>

**Recommendations**

- 1.1 That members finalise their appointments to the Personnel Sub Committee for the 24/25 civic year.

That members confirm the election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman for the Sub Committee for the 24/25 civic year.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 The appointments to this committee were deferred from the Annual Town Council meeting.
- 2.2 The following members were nominated by their respective groups before the matter was deferred.

Cllr Susan Crosby

Cllr Mathew Skinner

Cllr Paul Taylor

All of the above members sat on the sub committee in the previous civic year.

There remain 2 further places on the sub committee to fill. Cllr Ledger no longer wishes to continue on the sub committee due to her Mayoral commitments.

Cllr Irene Brown has expressed her desire to take a place on the sub committee.

Cllr Glenis Rix is also understood to be willing to continue if agreed by the membership.

- 2.3 Cllr Paul Taylor has indicated his willingness to continue as the Chairman of the sub committee.

**3.0 Financial, Legal, Equality, Environmental & Risk Issues**

- 3.1 Contained in the report.

<b>Background Papers:</b>	<b>Working papers</b>
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	<b>Matthew Gleadell</b> Tel: 01636 684801 Email: <a href="mailto:matthew.gleadell@newark.gov.uk">matthew.gleadell@newark.gov.uk</a>



**FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES**

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Working Groups / Sub Committees</b>
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	<b>Matthew Gleadell</b>

**1. Recommendations**

- 1.1 a) Convert the Events Arts Culture and Twinning Working Group to become a Sub Committee of FGP.
- b) Convert the Climate Change Working Group to become a Sub Committee of FGP.
- c) Adopt an updated remit / terms of reference for the Climate Change working group.
- d) Adopt a remit/terms of reference for the Cemetery Working Group.
- e) That the Council appoints the membership to the Working Groups / Sub Committees for the 24/25 civic year.
- f) That the Committee appoints a Chairman and Vice Chairman of the respective Working Groups/Sub Committees.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 The Council operates the following working groups:
- Cemetery Development
  - Events, Arts, Culture and Twinning
  - Climate Change
- 2.2 Possible changes to the general governance structure of the Council are being explored; however, to ensure that the Council can operate until decisions are reached on possible changes, this report seeks to establish the working group arrangements for the Council for the new civic year 24/25.
- As there are no guarantees of governance changes any arrangements agreed in response to this report will endure until the next annual review or a change is initiated in response to other factors.
- 2.3 Working groups typically are set up to handle specific issues and are advisory in nature whereby recommendations are made from that working group to a higher committee or Sub Committee. They rarely have spending power.
- The Cemetery Development working group currently fulfils a working group function, however, the Events Arts Culture Twinning and Climate Change working groups have evolved since their inception. Both groups are now exercising a level of input and decision making into devolved expenditure and as such it is recommended that they now become formal Sub Committees of the FGP Committee.
- In making this change they will become more formal in nature, publicly accessible and fully subject to relevant standing orders (Standing Order 34).
- 2.4 Having reviewed the history of the Cemetery Working Group, at the point of establishment it was agreed that a full remit would be adopted at a later stage following an initial stakeholder meeting which has now occurred. A proposed remit is attached to this report.

- 2.5 The Climate Change working group has previously operated on the basis of a set of objectives and principles established when the group was first set up some years ago. On the expectation of now becoming a sub committee a full remit and terms of reference if set out in Appendix 1.
- 2.6 The existing remit for the Events, Arts, Culture and Twinning working group is also shown as Appendix 1.
- 2.7 The existing membership of the working groups is shown in Appendix 1.
- 3.0 Financial, Legal, Equality, Environmental & Risk Issues**
- 3.1 Contained in the report.

<b>Background Papers:</b>	<b>Working papers</b>
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	<b>Matthew Gleadell</b> <b>Tel: 01636 684801    Email: <a href="mailto:matthew.gleadell@newark.gov.uk">matthew.gleadell@newark.gov.uk</a></b>

## APPENDIX 1 – WORKING GROUPS / SUB COMMITTEES

### EXISTING MEMBERSHIPS 23/24 CIVIC YEAR

#### Events Arts Culture and Twinning

Name
<i>Cllr T Collier (Chairman)</i>
<i>Cllr S Dickinson (Deputy Chairman)</i>
<i>Cllr D Campbell</i>
<i>Cllr J Kellas</i>
<i>Cllr L Roulstone</i>

#### Climate Change

Name
<i>Cllr Dawn Campbell (Chairman)</i>
<i>Cllr Glenis Rix</i>
<i>Cllr Mathew Skinner</i>
<i>Cllr Lynn Roulstone</i>
<i>Cllr E Cropper</i>

#### Cemetery Development

Name
<i>Cllr Diane Ledger (Chairman)</i>
<i>Cllr Lisa Geary (Deputy Chairman)</i>
<i>Cllr Mathew Skinner</i>
<i>Cllr Tom Collier</i>
<i>Cllr Barbara Corrigan</i>

## **Existing Remit of Events, Arts, Culture and Twinning Working Group**

The group shall consist of 5 Town Council members.

Meetings of the group shall be quorate with at least 3 members present.

The existence and remit of the group and the membership thereof shall be reviewed annually at the first FGP meeting of each Civic year and as necessary the Chairman and Deputy Chairman shall be appointed at the same meeting.

