

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Cultural Services and Sport
2.	Date:	20th October, 2009
3.	Title:	Proposed Public Art Feature on Knollbeck Lane, Brampton - Gateway Improvement Works Hoover Ward
4.	Programme Area:	Environment and Development Service

5. Summary

To report on proposals for a public art scheme close to the Bierlow Close Community Hall, on Knollbeck Lane Rotherham, commemorating the heritage of the local area.

6. Recommendations

That Cabinet Members' approve the proposed works and note the funding arrangements.

7. Proposals and Details

Cabinet Members will be aware of previous environmental improvements undertaken in Rotherham in Wentworth North, as part of the Gateway Improvement Programme and utilising funding from the Housing Market Renewal Area (HMRA) Programme.

The current proposal represents a further phase of such works, jointly developed with colleagues in the Council's Community Arts Service and comprising the introduction of a public art feature onto a retaining wall on Knollbeck Lane.

This feature comprises 6 ribbon shapes affixed to the wall, made from stainless steel and incorporating images generated with local residents, young people and schoolchildren about local heritage features and aspirations. The ribbons are preceded and followed by cart-wheeling figures based on local young people, to symbolize moving energetically and with hope from the past into the future. The end figure is framed within a continuation of the metal ribbon, on the grassy knoll next to the wall, and will be surrounded by landscaping works.

The Knollbeck Lane corridor is identified as a potential Gateway Improvement scheme within in the wider **Housing Market Renewal** Programme for 2009/10, **approved by the Cabinet Member for Housing and Neighbourhoods on 15th June 2009 (Item 14 refers)**; and previously within the Gateway Improvement Plan (Approved 22nd June 2005, Cabinet Item 37). The latter document highlights the introduction of works of public art along Gateway corridors as being a key objective in order to celebrate the Boroughs cultural and historic heritage.

The design was developed by Artist Van Nong of Chrysalis Arts. Chrysalis was selected by a local steering group, who have been involved at every stage of the project.

The design was developed through workshops in the community and the final design has been the subject of consultation with the local Parish Council, the Brampton Public Art Steering Group, local youth groups, residents' groups and local schools and interest groups and through open displays in three community venues. A more detailed description of the consultation process is in Appendix 2. No adverse comment has been received. However, as a result of the consultation the length of the work was extended to include more images generated by the community. The artist' impression of how these might be included is in Appendix 3.

The works are currently the subject of a Planning application.

The works would be installed by the artist and Chrysalis Arts. Access to the site and work thereon will be arranged by means of Traffic Management Plan (TMP) to be implemented through the Council's Streetpride Schemes & Partnerships Team. The TMP will entail the temporary closure of the adjacent side of Knollbeck Lane with the narrowing of traffic to single carriageway.

Subject to Member approval, it is proposed that works be carried out between January and March 2010.

An illustrative plan of the proposed development is attached as Appendix One.

8. Finance

Costs associated with the scheme are as follows:

Selection process	£500
Artists fees and Fabrication	£25,000
Extended works	£4,500
Management fees (RMBC)	£5,000
Provision Traffic Management and Installation	£3,400
Consultation	£2,750
Provision Landscaping	£2,000
Overheads	£200
Celebration and documentation	£800
Set aside for maintenance	£5,250
Contingency	£600
Total	£50,000

The funding has been secured from the HMRA programme by the Council's Neighbourhood Investment Service.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

None over and above those normally associated with small scale construction works.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The scheme contributes to the 'Rotherham Proud' agenda by enhancing the main 'Gateway' routes into the Borough with high quality public realm works. It will also contribute to 'Rotherham Safe' in that the public highway will be free of defects and well lit. The scheme contributes to the Community and Corporate Plans by:

Supporting the Housing Market Renewal Programme.

Improving and promoting the image of Rotherham and addressing negative views both within and outside the borough, through the environmental improvement of Gateway Corridors which form many peoples first impression of the borough, as well as a backdrop to the lives of many of its residents.

Providing sustainable neighbourhoods of quality, choice, etc, by contributing to an improved environment within many residential districts.

Supporting the Rotherham Town Renaissance, by contributing to the improvement of approach routes to the Town Centre.

Development and support of Public Artworks in key Gateway or satellite areas in Rotherham, was identified as a breakthrough project in the Community Arts Service

Plan, 2002+, developed in conjunction with Arts Council England (Yorkshire) as part of Rotherham MBCs partnership agreement.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Public consultation has been carried out by the Project Officer and the designs have been approved by the Rotherham West HMRA Steering Group, which includes the three local Ward Members.

Further background papers include:

The Gateway Improvement Plan (Approved 22nd June 2005, Cabinet Item 37)

Housing Market Renewal Area Programme, Financial Update, 2009-11, Cabinet member for Housing and Neighbourhoods (Approved 15th June 2009, Item 14)

The local community have been engaged on this and other related environmental improvement projects via the HMRA Steering Group and by direct mail shot of local residents.

Discussions have been ongoing with representatives of Streetpride to confirm their capacity to assist in delivering these works in the time-scale outlined above.

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