

**EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**CABINET – 24<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2008**

**LEISURE SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

**Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services**

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek approval for several projects to be implemented by Leisure Services in the 2008/09 Capital Programme.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 At its meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2007, Cabinet approved the allocation of General Services Capital Programme funds for the next five years. The allocation included several headings which require further consideration to determine the specific projects to be undertaken.
- 2.2 The project allocations included for consideration in this report are:

<b>Strategic Schemes</b>	<b>08/09</b>
Parks Development Programme	£200,000
Public Art	£ 50,000
<b>General Projects</b>	
Dean Castle Country Park Upgrade	£140,000
Cemeteries Development	£150,000
Streetsport / Playpark Investment Programme	£200,000

**3. SPECIFIC PROJECTS FOR CONSIDERATION**

3.1 Parks Development Programme - £200,000

- 3.1.1 It is proposed that £170,000 is allocated to improvements in Kay Park, Kilmarnock to compliment the Burns Monument Centre and to ensure that the park is a safe and attractive venue for the additional visitors it will receive.
- 3.1.2 The package of work will address health and safety issues (path repairs, railings, CCTV, lighting) and also include signage, interpretation and improvements to existing attractions. A full survey of the park will be carried out and a prioritised work programme developed with works to be carried out in spring and summer.
- 3.1.3 The remaining sum of £30,000 will be available to address issues in other parks, primarily where health and safety improvements have been identified.
- 3.1.4 It is intended that in future years the available capital sum is directed at specific parks identified annually by Cabinet to ensure the maximum benefits from the investment is achieved.

### 3.2 Public Art - £50,000

- 3.2.1 It is proposed that the five year Capital funding package is treated as a single project and that a bank of artists is selected to undertake various work in different venues. For 2008/09 it is proposed that Kay Park is the venue for the public art project. It is proposed that advertisements are placed in appropriate publications and the bank of artists is selected by a small panel. The same panel would then select the most appropriate artist for the project and commission the work. The location for Public Art installation would be approved annually by Cabinet.
- 3.2.2 The Scottish Arts Council administers a Capital Small Grants Fund which could provide additional support for 'artists work in public places'. This funding stream is currently being investigated by officers and an application will be submitted if appropriate. The Scottish Arts Council will be invited to take part in the selection panel process.

### 3.3 Dean Castle Country Park Upgrade - £140,000

- 3.3.1 It is proposed that up to £95,000 of this funding is allocated to improvements to the Visitor Centre foyer, reception desk/shop, and Discovery Room to create an open plan entrance and improve the range of interactive environmental attractions available for visitors, including a wildlife surveillance project.
- 3.3.2 The remainder of the funding will be required for improvements to the Rare Breeds Centre, paths and signage / interpretation.

### 3.4 Cemetery Development - £150,000

- 3.4.1 It is proposed that £60,000 of this funding is allocated to the provision of a Green Burial facility at Galston Cemetery. This will improve the burial options available from the Council and ensure that the Charter for the Bereaved that the Council currently holds is retained in the future. The Council has previously considered the provision of Green Burial facilities as part of the Community Services Committees consideration and approval of Continuous Improvement Plans for Leisure Services on the 15<sup>th</sup> September 2004 and the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2005, and the Best Value Services review of Leisure Services on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2006. The Community Services Committee, meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2007, noted within the report submitted on Cemetery Burial Space that tenders were being sought for the creation of a Green Burial site adjacent to Galston Cemetery, however this work did not proceed at that time.
- 3.4.2 Land for cemetery extension in New Cumnock and Dalrymple has been identified and funding will be required to purchase this ground.
- 3.4.3 The Council has land available in Muirkirk for development as cemetery ground and it is proposed that funding is allocated to create lair space and construct access paths and roads at this location.

### 3.5 Streetsport / Playpark Investment Programme - £200,000

3.5.1 It is proposed that this funding is used to continue the replacement of playparks as agreed by Community Services Committee in November 2002 i.e.

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| - Hearth Road, Cumnock         | Toddler equipment<br>(Junior Equipment already installed) |
| - Altonhill Avenue, Kilmarnock | Toddler and Junior Equipment                              |
| - Annanhill Park, Kilmarnock   | Toddler and Junior Equipment                              |

The recommendations of the Community Services Committee are attached as Appendix 1 to this report. Playpark provision was subject to a detailed review in 2002 and a list of the highest priority sites, based on one choice for each former ward member, was approved. Provision of new playparks has now reached number 20 on the highest priority list. It is intended to submit a report confirming the playparks to be upgraded for Cabinet approval on an annual basis until the highest priority list is completed. At current rates of investment the highest priority list should be completed by 2010/11 and it will be necessary to review the next list of playparks and establish a new order of priority in due course.