The group shall meet as often as it deems necessary for the effective discharge of the business of the group.

The group shall report to the FGP committee on at least a quarterly basis albeit more frequent reports may at times be submitted.

The group may from time to time invite third party stakeholders to meetings to support the working group. Representatives from third party stakeholders however shall hold no voting rights.

The group shall be responsible for oversight of the following Town Council undertakings:

1. Civic Events, Relationships and Activity.
2. Town Council and Partner Events
3. Town Hall Museum and Art Gallery

The purpose of the group will be to take an influential role in the planning, organisation, delivery and evaluation of local events in which the Town Council plays an active role either as the principal delivery body or as a partner organisation. This includes all Mayoral Civic events as well as wider public events.

The group will oversee the operation and delivery of the Town Council Museum and Art Gallery.

The group will oversee the Town Councils Twinning activities engaging where considered appropriate with the Newark Twinning Association and any other individuals, groups or organisations interested in Twinning activities.

The group will be a consultative group for officers who are involved in the delivery of the various event, museum and civic activity and it is not intended for the group to micro manage every aspect of the undertakings identified above.

The group will consider community and partner proposals for arts and cultural activity where Town Council involvement financially or otherwise is being sought.

The group will report to the FGP committee at least on a quarterly basis with relevant details of any matters being dealt with by the group although more frequent updates can be provided as necessary.

Budgets for events and other activity falling under the remit of this group will be allocated annually by the Council.

Where necessary the group will make proposals to the FGP committee in relation to specific decisions that relate to the activity of the group, but which can only be made by the FGP committee in accordance with Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

In all areas of the groups work and remit, the group will seek to ensure appropriate governance and financial management is applied for any financial commitment towards the undertaking of the Group and will seek to ensure that in all areas of undertakings the Council is obtaining best value for public funds and resources

***(Remit above to be amended so references to Working Group become Sub Committee if such change is approved)***

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### **Proposed remit/terms of reference of Cemetery Working Group**

The group shall consist of 5 Town Council members.

Meetings of the group shall be quorate with at least 3 members present.

The existence and remit of the group and the membership thereof shall be reviewed annually at the first FGP meeting of each Civic year and as necessary the Chairman and Deputy Chairman shall be appointed at the same meeting.

The group shall meet as often as it deems necessary for the effective discharge of the business of the sub committee.

The group is tasked with the following:

#### **EXISTING CEMETERY**

1. Development of proposals for delivery of a Children's Burial area in the existing Cemetery.
2. Development of costed proposals for conversion of the Cemetery Lodge for use for residential purposes.

#### **NEW CEMETERY**

1. Undertake public consultation to understand wider public views as to the need for a new Cemetery site when the existing site runs out of burial space.
2. Undertake public consultation to understand wider public views as to the possibility of reusing old graves (where legislation allows).
3. Assess the availability of potential new Cemetery sites and develop an understanding of the planning, logistical and financial implications of delivering a new site.
4. Assess potential delivery partners for a new Cemetery.

At the earliest possible opportunity, the group will present to FGP the outcome of consultation and its recommendations as to the need for further efforts to deliver future burial provision. Subsequent to this, the group will present costed proposals to FGP committee relating to elements detailed above and ahead of formal proposals being made to update the FGP committee on progress at least quarterly albeit more frequent updates may at times be necessary.

In all areas of the groups work and remit, the group will seek to ensure appropriate governance and financial management is applied for any financial commitment towards the undertaking of the Group and will seek to ensure that in all areas of undertakings the Council is obtaining best value for public funds and resources.

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### **Proposed remit/terms of reference of Climate Change Sub Committee**

The sub committee shall consist of 5 Town Council members.

Meetings of the sub committee shall be quorate with at least 3 members present.

The existence and remit of the sub committee and the membership thereof shall be reviewed annually at the first FGP meeting of each Civic year and as necessary the Chairman and Deputy Chairman shall be appointed at the same meeting.

The subcommittee shall meet as often as it deems necessary for the effective discharge of the business of the sub committee.

The subcommittee shall be responsible for :

1. Monitoring and evaluating the Councils impact on Climate Change.
2. Seeking to reduce the Council carbon footprint.
3. Addressing the Councils statutory obligations for biodiversity net gain.
4. Delivering and evaluating projects adopted by the sub committee that are designed to reduce the Councils carbon footprint or promote other organisations / members of the public to reduce their own carbon footprint.
5. Working with other partners as necessary in pursuance of the objectives of the sub committee.
6. Actively promoting operational changes across all Council undertakings that will help to deliver the objectives of the sub committee.
7. Taking and promoting action within the Council that delivers good environmental stewardship.



The subcommittee will deliver a minimum of quarterly reports as to its actions and undertakings to the FGP committee but where necessary may provide updates or recommendations to the FGP committee at any time.

In all areas of the groups work and remit, the group will seek to ensure appropriate governance and financial management is applied for any financial commitment towards the undertakings of the sub committee and will seek to ensure that in all areas of undertakings the Council is obtaining best value for public funds and resources.



**FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES**

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>KIDDEY STONES</b>
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	<b>Matthew Gleadell</b>

**1. Recommendations**

- 1.1 That members determine if they are content with the proposals from NSDC for the display of the Kiddey Stones and provide feedback relating thereto.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 The Town Council agreed last year to allow NSDC to take custody of the Kiddey Stones with a view to them being publicly displayed.
- 2.2 NSDC have now developed a detailed proposal and a copy of the recent NSDC report relating to the proposal is attached for ease of reference as Appendix 1.
- 2.3 NSDC are now asking the Town Council for their views as to the proposals before progressing further. Final plans will be subject to a level of public consultation as agreed to be undertaken by NSDC.

