



**WILLENHALL LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD
PARTNERSHIP**

18 October 2004

**AGENDA
ITEM:**

TRANSFORMING YOUR SPACE PROGRAMME

Ward(s): Willenhall Local Neighbourhood Partnership boundary area.

Portfolio: Councillor A. Andrew

Service Area: Urban Regeneration

Summary of Report:

This report outlines Walsall's Transforming Your Space Programme (TYS).

TYS is a "Big Lottery Fund", formerly New Opportunities Fund (NOF), initiative of environmental projects and play and youth schemes across the borough of Walsall. The programme consists of 14 large projects which are all due to be complete by September 2006. YYS has and will continue to work in partnership with the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP), Community Empowerment Network (CEN), and local groups and residents. The programme totals just over £2.7 million in funding, with £1.7 million of this being secured from the Big Lottery Fund.

This report provides details of the YYS projects due to be implemented in the Willenhall LNP area and seeks authority for the proposals to be included in the final local neighbourhood plan.

Background Papers:

Transforming Your Space Programme Cabinet Report – 16th October 2002.
Transforming Your Space Programme Cabinet Report – 08th September 2004.

Recommendations

- To note details of the Transforming Your Space Programme in Walsall.
- To endorse the proposals detailed for the Willenhall LNP and include these in the final local neighbourhood plan.

Resource and Legal Considerations

Transforming Your Space is a Big Lottery Fund grant of £1,748,294. With match funding, the programme totals approximately £2.7 million.

There are no known legal considerations, other than the sealing of individual contracts exceeding £100,000.

Citizen Impact

The TYS programme will have a borough wide impact and will benefit a broad range of Walsall's population. In particular, young people will directly benefit through access to improved play and recreational facilities.

Environment Impact

The programme includes environmental improvement projects and improvements to play and youth facilities, therefore there will be a positive impact on the environment.

Performance Management and Risk Management Issues

The TYS programme contributes to the Environmental Regeneration Service objective to "developing and delivering a range of environmental regeneration initiatives which improve the quality of life for people in the borough."

Risk Management Issues:

Risk

Failure to obtain LNP approval for the inclusion of TYS projects in their final local neighbourhood plan: This risk is considered to be low given the extent to which local people and existing partners have been involved in the development process for the TYS programme.

Equality Implications

The TYS programme will have a borough wide impact, ensuring that every part of Walsall sees some form of activity.

The processes used to identify the TYS projects have been scrutinised by the borough's CEN.

Consultation

To date the programme has been developed in consultation with local communities, the

LSP (in particular the Housing and Environment Theme Group), the borough CEN, Friend of Parks groups and all the former District Committees. These and other groups will continue to play an important part in the programme.

Vision 2008

The programme will contribute to the following Council Priorities, identified in Vision 2008:

- Ensure a clean & green borough
- Ensure all people are safe & secure
- Make Walsall a healthy and caring place
- Encourage everyone to feel proud of Walsall
- Make it easier to access local services
- Listen to what people want

Contact Officers:

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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Willenhall LNP about the Transforming Your Space (TYS) programme in Walsall.
- 1.2 To provide details of the YYS projects due to be implemented in the Willenhall LNP area.
- 1.3 To seek the Willenhall LNPs approval for the YYS projects to be included within their final local neighbourhood plan.