3.5.2 A full list of the Streetsport Cages installed by the Council and funding partners is included as Appendix 2 to this report. It is not intended to install further Streetsport Cages from the 2008/09 Capital Programme allocation. The effectiveness of the current facilities will continue to be monitored and proposals for investment in additional Streetsport Cages will be developed, where appropriate, for future consideration by Cabinet.

## 4. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The proposals in this report identify specific projects to be funded from elements of the General Services Capital Programme agreed by Cabinet on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2007

## 5. **POLICY / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Investment in the development and improvement of Leisure facilities supports the delivery of the outcomes of the Community Plan.

5.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report

## 6. **CONCLUSIONS**

6.1 The proposals in this report have been developed to ensure that the available capital funding is directed in the most effective manner to the highest priority projects under each heading. Approval of the projects will allow preparation to commence immediately and expenditure to take place as early as possible in the new financial year.

## **7. RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 It is recommended the Cabinet:-

- (i) approve the proposals put forward in this report; and
- (ii) remit to the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services to submit reports regarding the priorities for future years expenditure on Parks Development, Streetsport Cages / Playparks, Cemetery Development and Public Art at the appropriate time; and
- (iii) otherwise note the content of this report

William Stafford  
Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

WS/JAG

17<sup>th</sup> January 2008

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Nil

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**PLAYPARK IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME**

(T - Toddler; J - Junior; TS - Teenage Sportswall)

Playparks refurbished up to 2002/03

Hearth Road, Cumnock	J – provided, T outstanding
Keir Hardie Hill, Cumnock	J
Portland Park, Galston	J
Dean Castle Country Park	T.J
New Farm Loch, Kilmarnock	T.J
Morton Park, Kilmaurs	T.J
Barbieston Road Old Waterworks, Dalrymple	T.J
Portland Park, Galston	T
Knowehead Road, Kilmarnock	T.J
Jean Armour Drive, Mauchline	T.J

Community groups have refurbished the following playparks:-

Main Street,	Sorn
Leggate,	New Cumnock
Old Tennis Court,	Dalrymple

Highest Priority Areas

The following playparks have been selected by Elected Members and prioritised by the Member/Officer Working Group:-

-	New Farm Loch, Kilmarnock	T.J
-	Morton Park, Kilmaurs	T.J
1.	Glen Avenue, Logan	T.J.TS
2.	Millmannoch Avenue, Drongan	J.TS
3.	Jamieson Park, Newmilns	T.J
4.	Linfen Avenue, Kilmarnock	T.J
5.	Well Road, Auchinleck	T.J.TS
6.	Doonbank, Patna	T.J
7.	Thorn Terrace, Kilmarnock	T.J
8.	Lainshaw Avenue, Kilmarnock	T.J
9.	King George V, Dalmellington	T.J.TS
10.	Bellevue Road, Kilmarnock	T.J
11.	Knockentiber	T.J
12.	Richardson Park (2), Hurlford	T.J
13.	Riverside Park, Catrine	T.J
14.	Flush Park, Cumnock	T.J
15.	Kay Park, Ochiltree	T.J.TS
16.	Robertland, Stewarton	T.J
17.	Bellfield, Kilmarnock	T.J
18.	Loudoun Avenue/Millrig, Galston	T.J

19.	Dunlop Park, Dunlop	T.J
20.	Sorn Road, Galston	T.J
21.	Hearth Road, Cumnock	T.J
22.	Altonhill Avenue, Kilmarnock	T.J
23.	Annanhill, Kilmarnock	T.J.TS
24.	Fleming Street, Kilmarnock	No Change
25.	Hutchieson Drive, Darvel	T.J
26.	Kay Park, Kilmarnock	T.J.TS
27.	Greenland, New Cumnock	T.J
28.	Waterside (n)	T.J
29.	Dean Park, Kilmarnock	T.J
30.	Beechwood Park, Mauchline	T.J

Programmed Improvements – to be prioritised

The following playparks should be refurbished in the future and prioritised once the highest priority areas have been addressed:-