**3.0 Financial, Legal, Equality, Environmental & Risk Issues**

- 3.1 Contained in the report.

<b>Background Papers:</b>	<b>Working papers</b>
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	<b>Matthew Gleadell</b> <b>Tel: 01636 684801    Email:</b> <a href="mailto:matthew.gleadell@newark.gov.uk">matthew.gleadell@newark.gov.uk</a>





Report to: Cabinet Meeting: 4 June 2024

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Rowan Cozens, Heritage, Culture & the Arts

Director Lead: Matthew Finch, Director - Communities & Environment

Lead Officer: Dennis Roxburgh, Project Manager Construction, Ext. 5645

Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open report, non-key decision
Report Title	Proposal to Site the 'Kiddey Stones' at Castle House
Purpose of Report	To put forward a proposal for Member consideration that could see work by the famous sculptor, Robert Kiddey, put on public view for the first time in 40 years, as part of plans to create a new art trail in the town and beyond.
Recommendations	<p>It is recommended that Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) approve, in principle, the design and location of the Kiddey Stones to be installed at Castle House, Newark;</li> <li>b) support a period of public consultation on the proposals to enable residents and stakeholders to have their views on the plans, including the Town Council in whose ownership the stones are in; and</li> <li>c) agree that a report is brought back to Cabinet in September 2024 to formally endorse the scheme or otherwise with a budget to be included in the Council's capital programme.</li> </ul>
Alternative Options Considered	The Kiddey Stones are part of Newark's heritage. For around 40 years they have been under tarpaulin in the town's cemetery. Without funding and a suitable location to site the stones, it is highly likely they will continue to remain away from public view. However, it is an option not to invest in the project.
Reason for Recommendations	The recommendations align with the Community Plan objectives in relation to heritage and culture, particularly the specific actions around increasing the quantity and quality of public art in the district.

## **1.0 Background**

- 1.1 Robert Kiddey was born in Nottingham in 1900 and died in Newark in 1984. In the 1920s, he is credited with the frieze of figures around the top of Nottingham's Council House on the Market Square and a carved panel called 'The Devine Tragedy' which was accepted for the Royal Academy's annual exhibition in London. His work became known internationally at this point. In 1931 he moved to Newark and took up a teaching post at the newly opened Technical College where he remained for some 50 years. There is a plaque to him in Mill Gate where his studio was located.
- 1.2 The Kiddey stone tablets have been stored at Newark Cemetery on London Road for many years. They comprise 12 pieces of stone forming 4 panels of 3 pieces each. The individual tablets measure just over 2m in height and 1m in width. The tablets are created from carved sandstone in bas-relief and each depict a different aspect of electricity production and were originally commissioned and installed at Wilford Power Station. When the power station closed in the early 1980s, the tablets were given to the Town Council. The tablets were briefly reassembled in the early 1990s when a Town Council working party was asked to explore options for their future. It is not known what happened after this, other than that the stones were stored at the Cemetery under tarpaulins.
- 1.3 The Town Council have discussed relocating the stones to the Middlebeck development, potentially as part of a roundabout or parkland setting. The Civic Trust are keen to see the stones displayed in the public realm, but otherwise retained within Newark. The Town Council had indicated that they would consider alternate options for disposal on written request. Last year, the Council's Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Heritage, Culture & the Arts, Councillor Rowan Cozens, made a formal approach to the Town Council for the stones to be put on public display once more – this time at Castle House, the Council's main office base. Castle House was identified as it is in the Council's ownership, so no additional permissions are required, whilst it also has the required space and is publicly accessible.
- 1.4 It was not fully known what condition the stones were in or what would be needed to install them in a public setting. A feasibility budget was created to facilitate this work which included specialist input from a heritage stone mason, architect, structural engineer and cost consultant.

## **2.0 Proposal/Details of Options Considered**

### **Vision**

- 2.1 The Community Plan references a desire to increase the quality and quantity of public art in Newark and Sherwood. Robert Kiddey was an internationally renowned sculptor with a strong association to the town of Newark. As such, putting stones on public display once more would be a powerful and practical expression of commitments made in the community plan. It would also mark the start of a new art trail around the town centre, with more objects from the Council's extensive resource centre collection being put on public display across the town centre. As well as bringing more residents of the district into contact with their heritage, the trail would also create a new experience for visitors and residents within the town and help generate additional footfall.

### **Feasibility Work**

- 2.2 The stones were carefully removed from the cemetery earlier this year by a local, heritage stone mason. This was approved by the town council. Since that time, the stonemason has been able to confirm that the stones were in a good condition. This also enabled architects and structural engineers to measure and assess the stones, to identify how they could be displayed safely. It is estimated that the stones collectively weigh over eight tonnes.

