



PRESS RELEASE

Friday 23 September 2011

NEWBURY TOWN COUNCIL'S HERITAGE LOTTERY BID

Over the past few months Newbury Town Council has been busy creating a Heritage Lottery Fund bid (HLF) under the Parks for People initiative for the revitalisation and enhancement of Victoria Park. The bid has now been submitted to HLF for review with the results of the bid expected in October 2011.

If we succeed to the next round we will need to produce accurate project costings and give more details of the work to be carried out for Stage 2 submission by the end of February 2012, with a final decision made in June 2012.

The projects identified are:

New cafe/toilets/boat store (to be located on the site of the existing kiosk)

Resurfacing of tennis courts and new MUGA pitch

Bowls club green replacement, tree removal and new fencing

Bandstand refurbishment

Relocation of Queen Victoria statues

Relocation of main entrance gates

Scooter park

Additional play equipment

Toilet block conversion to sports changing rooms

Sensory garden

General planting

Wetland area

New benches and bins

CCTV system

Continued.....

In addition we've included a Park Ranger job role to provide much needed support/management of the Park. We've also included the support of a Project Development Officer - who will oversee the implementation of the projects, if we're successful.

The final total cost, including all the above is £1,299,580, of which we are requesting a HLF grant of £999,000 (these figures may be adjusted slightly during the course of the project).

Following its £100,000 grant to support the successful skatepark and new play area in Victoria Park, Greenham Common Trust has agreed in principle to give Newbury Town Council up to half the construction costs (at a cap of £250,000) towards the proposed café/toilet/boat store.

Trust spokesman Julian May said: "Victoria Park is a much loved and vital facility for local residents and visitors to Newbury. The Trust is happy to continue to support Newbury Town Council's plans to improve recreational amenities in the park making it an area which we can all be truly proud of. We wish the council every success with the Heritage Lottery Fund bid."

Cllr David Allen, Chair of Victoria Park Working Party said, "We are very positive with this application. We have worked in consultation with the Friends of Victoria Park in producing a plan that will conserve the heritage of the Park, enhance the facilities and makes Victoria Park a key destination in West Berkshire. We are extremely grateful to Greenham Common Trust for their generous contribution".

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