

**Executive Committee**  
**2021**

13th July

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**Report title: Bomford Hill Pathway**

Relevant Portfolio Holder		Councillor Michael Rouse
Portfolio Holder Consulted		<b>Yes / No</b>
Relevant Head of Service		
Report Author	Job Title: Ishrat Karimi Fini Contact email: Ishrat.karimifini@bromsgroverredditch.gov.uk Contact Tel:	
Wards Affected		Church Hill
Ward Councillor(s) consulted		Yes
Relevant Strategic Purpose(s)		Living independent and healthy lives" and "Communities which are safe, well maintained and green" Community Purpose - "Improving Health and Wellbeing"
Non-Key Decision		
If you have any questions about this report, please contact the report author in advance of the meeting.		

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**The Executive Committee RECOMMEND that:-**

- 1) the capital programme be amended to incorporate the budget for the works detailed in recommendation 2, and that works be undertaken to re-introduce a gravel pathway at Bomford Hill to improve access to the recently installed piece of memorial; and**
- 2) the receipt of the total value of (£31,727.37) for the project plus a maintenance figure ( £3,127) is received from Church Hill Big Local.**

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Bomford Hill Park is in the heart of the community of Church Hill and has recently undergone a development to provide a Memorial Monument at the top of the hill, funded and installed by a third party, (Church Hill Big Local Partnership).
- 2.2 The Memorial Monument (known as the Peace Memorial) has created a place for remembrance within this natural environment enabling the local community to pay respects and reflect throughout the year about those who lost their lives during WW1 and WW2.

- 2.3 Church Hill Big Local (CHBL) has consulted with the local community within Church Hill to ascertain the need for a more accessible route to this new feature to ensure this provides inclusive access to all visitors. Local surveys have been carried out to review the need and increased demand following the installation of the Memorial.
- 2.4 The Council's Engineering Design team has produced the planned route along with a quotation for the full works using the council's Approved Framework Civils Contractors to complete the works.
- 2.5 CHBL has secured funds through their Big Lottery Community Project granted to the council to provide this essential pedestrian route. This will also include a maintenance payment to RBC of 10% one off payment to manage the pathway within its open space.
- 2.6 CHBL has approached the Council with a proposal for the Council to undertake the works on Council land for which they will provide the funding.

**3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 Project costs of £31,272.37 will be funded through the grant fund received from the CHBL (Big Lottery Funding) which will include an additional £3,127.00 maintenance payment to support the ongoing maintenance of this informal permeable route.
- 3.2 The order for the pathway will be raised by the Council and CHBL will be invoiced for full value. A letter of commitment/intent has been received from CHBL to confirm funding availability from a local trust.
- 3.3 CHBL has undertaken to cover any additional or unforeseen costs arising from the installation of the pathway, with no limitations.

**4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 It is appropriate for the Council to undertake these works on Council land. Therefore, the asset will be managed and maintained by Redditch Borough Council.

**5. STRATEGIC PURPOSES - IMPLICATIONS**

**Relevant Strategic Purpose**

- 5.1 The pathway will support RBC Strategic and Community Purposes and priorities:

“Living independent and healthy lives” and “Communities which are safe, well maintained and green” as well as supporting the community Purpose of “Improving Health and Wellbeing”

- Enabling communities to access the Bomford Hill and the new Peace Memorial by providing a safe and enabling route for those with mobility issues and with pushchairs. The route will also encourage the local community to visit this green space throughout the year to improve both physical and mental health.

### **Climate Change Implications**

- 5.2 The proposed pedestrian route will use permeable materials (Breedon Gravel) to limit the needs for alternative landscape materials such as blacktop. Wooden kerb edging will also be used to blend into the natural landscape and soften the scheme. The line of the pathway will ensure water runoff is managed within the site’s woodland and longer grassed areas.

## **6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

### **Equalities and Diversity Implications**

- 6.1 The provision of the pathway will be a grant funded from the CHBL to the Council to ensure accessibility for all abilities to the new Memorial site.

The overall offer would contribute to the improvement of local green spaces and encourage local community and those with mobility issues to be able to visit this Memorial Site and the ability to access the vistas from the top of the hill.

This would also provide the opportunity to encourage more people to use the Bomford Hill park during Autumn and Winter months when ground conditions are poor with prams/buggies/wheelchairs.

### **Operational Implications**

- 6.2 There are no operational implications – the project will be delivered by contractors within the Council’s Approved Civils Framework and therefore all the necessary due diligence has been carried out. The contractors will be overseen and managed by the Leisure Parks Projects team with support from the design and engineering team.

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**7. RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 7.1 Reputational risk has been mitigated through consultation carried out by the Church Hill Big Local Partnership with the local community.
- 7.2 Risk Assessment and Method Statement will be subject to standard Framework civils contract and overseen by the Leisure Parks Project Officer.

**8. APPENDICES and BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1. Engineering Design Team design of new pathway

**9. REPORT SIGN OFF**

<b>Department</b>	<b>Name and Job Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
Portfolio Holder	Councillor Michael Rouse	
Lead Director / Head of Service	Ruth Bamford	
Financial Services	Chris Forester	
Legal Services	Clare Flanagan, Principal Solicitor	June 2021