2. THE TRANSFORMING YOUR SPACE PROGRAMME

- 2.1 The Big Lottery Fund, formerly The New Opportunities Fund (NOF), allocated £1.7 million to Walsall Council under its Fair Share Initiative in October 2002. The Fair Share Initiative was launched in recognition that not all parts of the Country were receiving their "fair share" of lottery funding. The allocation was made following the successful submission of an umbrella scheme for Walsall that would target not only the 11 priority areas identified by the Walsall Borough Strategic partnership (WBSP) (strand 1 – environmental improvement projects in WBSP "priority neighbourhoods") but also the whole borough (strand 2 – borough wide play and youth schemes). This was stage 1 of the application process.
- 2.2 Stage 2 of the application process involved the submission of a portfolio of projects to NOF by 31st August 2003. Part of the criteria for the submission included the endorsement of the portfolio by the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) prior to 31st August. This deadline was met by working in partnership with the LSP, Community Empowerment Network (CEN) and local community organisations. The LSP endorsed the portfolio at their meeting on 18th August 2003. Prior to this, the projects were appraised by the LSP's Housing and Environment Theme Group, and the processes used were scrutinised by the CEN to ensure that all projects had been inclusive and developed in partnership with the local community (a condition set by the Big Lottery Fund). All the former District Committees endorsed the strand 2 package in April 2003.
- 2.3 The portfolio of projects, approved by the Big Lottery Fund in November 2003, includes 14 large projects ranging from environmental improvement proposals to improved play and youth facilities across all six of the former District Committee areas.
- 2.4 Progress to date
 - 2.4.1 Of the 14 projects, 2 pilot projects, Caldmore Junior School Multi-Sports Provision (strand 1) and the Walsall District and Town Centre Project (a package of 7 schemes: Arboretum, Beechdale Park, Pleck Park, Palfrey Park, Reedswood Park, Silverdale Park and WS2 Skate Park) (strand 2) have been developed and are anticipated to be on site during autumn 2004. The remaining 12 projects will then be developed and implemented in accordance with the timetable approved by the Big Lottery Fund, with all projects being complete by September 2006 (a grant condition).

3. THE VISION

3.1 TYS contributes to Walsall's Vision for 2008, relating to 6 of the 10 identified priorities:

- Ensure a clean and green borough – the implementation of the planned projects will encourage people to take pride in their open spaces, parks, and general environment. The TYS process has and will continue to increase community participation in Walsall's parks.
- Ensure all people are safe & secure – the improvement of key sites will help increase safety and thus encourage more people to use the facilities. It is also hoped that the new/improved facilities for young people, such as multi use games areas, will provide diversionary activities for this vulnerable age group.
- Make Walsall a healthy and caring place – better recreational facilities will encourage people to use these more often, promoting interaction and well-being. Enhanced facilities will also encourage the young to participate in energetic activities, helping reduce obesity in the borough.
- Encourage everyone to feel proud of Walsall – the £2.7 million investment will help improve Walsall's image.
- Make it easier to access local services – the planned improvements will make it easier for people to access their local green/open spaces, parks and play areas. One of the key issues each project will look at is access; every effort will be made to ensure that as many sections of the community can use the improved facilities.
- Listen to what local people want – TYS is a community led programme, which will continue to involve and listen to local people. The CEN has also been involved in scrutinising the processes used for community engagement.

4. TYS LAUNCH

4.1 To celebrate and publicise the award, inform people about the forthcoming projects, and highlight the importance of the programme for Walsall and its community; the TYS programme was 'launched' in the Town Hall on Friday 16th July 2004. The event was hosted by Chief Executive Annie Shepperd and was attended by Bruce George MP, Richard Shepherd MP, Ward Councillors, community representatives, Council Officers and representatives from the Big Lottery Fund.

5. TYS WEBSITE

5.1 A website for TYS has been developed and was launched on 16th July. The website will not only inform people about the programme but will also act as a major consultation tool, enabling project specific comments to be made directly via email. Subsequently, the website has been commended by the Big Lottery Fund as an example of good practice. The address for the site is www.walsall.gov.uk/tys/. Details of all the projects can be found on the site, including project description, sketch schemes and site photos. The website will become a living record of the Programme.

6. TYS PROJECTS IN THE WILLENHALL LNP AREA

6.1 The approved TYS proposals for the Willenhall LNP area are detailed below. The sketch schemes for these proposals are attached in appendix 1.

6.2 Willenhall District Project

6.2.1 The Willenhall District Project was identified as a result of feedback from parents and young people, Friends of Parks groups and along with other schemes and projects within strand 2 by a working group of Officers. The criteria used included:

- Existing provision
- Representation/deputations received from residents
- Officer knowledge of sites
- An equal split of TYS funding across the old District Committees

In April 2003 all the former District Committees approved all the strand 2 projects.

6.2.2 Harlech Road Open Space, Play and Youth Proposals

The existing play area at Harlech Road will be improved through the installation of new play equipment and safety surfacing. In addition to this, new multi-use goal ends will be installed on a resurfaced tarmac area on the location of the existing 'hard' court, adjacent to the existing play area.

6.2.3 Hartill Street Open Space

New play equipment, fencing and safety surfacing will be installed on the site to replace the old facilities.

6.2.4 Manor Farm Open Space

The scheme will install new 1.2m rebound fencing and a gate around the existing football facility. Multi-use goal units were installed on the open space as part of the first phase of improvements for Manor Farm.

