

**TITLE: Britannia Village Improvements / Various Sites / Britannia**

**TO/ON: Cabinet 25<sup>th</sup> January 2006**

**BY: Head of Street Scene and Liveability**

**PORTFOLIO Cabinet Member for Street Scene and Liveability  
HOLDER:**

**STATUS: For Publication**

## **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1. To seek approval for improvements to Council owned areas of land as identified in this report and the work to be undertaken by Elevate and Groundwork Rossendale.
- 1.2. To inform members that in order for the improvements to progress at Kenyon Street, Bacup a concessionary lease will need to be granted to Britannia Residents United.

## **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1. To agree to the site improvements at Britannia Lodge, Bacup, Rochdale Road, Bacup, New Line, Bacup, and for Groundwork Rossendale to manage the delivery of the improvements in line with Council Standing Orders.
- 2.2. To agree in principle to the developments at Kenyon Street, subject to Britannia Residents United applying for and successfully obtaining a concessionary lease for the site, which incorporates future maintenance.
- 2.3. That any potential future youth provision elements are agreed in principle, subject to planning regulations and further consultation with members and residents.

## **3. REPORT AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS AND TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

- 3.1. An application has been made to the Council for improvements to several sites in the Britannia area from Groundwork Rossendale acting on behalf of the Britannia Residents United.

- 3.2. The projects involve small scale re-landscaping of existing council owned land and installation of welcome signs at specific locations. It is anticipated that these improvements will improve the overall street scene within the Bacup and Whitworth areas.
- 3.3. As the council currently maintains the majority of this land, all but one of the proposed sites will be maintained post completion by the Council.
- 3.4. As a condition of the lease the remaining site at Kenyon Street should be maintained by Britannia Residents, in accordance with the lease conditions.
- 3.5. The Council has a duty to charge the group for this area based on current market rates but reserves the right to provide concessionary discounts through provision of a grant. In order for the Britannia Residents United to take stewardship of the site the Council must approve this concessionary grant.
- 3.6. Elevate Funding of £62,636 is available to improve the Britannia area with other funding through LCC and the private sector, and the funding must be committed before the end of Feb 2006.
- 3.7. There are cost implications to the council as detailed below.
- 3.8. Full consultation with residents has been undertaken.

#### **4. CORPORATE IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES**

##### **4.1. FINANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT**

The following figures are for the additional maintenance costs incurred through the implementation of the proposals. These figures are based on current Council rates for maintenance.

- Traveller's Rest – additional costs of £67.83 per year
- Britannia Lodge – additional costs of £18.75 per year
- Garage Site on Rochdale Road – additional costs of £50.67.

The other sites have no monetary value for maintenance as Britannia Residents United will be responsible for the maintenance of Kenyon Street and the three welcome boulders.

##### **4.2. MEMBER DEVELOPMENT AND POLITICAL ARRANGEMENTS**

- 4.3. Groundwork have consulted with Elected members of the three wards of Greensclough, Irwell and Stacksteads.

##### **4.4. HUMAN RESOURCES**

- 4.4.1. N/A

**5. ANY OTHER RELEVANT CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

- 5.1. The council is committed to improving the environment and as such this project contributes to that priority.

**6. RISK**

- 6.1. Groundwork Rossendale have secured funding for the project which must be spent before the end of Feb 2006. Should there be a delay in the commencement of the project it is possible the funding will be withdrawn and the project will be cancelled.

**7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS ARISING FROM THE REPORT**

- 7.1. Britannia Residents United has submitted an application for a concessionary lease to the Estates department, who are currently progressing the application.

**8. EQUALITIES ISSUES ARISING FROM THE REPORT**

- 8.1 StreetScene and Liveability is committed to making sure that our green space remains accessible for every user regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, ability or disability.

**9. WARDS AFFECTED.**

- 9.1. Greensclough, Irwell and Stacksteads.

**10. CONSULTATIONS**

- 10.1 400 + houses invited to a design and comment evening – 40+ people attended and gave views  
10.2 22 young people were consulted  
10.3 50 + individuals were consulted with regard to plans outside Britannia school  
10.4 80 + houses were consulted on sites specifically / potentially affecting them  
10.5 3 negative comments were received with regard to youth provision. The youth provision element will not be occurring this financial year, this is subject to further consultation.

**11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:**

**None**

For further information on the details of this report, please contact:  
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