

Slough Borough Council

Report To:	Langley War Memorial Recreation Ground Trustee Committee
Date:	8 th February 2023
Subject:	Update report for the Road Widening Scheme Works
Chief Officer:	Richard West, Executive Director of Place and Community
Contact Officer:	Savio De Cruz
Ward(s):	Langley Kedermister Ward
Exempt:	None.
Appendices:	None.

1. Summary and Recommendations

1.1 This report updates the Trustee Committee members about the status of the works to the Langley War Memorial Recreation Ground following the completion of the road widening scheme.

Recommendations:

- The Committee is requested to note the information provided on the progress of the refurbishment works.

Reason: The road widening scheme required the outer edge of the park to be reduced. In response to this works have been carried out to enhance the outer boundaries of the park and install additional features. This report details the works carried out to compensate for this loss.

Commissioner Review

Commissioners have reviewed this report.

2. Report

Introductory paragraph

2.1 Major works to the highway have been completed and most works in the park are also now complete.

The following works were carried out:

- New heritage footpath and lights installed to road frontage.
- New boundary fence installed.
- New footpaths installed.
- Millennium memorial relocated.
- Avenues of trees planted along pathways.
- Replacements for mature trees removed as part of the works planted.
- Wild flower meadow created.
- Signage back in position and site scavenged to remove remaining debris from works.

2.2 The Memorial Ground refurbishment will help fulfil the objectives of the Langley War Memorial Field Trust to maintain the park as a recreation ground and playing field for the inhabitants of Langley and the public.

Options considered

2.3 The scheme was previously agreed, and construction works are now completed. This report gives an update on the works to the park which have been completed and outstanding works.

Background

2.4 As a result of essential road works, the outer edge of the park had to be reduced in size. The Council agreed to compensate the Trust for this by carrying out works to reinstate the boundary and include additional features in the park, and to contribute £150k to fund ongoing park maintenance costs.

There are a few works to complete such as installation of pedestrian barriers at the park entrance near the new pedestrian crossing.

We also hope to repaint the remaining park railings to match the new ones and carry out some planting works and maintenance to existing trees. As these fall outside the scope of remedial works that the Council undertakes at its own cost, officers intend to use a portion of the £150k funds allocated as part of the project to carry out this work and to replace any trees that fall in future years.

£150,000 of grant funding has been allocated to the Langley War Memorial Recreation Ground for maintenance and improvements over the next ten years. This funding will be held by the Council in a ring fenced account and applied solely for the purposes agreed.

Full costs for the initial works, (painting railings and tree reduction/maintenance works) will be sought and presented to the Committee for approval.

3. Implications of the Recommendation

3.1 Financial implications

The highways improvement project was grant funded. Part of the related funding agreement between the Council and the Trust was to allocate £150,000 of this for future maintenance and improvements to the Recreation Ground.

This will be held in a ring fenced reserve on the balance sheet for future maintenance works and electricity costs for the Langley War Memorial Recreation Ground.

Any future spend will not impact on Council funding. Revenue for maintenance of the Ground will not be affected.

3.2 Legal implications

The Trust Deed relating to this trust obliges the Trustees to maintain protect and repair the Langley War Memorial Recreation Ground as laid out. The Trust deed also obliges the Trustees to observe and perform the covenants affecting the trust land set out in the Trust Deed and the Trustees must therefore ensure that the terms of those covenants are not breached and that provision is made in the Trust's finances for any costs associated with such covenants.

3.3 Risk management implications

Risk	Mitigating action	Opportunities	Status
Ensure that any construction works are in line with Trust conditions	All works were agreed and approved by Trustees prior to commencement.		
Health and Safety: Safety hazards during construction	No health and safety concerns have been identified.	Risk assessments in place and employees working under supervision of their management and parks staff.	No Risks identified to date. Construction works were largely completed by end of September 2022.
Equalities Issues: Compliance with Equality Act 2010	Improved access across the Ground and improved visibility from the road.		
Financial: Funds not secured	Funds are to be drawn down from monies held in a reserve by the council	Funds are in place and have been approved.	Risk minimal.
Project Capacity: Delays during construction stage.	Project complete		Works were completed by end of September.
Other	None		

3.4 Environmental implications

None.

3.5 Equality implications

None

3.6 Procurement implications

None

3.7 Workforce implications

None

3.8 Property implications

None

4. Background Papers

- Report to Trustee Committee 24th January 2021.
- Report to Trustee Committee 11th October 2022.