

### Brownhills & Aldridge North Local Neighbourhood Partnership - 12<sup>th</sup> December 2005

### Funding priorities report

Portfolio:	Community Engagement
Service Area:	Neighbourhood Services
<u>Wards:</u>	Brownhills & Aldridge North/Walsall Wood

#### Summary of report

The purpose of this report is to inform the LNP of the progress of the projects the LNP agreed on funding from the £22,000 resource allocated.

#### **Recommendations**

- For LNP to note progress
- For LNP to review progress at the next LNP meeting

#### Progress

#### **Brownhills Activities Centre:**

Stuart Hallet (Customer Support Officer – Establishment) has provided a quote of £20,244. This has increased since the last meeting as new costs have been identified. However match funds can be provided through the Council Planned Maintenance Budget. Therefore the LNP will only be required to spend £12,000 on this project with £8244 being provided as match fund. The project proposal form has been signed by the LNP chair enabling the project to go ahead.

#### Heritage project:

The project proposal form has been signed by the chair enabling the project to go forward. Sue Grainger will meet with project champion Pat Thomas to progress the purchasing of equipment.

#### Brownhills Common environmental improvements.

The boardwalk which runs through the woodland on the nature trail has been extended and improved to ensure that access is easier through the autumn and winter seasons when ground conditions can be very wet and muddy. This also included work to make some of the steps easier to manage for those walkers with limited mobility.

The chipping of fallen trees, branches and other associated material lying on the ground has also been undertaken. This has created some open accessible areas within the woodland plantations which can be colonised by wildlife. The chipping has also reduced the amount of timber that can be used for unauthorised fires and is contributing to making the area look more attractive and welcoming which may help to increase the number of legitimate users.

Countryside Services officers will monitor these areas and then manage them accordingly to benefit both local people and wildlife.

#### Contact officer

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## Brownhills Common environmental improvements



# Boardwalk through woodland showing improvements

Woodland plantations before and after mulching of timber

