

**EXCERPT OF MINUTE OF MEETING OF LEARNING AND LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE
HELD ON 23 AUGUST 2012****PLAY AREA AT BROOM ROAD, ABRONHILL, CUMBERNAULD - UPGRADE PROPOSALS BY
THE ABRONHILL REGENERATION GROUP**

16. There was submitted a report dated 30 June 2012 by the Head of Community Information and Learning (1) intimating that a request had been received for the upgrade of an existing play area at Broom Road, Abronhill, Cumbernauld; (2) advising that, as there was insufficient Council funding available to upgrade the play area, the Play Services Section had been working with the Abronhill Regeneration Group to access external funding to replace the play area; (3) stating that money had subsequently been found from the Learning and Leisure Services' Composite Capital Programme allocation for capitalised equipment to fund the third party contributions required by the external funders; (4) providing details, in Table 1 of the report, of the funding received from external sources towards the replacement of the play area, together with details of the third party contributions to be funded by the Council in the total sum of £9,328.89; (5) proposing (a) that a new community natural play area at Broom Road be constructed by Abronhill Regeneration Group, and (b) that confirmation be issued to the external funders that the Council supported the initiative and would take on responsibility for the long term maintenance and public liability insurance of the site, and (6) confirming that the Council would continue to provide advice and support to the Group to facilitate the completion of the upgrade works.

Decided:

- (1) that the Committee, for its interest, recommend that the proposal for the upgrade of the existing play area at Broom Road, Abronhill, Cumbernauld by the Abronhill Regeneration Group, be approved;
- (2) that it be noted that the Council would (a) retain responsibility for the long term maintenance of the play area, and (b) provide advice to the Abronhill Regeneration Group to facilitate the completion of the upgrade works at the play area;
- (3) that it be noted that the third party contributions of £9,328.89 to be funded by the Council would be met from the 2012/13 Learning and Leisure Services Composite Capital Programme allocation for capitalised equipment;
- (4) that the Head of Community Information and Learning advise the Abronhill Regeneration Group and the external sources of the community project of the Council's commitment to the project, and
- (5) that the report be remitted to the Environmental Services Committee for consideration.

REPORT

To: LEARNING AND LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE		Subject: PLAY AREA REDEVELOPMENT AT BROOM ROAD, ABRONHILL BY ABRONHILL REGENERATION FORUM
From: HEAD OF COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND LEARNING		
Date: 30 JUNE 2012	Ref: SM/LMcM/MS	

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the report is to seek approval from the learning and leisure services committee for the upgrading of an existing play area at Broom Road, Abronhill by Abronhill Regeneration Group.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The learning and leisure services committee is recommended to approve:

- (i) the construction of a new community natural play area at Broom Road, Abronhill by Abronhill Regeneration Group;
- (ii) that confirmation is issued to funders that the Council supports this initiative and will take on long term maintenance of the play area;
- (iii) that notice is sent to Abronhill Regeneration Group informing them of the Committee's decision in this matter; and
- (iv) that this report be referred to the Environmental Services Committee for consideration.



Members seeking further information are asked to contact: -

Lizanne McMurrich, Head of Community Information and Learning on 01236 812338
Jillian Ferrie, Creative Services Manager on 01236 812581

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL: LEARNING & LEISURE SERVICES

PLAY AREA REDEVELOPMENT AT BROOM ROAD, ABRONHILL BY ABRONHILL REGENERATION GROUP

Report by Head of Community Information & Learning

1 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the report is to seek approval from the learning and leisure services committee for the upgrading of an existing play area at Broom Road, Abronhill by Abronhill Regeneration Group.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The play area at Broom Road, Abronhill is old and in a poor condition. It does not meet the current European Safety Standards for play areas and is in need of replacement. At present there is insufficient council funding available to upgrade this play area, but money has been found from the Learning and leisure Service's composite capital programme (capitalised equipment) allocation to fund the third party contributions required by the external funders (see table 1 below).
- 2.2 Following a request for an improved, natural play facility, and in keeping with the council's play area development strategy, play services has worked with Abronhill Regeneration Group to access external funding to replace the play area and have advised on the play area design. The group now has all of the funding in place for their proposed play area. The funding package comprises the allocations detailed in table 1.

Table 1

SOURCE OF FUNDING	AMOUNT	SECURED DATE
Biffa-Award	£40,000	June 2012
Environmental Key Fund	£30,000	May 2011
Waste Recycling Environmental	£50,000	June 2011
Total for Play Area Construction	£120,000	
NLC Capitalised Equipment for Play	£3,828.89	3 rd party funding paid to Biffa
NLC Capitalised Equipment for Play	£5,500	3 rd party funding paid to WREN
Total Funding Package (inc 3 rd party funding)	£129,3228.89	

3 CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 Proposals

- 3.1.1 As can be seen from table 1 above, the group has been successful in attracting £120,000 of external funding to upgrade the play facility. As an existing play area, the long term maintenance will continue to be carried out by the council. The funders do not require the land to be leased by the group but they do require confirmation of council approval of the project. The community will benefit from a new play area facility that will complement the community play area at Moss Road which they developed some years ago. The Broom Road play area will continue to be the responsibility of the council.

- 3.1.2 The group has commissioned the council's landscape services to manage the construction of the "Create and Play the Natural Way" play area. The group were heavily involved in drawing up the specification. The council's framework agreement for the purchase of play equipment and associates services has been used to obtain best value for the play equipment. The contract will however, be between Abronhill Regeneration Group and the contractor, not the council.
- 3.1.3 A clerk of works from landscape services will over see the installation, which will be to a standard acceptable to Environmental Services (land services) as the service responsible for the long term maintenance of the play area.

4. CORPORATE CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 The third party contributions to be funded by the Council as outlined in table 1, of £3,828.89 and £5,500 will be allocated from the 2012/13 learning and leisure services composite capital programme (capitalised equipment).
- 4.2 The council will continue to provide advice and support to the community group to allow completion of the new play area construction. Responsibility for the maintenance and public liability insurance for the new play area will remain with the council.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 The learning and leisure services committee is recommended to approve:
- the construction of a new community natural play area at Broom Road, Abronhill by Abronhill Regeneration Group;
 - that confirmation is issued to funders that the Council supports this initiative and will take on long term maintenance of the play area;
 - that notice is sent to Abronhill Regeneration Group informing them of the Committee's decision in this matter; and
 - that this report be referred to the Environmental Services Committee for consideration.