

Agenda Item 12

Older Persons Play Equipment at Barrowford Memorial Park

Just prior to the last Friends of Barrowford Memorial Park meeting held 4th February 2008 Brenda Norcross came to see me regarding an article in the national newspaper for a new play facility at Manchester aimed at recreational exercise for the more mature person. The Parks Department have the funding to replace the 10 –16 year old play equipment in the park and she wondered as most of the younger age groups are accompanied by grandparents during term time whether a few items of this equipment could be incorporated.

Brenda did not expect the cost of this equipment to be met from the money allocated for the refurbishment of the children's area but brought an article from the Nelson Leader regarding a funding pool operated by the PCT (Primary Care Trust). The Clerk contacted the PCT and it is possible that this project could meet the criteria for some sort of funding. This matter was raised at the Friends Group Meeting and was unanimously supported by all members. The Clerk contacted Julie Hibbert Parks Outreach Officer and asked if the Parks Department would support this project and the general view is that it is an excellent idea.

Possible Parish Council Involvement:

The Parish Council could become involved in this idea at several levels these could include:

- Writing a letter of support for the Friends Group supporting this scheme.
- Working in co-operation with the friends group and the Parks consulting the residents of Barrowford if they would like to see this type of equipment provided.
- Identifying funding sources for this equipment outside the current refurbishment budget.
- Applying or assisting the Friends group apply for external funding.

The estimated cost of four pieces of equipment including installation would be less than £12000 dependant on the items chosen and would attract funding from possibly the PCT and the new Sport & Physical Alliance Group who may have access to funding.