### **Preferred Option**

- 2.3 The preferred option is for the stones to be displayed outside Castle House as can be seen in the attached appendices. A concrete plinth would be created for each of the four depictions, with the stones then pinned and encased in a brick surround which would tie in with the brickwork at Castle House. Colleagues in planning have been consulted and confirmed that planning permission is not required. In addition to the four structures, an interpretation panel would also be installed together with a seating structure. The area earmarked for the art works is covered by CCTV and close to Castle House. Other locations may be put forward during the consultation phase referred to below, but the suitability or otherwise of these is not yet known. It should also be noted that feasibility work and costs would not have been incurred at these sites.

### **Cost Plan**

- 2.4 The cost to deliver the scheme is forecast at £81,240, inclusive of the build costs for the four panels, seating and interpretation panel, lighting, fees and contingency. A detailed cost plan is included in the **appendices**. Clearly, the actual cost will not be known until the works have been tendered.

### **Next Steps**

- 2.5 The feasibility work to date has shown that siting the panels in public once more after 40 years is possible. It has identified a location which ties into a wider art trail for the town of Newark and a cost plan to complete the scheme as set out.
- 2.6 It is now proposed the Council enters into a period of consultation in which residents and visitors can give their views whilst feedback is sought from specific organisations as well, including the Town Council, as the custodian of the Kidney Stones, the Civic Trust and the Police. It is proposed that this takes place over the summer with a report due back to Cabinet in September for a final decision.

### **3.0 Implications**

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection; Digital & Cyber Security; Equality & Diversity; Financial; Human Resources; Human Rights; Legal; Safeguarding & Sustainability and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

### **Financial Implications (FIN24-25/6777)**

- 3.1 A budget of £20,000 was made available to carry out the feasibility works. £17,525 has been committed to date.
- 3.2 Based on the costs shown at paragraph 2.4 of £81,240 the additional revenue costs of the construction will be £5,687 per year. That is £1,625 in Minimum Revenue Provision and £4,062 in interest over a 50 year period.
- 3.3 Following the consultation exercise, a report will be brought back to Cabinet in September 2024, when subject to member approval, the costs to complete the build will be added to the Capital Programme, along with identifying additional revenue costs for maintenance and cleaning.

### **Legal Implications**

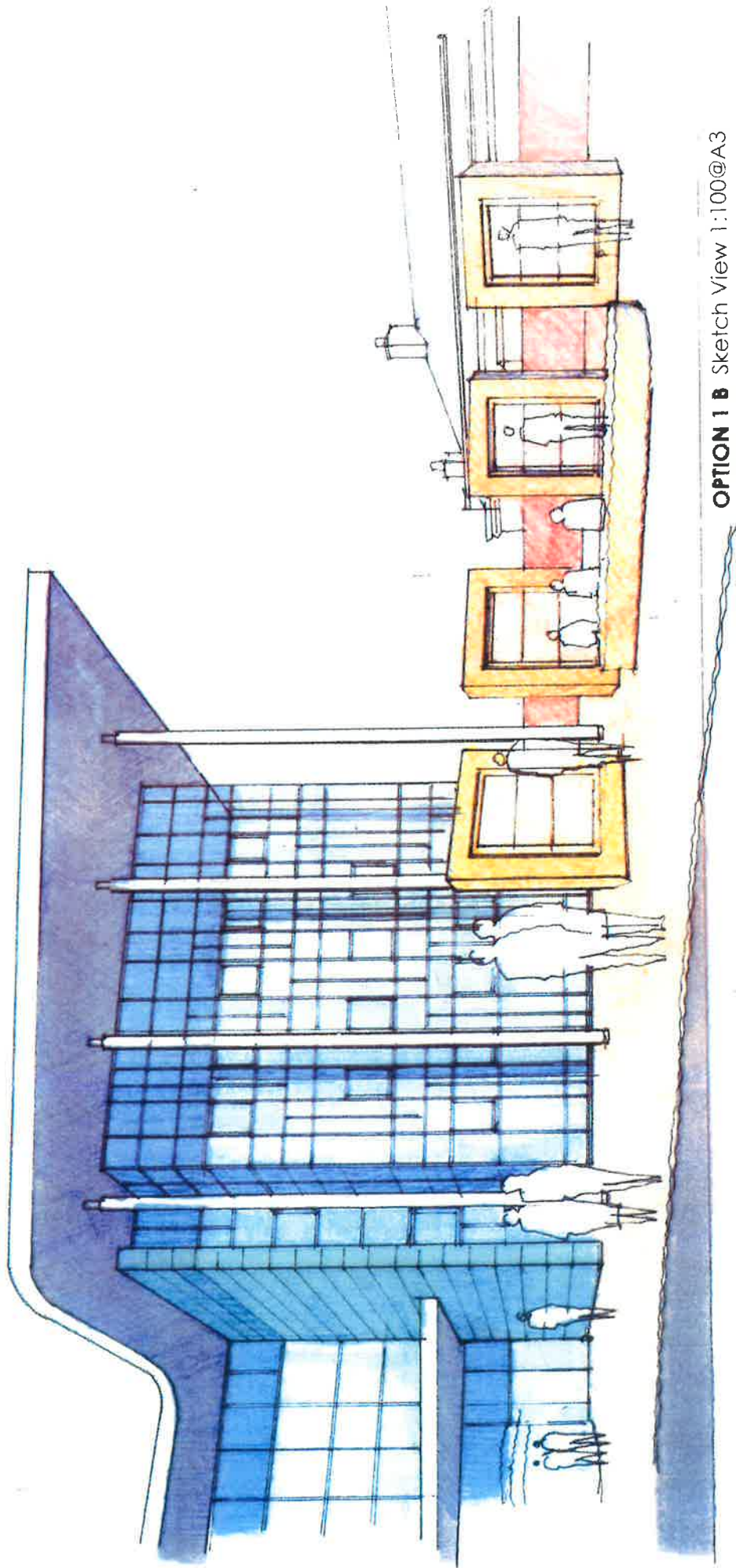
- 3.4 Any transfer of ownership of this artwork to the District Council should be formalised by a deed of gift or letter of intent, including confirmation of the position in relation to any ongoing liabilities and maintenance obligations, together with any intellectual property rights considerations. A monetary value should be established for insurance purposes.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