Merlin Park, Auchinleck	T.J
Minnoch Road, Bellsbank	T.J
Ness Glen Road, Bellsbank	T.J.TS
Mauchline Road, Catrine	No Change
Crookedholm Park, Crookedholm	T. J. TS
Lindsay Park, Crosshouse	T. J.TS
Cameron Crescent, Cumnock	T.J
Craigens, Cumnock	J.TS
Hearth Road, Cumnock	T
Keir Hardie Hill, Cumnock	J
McTurk Court, Cumnock	J
Netherthird, Cumnock	T.J
Woodroad Park (1), Cumnock	T.J.TS
Woodroad Park (2), Cumnock	No change
Dalleagles, New Cumnock	J
Burnton, Dalmellington	T.J
Dalton Avenue, Dalmellington	J
Loch Doon Road, Dalmellington	T.J
Morton Park, Darvel	T.J.TS
Mill O' Shield Road, Drongan	T.J
Cairnston Avenue, Drongan	T.J
Livingston Terrace, Dunlop	Retain Swings Only
Portland Park, Galston	T.J.TS
Gatehead	No change
Hayhill	No change
Liffnock Park, Hurlford	T.J
Piersland Park, Kilmarnock	T.J
Cessnock Place, Kilmarnock	T.TS
Wardneuk Drive, Kilmarnock	T.J
Peace Avenue, Kilmarnock	T.J
Carron Avenue, Kilmarnock	T.J
Riccarton Park, Kilmarnock	No Change
Glenafton Court, Kilmarnock	T.J

Glen Farrar Way, Kilmarnock	T.J
Glen Shiel Crescent, Kilmarnock	T.J
Howard Park, Kilmarnock	T.J.TS
Rugby Road, Kilmarnock	No Change
Habbieauld Park, Kilmaurs	T.J
Braehead Place, Lugar	T.J
Lugton (2)	No Change
Alexander Terrace, Mauchline	T.J
Fir Park, Moscow	J
Cairn View, Muirkirk	J
Victory Park, Muirkirk	T.J
Farden Avenue, New Cumnock	J
Claremount, Newmilns	T.J
Greenside, Newmilns	T.J
Douglas Brown Avenue, Ochiltree	T.J
Netherhill, Patna	J
Polnessan, Patna	J
Carnshalloch Avenue, Patna	T.J. TS
Station Site, Rankinston	T.J.TS
Sinclairston	No change
Skares	J
Kilwinning Road (1), Stewarton	T.J
Merrygreen Place, Stewarton	T
Strandhead, Stewarton	T.J.TS
Kirkton Road, Fewnick	No Change
School Brae, Waterside (s)	J

Sites for Closure / Removal

The following sites should be closed with area to be reinstated to a safe standard:-

Ballochmyle Avenue,	Auchinleck
Stoner Crescent,	Auchinleck
Eriff Road,	Bellsbank
Blackwood Avenue,	Catrine
Seright Square,	Crookedholm
Busbie Gardens,	Crosshouse
Coila Place,	Cumnock
Walker Court,	Cumnock
Forglen Road,	Dalrymple
Glebe Avenue,	Dalrymple
Lochore Terrace,	Darvel
Richardson Park 1,	Hurlford
Newlands Drive,	Kilmarnock
Loreny Drive,	Kilmarnock
Carmel Terrace,	Kilmarnock
Ken Road,	Kilmarnock
Macgregor Drive,	Kilmarnock
Cairn Terrace,	Kilmarnock
Shiskine Drive,	Kilmarnock
Glen Truim Way,	Kilmarnock

No. 1.	Lugton
Colthart Drive,	Muirkirk
Harwood Drive,	Muirkirk
Broom Crescent,	Ochiltree
Kilmein Avenue,	Patna
Old School Site,	Rankinston
Main Street,	Stewarton
Llyod Walk,	Stewarton
Standalane,	Stewarton
Kilwinning Road (2)	Stewarton

**STREETSPORT CAGES PROGRAMME**

1	Hurlford	Mauchline Road
2	Galston	Milrig Crescent
3	Stewarton	Dalry Road
4	New Cumnock	Mason Avenue
5	Patna	Carnshalloch Road
6	Catrine	Townhead
7	Cumnock	Barshare Road
8	Dalmellington	Ayr Road
9	Kilmaurs	Habbieauld Road
10	Cumnock	Craigens Road
11	Auchenleck	Well Road
12	Logan	Glen Avenue
13	Shortlees	Knockmarloch Drive
14	Onthank	Meiklewood Road
15	Newfarm	Loch Kerr Road
16	Rankinston	Kerse Terrace
17	Ochiltree	Mill Street
18	Crosshouse	Playingfield Road
19	Newmilns	Gilfoot
20	Darvel	Jamieson Road
21	Dalrymple	Barbieston Road