6.2.5 Willenhall Memorial Park, Play and Youth Proposals

Some of the worn items of equipment within the existing play facility will be replaced and safety surfacing will be included. In addition to this, several youth focused items, including a youth shelter, will also be installed.

6.2.6 The Willenhall District Project has secured funding for one other scheme within the old District Committee boundary area. The site and proposals will be identified following consultation.

6.2.7 The schemes outlined above are anticipated to be on site in June 2005 and complete in approximately September 2005. Preceding this, there will be a detailed consultation/engagement stage which will ensure that the final designs still meet the requirements of the community. Various methods will be utilised including: displays in libraries and other community facilities, friends groups, open/fun days in parks, on-site consultation and the TYS website. LNP members will be informed of consultation events taking place during the detailed design stage for the project and invited to take part.

6.3 Gomer Street

- 6.3.1 South Willenhall representatives on the strand 1 TYS steering group have identified the vacant land adjacent to the CHART building to benefit from TYS funding. However, as the site is currently in private ownership the implementation of the identified scheme is subject to the Council gaining ownership of the site and its use as a leisure facility being agreed. If so, the proposed scheme will provide a new sports facility and small play area. These proposals have also been endorsed by the community via consultation events organised by Groundwork Walsall.
- 6.3.2 However, if the preferred site is not available, the TYS strand 1 group have identified the Willenhall Memorial Park as the beneficiary of the TYS funding. This has also been agreed with the Big Lottery Fund.
- 6.3.3 Due to Big Lottery conditions (a minimum cost for each project), the Gomer Street scheme has been packaged together with the Darlaston District Project. It is anticipated that work will begin on site in July 2005 and be complete in October 2005. Preceding this, there will be a detailed consultation/engagement stage for the project which will ensure that the final designs still meet the requirements of the community. Various methods will be utilised including displays in libraries and other community facilities and the TYS website. LNP members will be informed of consultation events taking place during the detailed design stage for the project and invited to take part.

7. **RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

- 7.1 Risk 1 - Failure to obtain LNP approval for the inclusion of TYS projects in the final local neighbourhood plan: This risk is considered to be low given the extent to which local people and existing partners have been involved in the development process for the TYS programme.

8. **SUMMARY**

- 8.1 TYS represents large scale environmental regeneration for Walsall borough and will contribute to improving people's quality of life.

In summary, Willenhall LNP is asked to:-

- Note details about the TYS Programme.
- Endorse and include the TYS proposals within the final local neighbourhood plan.

Appendix 1

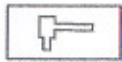
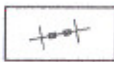
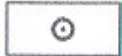
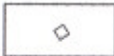

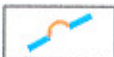


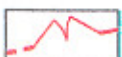
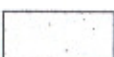
TYS Sketch Schemes

TRANSFORMING YOUR SPACE HARLECH ROAD, WILLENHALL

LOCATION PLAN



KEY

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--------------------------------------|
|  | PROPOSED SINGLE TOWER UNIT WITH SLIDE |  | PROPOSED 1.8M HIGH DOUBLE ARCH SWING |
|  | PROPOSED DISH ROUNDABOUT |  | PROPOSED SPRING MOBILE |
|  | PROPOSED 1.0M HIGH BOW TOP FENCE |  | PROPOSED MULTI-USE GOAL ENDS |
|  | PROPOSED 1.0M HIGH MONO HINGE PEDESTRIAN GATE |  | PROPOSED RUBBER SAFETY SURFACE |
|  | PROPOSED 1.0M HIGH DOUBLE LEAF MAINTENANCE GATES |  | PROPOSED TARMAC WEARING COURSE |