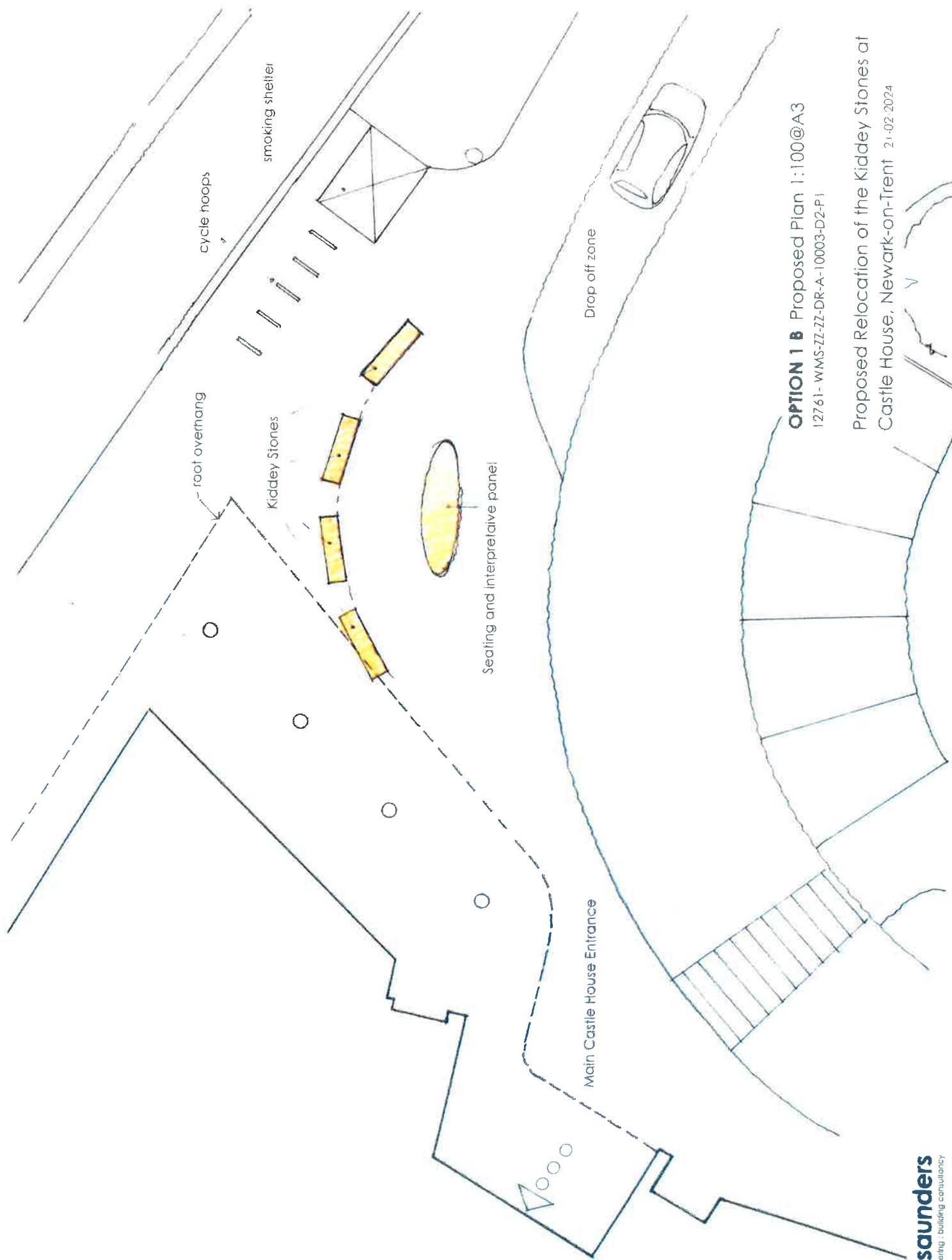
None





**OPTION 1 B** Sketch View 1:100@A3  
 12761 - WMS-ZZ-ZZ-DR-A-18102-D2-P1

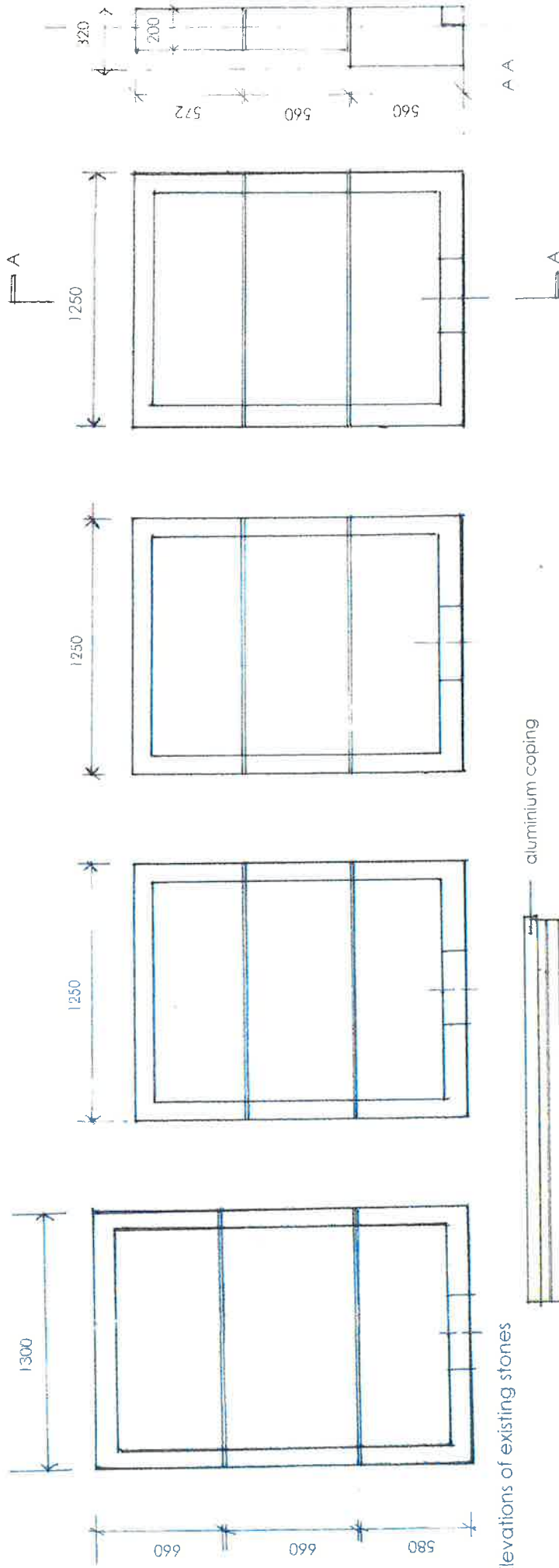
Proposed Relocation of the Kiddey Stones at  
