

# Cherwell Council

## Executive

6 July 2015

### Bicester Sports Village Update

## Report of Director of Community and Environment

This report is public

### Purpose of report

The purpose of this report is to update the Executive with the latest project position in delivering the pavilion, car park, access requirements, floodlighting and 3G synthetic sports pitch.

### 1.0 Recommendations

The Executive is recommended to

- 1.1 Note the progress in delivering phase 2 of the Bicester Sports Village project.

### 2.0 Introduction

- 2.1 The Executive considered an update report on the South West Bicester Sports Village project at its meeting in March and this report will inform Members of how the project has developed since that time. In particular, the focus has been on developing the design proposals and the procurement of the next stage in the project (phase 2 as it is known) to deliver the pavilion, car park, access, floodlights and 3G pitch. The design work has given due consideration to the Kingsmere Design Code and other planning issues raised in the Planning Pre-Application process.

### 3.0 Report Details

#### Revised Programme

- 3.1 The design work for phase 2 has taken longer than expected because of the difficulty in taking account of the Kingsmere Design Code, the Pre-App advice and developing a design that meets the needs of the Sports Village but remains within the available budget. On-going discussions with planning officers have now resulted in a proposed design that can be taken forward for the planning application to be

considered at the October Planning Committee meeting. Taking account of this delay, the procurement procedures and estimated construction period, the revised programme projects practical completion for June 2016. This will have little effect on the use of the pitches as most of the existing football/rugby teams will be looking to utilise the pitches at the start of the following seasons (August onwards).

### Design and Planning Progress

- 3.2 The delays mentioned in above have been challenging but the proposed scheme as developed is within budget. Drawings to RIBA Stage 3 (Developed Design) have been amended accordingly and will be presented with the full planning application. The design and proposals are now at a stage where there is sufficient cost and project certainty for tender documentation to be drawn up.
- 3.3 The Project Board have given this matter full consideration in respect of the final design and have instructed officers to progress this through the full planning application. The project still intends to deliver the preferred phase 2 two storey pavilion, car parking, access, floodlighting and the 3G artificial pitch.

### Consultation

- 3.4 The design proposals were displayed for the sports clubs and other interested parties on 2 March and the public on 3 March. Feedback from this consultation has been considered in developing the final design proposals.

### Construction contractor procurement

- 3.5 Procurement of the construction contractor continues and the tender documents are being issued to the shortlisted companies. The procurement process is aligned with determination of the planning application so that any conditions arising from the planning process are taken account of prior to the tender submissions.

### Joint Use of the Facilities and the Operating Contract

- 3.6 At the March Executive meeting, Members were reminded of the difficulties with Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) being able to confirm what type of educational establishment will be co-located with the sports village and within what timescale. However, it is reasonably certain that it will have independent academy status and as a consequence, it is recognised that OCC will want to review its position over the joint use agreement currently in place. Initial discussion with Officers have confirmed this and further meetings will determine the best resolution for all parties.
- 3.7 The operating contract procurement documentation will be developed to reflect the outcomes of the joint use discussions so that the contractor is able to maximise daytime use reflecting on a more positive revenue implication for Bicester Town Council.

### Project Board

- 3.8 The Project Board continue to meet at dates aligned with key stages in the programme to ensure the project remains on track and any risks are managed accordingly.

## **4.0 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations**

- 4.1 The Bicester Sports Village project continues to progress with a slightly adjusted programme which moves the anticipated project completion date to summer 2016.

## **5.0 Consultation**

Bicester Town Council  
Bicester Sports Clubs  
Bicester Community

## **6.0 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

- 6.1 The project has been approved and is progressing in accordance with these approvals. There are no other options being considered at this time other than proposals to remain within the approved funding envelope.

## **7.0 Implications**

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

- 7.1 Financial and resource implications were reported in the October report and remain the same.

Comments checked by Paul Sutton, Interim Head of Finance and Procurement, 030000 30106 phil.sutton@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

### **Legal Implications**

- 7.2 There are no legal implications arising from this update report. Law and Governance continues to provide guidance and advice as necessary as this project progresses.

Comments checked by Richard Hawtin, Team Leader – Non-contentious, Tel: 01295 221695, Email: richard.hawtin@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

### **Risk Implications**

- 7.3 The risks associated with this report are related to the potential costs/available budget and are currently being mitigated through the design and market testing exercise. However, if there are any financial issues following this process then options will be presented for Members consideration at a future Executive meeting. Risks associated with this project are managed by the Project Board. Risks will be escalated as and when necessary through the corporate risk register.

Comments checked by Louise Tustian, Acting Corporate Performance Manager 01295 221786 louise.tustian2@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

## 8.0 Decision Information

### Key Decision

**Financial Threshold Met:** No

**Community Impact Threshold Met:** No

### Wards Affected

All Bicester wards and surrounding rural wards.

### Links to Corporate Plan and Policy Framework

A Safe, Healthy and Thriving District.

Providing the Bicester Multi-Sports Village would enable residents of Bicester and surrounding areas including children, young people and adults to take part in greater opportunities for meaningful, structured regular sport and physical activity. This would give each individual the health related benefits of a physically active lifestyle and is consistent with Eco Bicester – One Shared Vision.

A District of Opportunity

The Bicester Multi-sports Village would provide a training facility for sports clubs to train and compete in their chosen sport. This would give players a participatory opportunity and give coaches and volunteers the opportunity to gain nationally recognised qualifications. If the full scheme was progressed the pavilion would also provide a much needed conference, function and meeting venue for Bicester increasing the facilities on offer to all organisations and companies.

### Lead Councillor

Councillor George Reynolds, Deputy Leader.

### Document Information

Appendix No	Title
None	
Background Papers	
None	
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