ENVIRONMENTAL REGENERATION UNIT



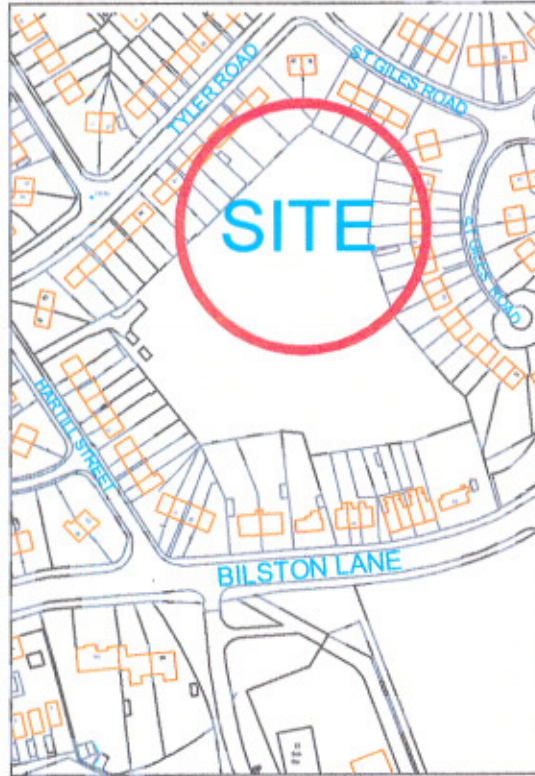
WALSALL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
CIVIC CENTRE, DARNALL STREET,
WALSALL WS1 1DG

| | |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| job | HARLECH ROAD, WILLENHALL |
| title | PROPOSED TYS SCHEME |
| drawn | JAW |
| checked | |
| date | APR 2004 |
| scale | NO TO SCALE |
| Drawing No. | ETP 41037 |

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TRANSFORMING YOUR SPACE
HARTILL STREET, WILLENHALL

LOCATION PLAN










TYLER ROAD

EXISTING PLAY AREA;
EXISTING AREA OF DAMAGED
SAFETY SURFACE AND EXISTING
REDUNDANT PLAY EQUIPMENT
TO BE REMOVED AND REPLACED
WITH NEW AS SHOWN




KEY

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--------------------------------|
|  | LOCATION OF EXISTING PLAY EQUIPMENT WITHIN CONCRETE BASES TO BE REMOVED |  | EXISTING SWINGS TO BE RETAINED |
|  | PROPOSED 1.0M HIGH STEEL BOW TOP FENCING WITH SLAB MOWING TRIM |  | EXISTING SLIDES TO BE RETAINED |
|  | PROPOSED 1.0M HIGH MONO HINGE GATE |  | PROPOSED DISH ROUNDABOUT |
|  | PROPOSED 1.0M HIGH MAINTENANCE GATE |  | PROPOSED SPRING MOBILE |
|  | PROPOSED AREAS OF RUBBER SAFETY SURFACING |  | EXISTING AREAS OF MOWN GRASS |
|  | EXISTING AREAS OF TREES AND SHRUBS | | |

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| | |
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| ENVIRONMENTAL REGENERATION UNIT | |
|  | |
| WALSALL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL ONE TOWN, WILLENHALL STREET, WALSALL, WV1 1QQ | |
| HARTILL STREET, WILLENHALL | |
| PROPOSED TYS SCHEME | |
| Drawn by Date: 2004 | Checked by Date: APR 2004 |
| ETP 41036 | ETP 41036 |