 Castle House, Newark-on-Trent 21-02-2024



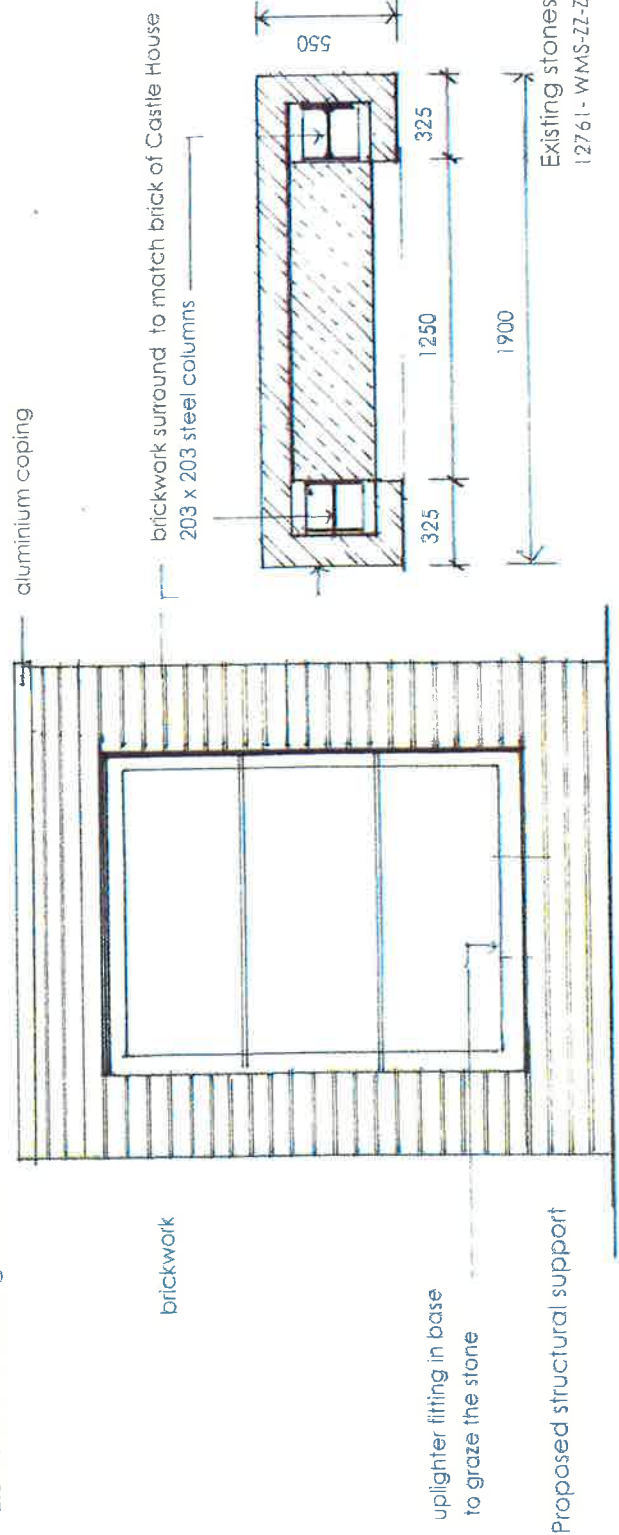
**OPTION 1 B** Proposed Plan 1:100@A3

12761- WMS-ZZ-ZZ-DR-A-10003-D2-P1

Proposed Relocation of the Kidney Stones at  
Castle House, Newark-on-Trent 21-02-2024



Elevations of existing stones



brickwork

uplighter fitting in base  
to graze the stone

Proposed structural support

Existing stones and proposed structural support 1:20@A3  
12761-WMS-ZZ-DR-A-10101-D2-P1

Proposed Relocation of the Kiddey Stones at  
Castle House, Newark-on-Trent 21-02-2024











**FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2024/2025</b>
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	<b>TOWN CLERK</b>

**1. Recommendation**

- 1.1 That Members confirm the appointment of Town Council representatives on Outside Bodies for the 2024/25 Civic Year.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 In accordance with established practice, Members are requested to consider the appointment of representatives to the Outside Bodies shown at Appendix 1 and confirm new appointments for all bodies.
- 2.2 The Outside Bodies listed at Appendix 1 are a mix of registered Charities and other community bodies. The role of Members when sitting on these bodies are summarised below:

- (i) **Charities** – these organisations are seeking Town Councillors to serve as they are seen as being ‘upstanding’ members and representatives of the local community. Their role on the Charity is not to represent the Town Council, indeed by law they should always act in the best interest of the Charity concerned, irrespective of any implications that decision could have for the Town Council. The following organisations fall into this category:

Hospital of St Leonard of Newark

Lilley & Stone School Charities

Magnus Educational Foundation

Newark Mind

Newark Municipal Charities

Newark & Sherwood CVS

W E Knight Education Trust

- (ii) **Other Bodies** – the remainder of outside bodies are more focussed on actual service delivery/projects often influencing other service providers in and around Newark. On these bodies the role of the Town Councillor is more as a representative of the Town Council and should be focused on what is in the Town Council's interest rather than the body itself.

**3. Financial, Legal, Equality, Environmental and Risk Issues**

3.1 None.

<b>Background Papers:</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	<b>Matthew Gleadell</b> Tel: 01636 684801 Email: <a href="mailto:matthew.gleadell@newark.gov.uk">matthew.gleadell@newark.gov.uk</a>



REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES – RESOLVED AT FGP 14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023

OUTSIDE BODY	PREVIOUS/CURRENT TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATION	TERM OF OFFICE
East Midlands Museum Service	Town Clerk	Civic Year
Hospital of St Leonard of Newark	Town Mayor – ex officio Cllr B Corrigan Cllr N Ross	4 year term 4 year term
Lilley & Stone School Charities	Town Mayor – ex officio Cllr D Moore Vacancy	4 year term 4 year term
Magnus Educational Foundation	Town Mayor – ex officio Cllr D Moore Cllr E Cropper	4 year term 4 year term
Newark Allotments & Gardens Assn	Cllr D Campbell	Civic Year
Newark in Bloom	Cllr M Skinner	Civic Year
Newark Civic Trust Awards	Town Mayor	Civic Year
Newark Healthcare Consultative Group	Cllr I Brown Cllr L Roulstone	Civic Year Civic Year
Newark Heritage Forum	Cllr D Moore	Civic Year
Newark Mind	Cllr D Moore	Civic Year
Newark Municipal Charities	Cllr G Rix Cllr S Crosby	4 year term 4 year term

Friends of Newark Cemetery	Cllr S Crosby	Civic Year
Newark & Sherwood CVS	Cllr D Moore	Civic Year
W E Knight Education Trust	Cllr L Geary Cllr B Corrigan Cllr T Collier	3 year term 3 year term 3 year term

**FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES**

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Hearing Loop</b>
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	<b>Matthew Gleadell</b>

**1. Recommendations**

- 1.1 That the existing Hearing Loop system is subject to further investment set out in this report to ensure that existing users are able to fully benefit from its operation.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 In 2023 a new Hearing Loop was installed in the Council Chamber and an upgraded loop system was added in the Ballroom.
- 2.2 The Hearing Loop is fully operational.
- 2.3 It is now apparent that the sound input method adopted for the loops whilst also effective for some hearing aid users and works well in some circumstances, is not delivering the required output for all hearing aid users. Some users describe the loop as picking up far too much background noise which is then impacting on hearing people speaking. This is especially important in a Council meeting.
- 2.4 The existing shotgun microphones are designed to pick up all noise in the room and do so but for some hearing aid users a system that focuses more on people speaking rather than all noise in the room is required.
- 2.5 The Clerk recently met again with the loop provider. The pertinent lesson that the Clerk learnt from that meeting is that just as those that have acceptable hearing do so at different levels, so do hearing aid users who also have very different experiences of using a loop depending on their core level of natural hearing and hearing aid type. In essence there is no one size fits all and a loop system that works well for one may not work as well for another.
- 2.6 The first sound input system in the way of shotgun microphones was the most cost-effective approach to pick up the sound in the room and the one that most mimics a non-hearing aid user in that all sound is collected albeit sounds closer to the microphone will be at a higher level than sound further away.
- 2.7 The next step up in terms of input is for wireless microphones to be used in a Council meeting. Provided people speaking in a meeting do so with microphone in hand and with the microphone at a suitable distance from their mouth, the loop will focus on the voice of the person speaking in a meeting and provide greater clarity of sound for the person speaking.
- 2.8 The cost for adding suitable wireless microphones for use in a Council meeting and other functions and events is £2,164.90.
- 2.9 Other options to avoid passing round microphones at a meeting or other events would be to install a number of goose head microphones or lapel microphones. Costs for these options start to move in excess of £10,000 (based on feedback from the audio technician). At present a number of hand-held microphones that can be moved around to members, officers and members of the public during a council meeting or guests generally at other events is considered the most cost-effective option at this time.