TRANSFORMING YOUR SPACE
MANOR FARM, SHORT HEATH

LOCATION PLAN



KEY



GOAL POSTS



1.2M HIGH MONO HINGE
 PEDESTRIAN GATE



1.8M HIGH BOWTOP FENCE



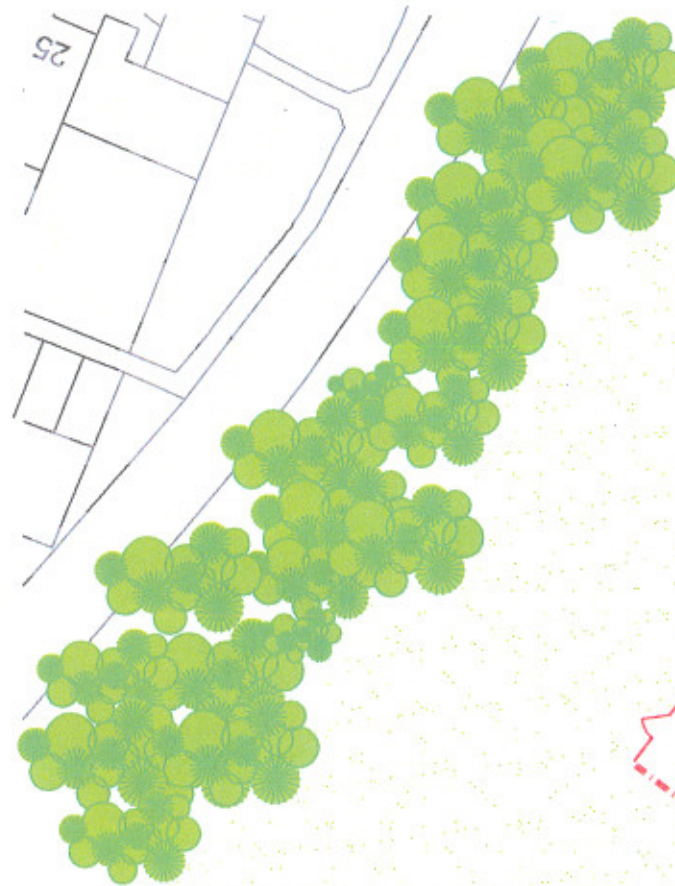
1.2M HIGH BOW TOP FENCE



MOWN GRASS



EXISTING TREES AND SHRUBS



PROPOSED FOOTBALL PITCH
 LOCATED UPON EXISTING AREA
 OF MOWN GRASS



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| | |
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| ENVIRONMENTAL REGENERATION UNIT | |
| <p>WALSALL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL CIVIC CENTRE, DARWALL STREET, WALSALL WS1 1DG</p> | JOB: MANOR FARM, SHORT HEATH TITLE: PROPOSED TYS SCHEME DRAWN: JAW DATE: APR 2004 SCALE: NOT TO SCALE |
| | Drawing No: ETP 41039 |
| | WALSALL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL CIVIC CENTRE, DARWALL STREET, WALSALL WS1 1DG |
| | ETP 41039 |

TRANSFORMING YOUR SPACE
WILLENHALL MEMORIAL PARK






LOCATION PLAN



PROPOSED PLAY EQUIPMENT TO BE
 ERECTED WITHIN EXISTING PLAY
 AREA, WITHIN ASSOCIATED RUBBER
 SAFETY SURFACING



KEY

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
|  | PROPOSED 3 NO. SPRING MOBILES WITHIN RUBBER SAFETY SURFACING |  | PROPOSED 1 NO. GOAL END WITHIN EXISTING MOWN GRASS |
|  | PROPOSED DISH ROUNDABOUT WITHIN RUBBER SAFETY SURFACING |  | PROPOSED MULTI USE SPORTS AREA WITHIN EXISTING MOWN GRASS |
|  | PROPOSED MULTI SEESAW WITHIN RUBBER SAFETY SURFACING |  | REPLACE EXISTING TEMPORARY SKATE EQUIPMENT WITH PERMANENT |
|  | EXISTING PLAY AREA ; EXISTING PLAY EQUIPMENT TO BE RETAINED |  | PROPOSED YOUTH SHELTER |



ENVIRONMENTAL REGENERATION UNIT



WALSALL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
 CIVIC CENTRE, DARWALL STREET,
 WALSALL WS1 1QG

| | | |
|---------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| job | WILLENHALL MEMORIAL PARK | |
| title | PROPOSED TYS SCHEME | |
| drawn | JAW | Drawing No. |
| checked | | |
| date | APR 2004 | ETP41178 |
| scale | NOT TO SCALE | |



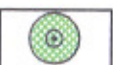



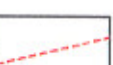


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TRANSFORMING YOUR SPACE - GOMER STREET, WILLENHALL

LOCATION PLAN



KEY

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
|  | SPRINGY MOBILE |  | TARMAC SURFACING |
|  | DISH ROUNDABOUT |  | 3 METRE HIGH BALLSTOP FENCING WITH LOCKABLE GATES |
|  | RUBBER SAFETY SURFACING |  | CONCRETE BLOCK RETAINING WALLS TO CREATE LEVEL SITE |
|  | 1 METRE HIGH BOWTOP STEEL FENCING AND GATES |  | FLOODLIGHTING (BUILDING MOUNTED) |
|  | COMBINED FOOTBALL/BASKETBALL POSTS | | |



ENVIRONMENTAL REGENERATION SERVICES



WALSALL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
CIVIC CENTRE, DARWALL STREET,
WALSALL . WS1 1DG

| | | |
|---------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| job | GOMER STREET, WILLENHALL | |
| title | PROPOSED TYS SCHEME | |
| drawn | JG | Drawing No. ETP |
| checked | | |
| date | JUNE 2003 | |
| scale | NOT TO SCALE | |

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