### **3.0 Financial, Legal, Equality, Environmental & Risk Issues**

#### **3.1 Equality**

It is important that as a Council with elected members who use hearing aids that we do all we can to ensure they are able to fully hear and participate in a council meeting.

##### **Risk Issues**

There is a small risk due to individual variances that some users may find that input levels are too high, whereas others are happy with the level or feel it too low. Combatting such a problem is difficult to overcome. It could be improved with enhanced technology and use of a sound engineer monitoring an amplifier but this would come at considerable cost.

<b>Background Papers:</b>	<b>Working papers</b>
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	<b>Matthew Gleadell</b> <b>Tel: 01636 684801    Email:</b> <a href="mailto:matthew.gleadell@newark.gov.uk">matthew.gleadell@newark.gov.uk</a>

## FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Sherwood Avenue Development</b>
<b>REPORT BY:</b>	<b>Matthew Gleadell</b>

**1. Recommendations**

- 1.1 That members determine their desired approach to the following:

1. Inclusion of water play in the Sherwood Avenue project.
2. The final play scheme to be commissioned for the site.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 On the basis of consultation feedback the conceptual plans for the project included a small water play feature. This was a compromise on wider requests for a full splash park but which due to the absence of parking on site was felt inappropriate for that location. Although in no way confirmed or guaranteed NSDC are considering the possibility of the addition of a splash park at Sconce and Devon Park.
- 2.2 Following further work to develop the scheme the costs for a water play scheme are now clearer both in terms of install and future maintenance. Members are therefore asked to confirm if they are happy for this element to be included in the final plans having regard to future costs. Please see Appendix 1 for full cost details, options and information provided by NSDC.
- 2.3 In relation to the wider play scheme there is to be a project and proposals update from Ben Stacey from NSDC on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm. In order for the play scheme to be delivered ideally before the school holidays, a decision to progress on the final play element is welcomed at the FGP meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> June. For members unable to attend on Monday evening, relevant information and detail provided on the Monday evening will be made available prior to the FGP meeting.
- 2.4 The skate park and sports element of the project is subject to separate tender structures. Final options are expected for this in mid-July and will be subject to a further decision process at a later date.

**3.0 Financial, Legal, Equality, Environmental & Risk Issues**

- 3.1 **Financial** – It is well documented that the Town Council is navigating some challenging financial issues. Focus is very much on cost saving or revenue generation. Taking on an asset with several thousand pounds of annual maintenance costs only adds to the financial challenges.

**Risk Issues** – Equipment involving electrical apparatus and water pumps carries a risk of breakdown and need for repair which can sometimes take time to address. Frustration is felt by users when features like this are broken down. All play equipment is at risk of damage / failure however it is suggested that the inclusion of highly mechanical elements enhances that risk.

<b>Background Papers:</b>	<b>Working papers</b>
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## Appendix 1 – Water Play Feature

### Financial

Install Cost - **£85,000**

Annual Maintenance – **Up to £5,000** per annum (this is based on water and electricity costs set out below together with an allowance for breakdowns and repairs)  
In recent years the Council has incurred significant maintenance costs in relation to the existing skate park. Current budgets and financial forecasts are based on a level of cost that allows for continued high maintenance costs on the skate park. The new skate park should hugely reduce those maintenance costs and in essence free up funds that could support the water play feature.

### Options

1. Proceed with the install and allow for future annual costs estimated herein.
2. Do not proceed with install but divert the funds saved into additional play equipment.
3. If Option 2 is preferred the Council could seek funding in the future to add water play at a time when financial challenges may be less of a factor.

### Sherwood Avenue Park Newark Water Feature Costs

Description	Per Day m3	Season Usage	Days Usage Average	m3	Price per m3 Water	Price per m3Sewage	Total Cost £
Daily Water Usage based on 7hrs operation With grey water facility to reduce sewage costs	8.82	May - Sept	110	970.2	1.9	1.36	3,162.85
<b>Average Total Water and Sewage Cost</b>				<b>684</b>			<b>£3,162.85</b>
Note - Costs based on £1.9 per m3, for water and £1.36 for sewage check with provider							
<b>Average chemical costs per year for superchlorination</b>							<b>£100.00</b>

WATER PLAY AREA RUNNING COSTS

Description	KW Rating	Hrs Use	Per Day	Season Usage	Days Usage Average	Total Hours	KW Hrs	Price per KW Hr?	Total Cost
Effects Pump Solenoid system	0.6 1	7 7		May -Sept May -Sept	110 110	770 770	462 770	0.3 0.3	138.60 231.00
Average Total Electrical Costs									£369.60

Note - Costs based on 0.30p per kw/hr but this will vary depending on energy supplier.

Total Average Running Cost not including Labour									
									£3,632.45