

## **PINETUM FENCING PROPOSAL**

<b>Head of Service / Contact:</b>	Ian Dyer, Head of Operational Services
<b>Annexes/Appendices (attached):</b>	Annex One: Photograph of proposed fence
<b>Other available papers (not attached):</b>	Report to Joint Management Committee – 29 May 2018 – Fencing in the Formal Gardens

### **Report summary**

To put forward a revised proposal from the Nonsuch Voles to replace the security fencing at the rear of the Pinetum.

### **Recommendation (s)**

**That the Committee approves the proposal to replace the security fencing at the rear of the Pinetum as set out in the report.**

## **1 Background**

- 1.1 In May 2018 a report was presented to the Joint Management Committee requesting approval for the Streetcare Manager to work with the Nonsuch Voles to bid to Suez Landfill Trust for funds to replace the badly damaged and unsuitable fencing at the rear of the Pinetum.
- 1.2 The Joint Management Committee kindly offered to provide the match funding of 11.5% (approximately £2,200) out of the working balance.
- 1.3 The committee approved this request and a bid to fund the fencing was submitted to the Suez Landfill Trust.
- 1.4 Due to fierce competition from other projects, which possibly offered more historical interest to the Suez judging panel, the fencing application was unsuccessful.

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### 2 Proposals

- 2.1 The Nonsuch Voles were understandably disappointed, but were not deterred and set about redefining the quote to bring the cost down, by selecting a more cost effective fencing option and offering to do a lot of the clearance and installation work themselves in conjunction with park staff.
- 2.2 Revised quotes were received with the best quote for security strength stock fencing (please see photograph at Annex One) at £5300 + VAT.
- 2.3 The Nonsuch Voles spoke with The Friends of Nonsuch who very graciously offered a contribution of £2000 towards the new project.
- 2.4 A short time after this conversation a private benefactor came forward and offered an additional £3000. To provide the remainder of the funds required, the Nonsuch Voles have offered to contribute £200 and the Streetcare Manager has pledged £100 from the Joint Management Committee 19-20 working budget.
- 2.5 If the Committee are in agreement with the above proposal, the work could commence almost immediately to ensure it is complete whilst the ground is still soft.

### 3 Financial and Manpower Implications

- 3.1 The financial implications are set out above, the Joint Management Committee are asked to commit £100 towards the project which can be funded from the 19-20 working budget.
- 3.2 It is envisaged that Park staff will assist the volunteers with the clearance and installation so there will be an element of manpower required.
- 3.3 Once funds have been received from all benefactors and legal agreements are in place, the ownership of the fence will be transferred to the Joint Management Committee who will have the on-going responsibility for the repair and maintenance. However, as this is a replacement and not a new liability this will be covered within the working budgets allocated to park maintenance.
- 3.4 ***Chief Finance Officer's comments: The £100 contribution can be funded from the JMC's 2019/20 budget.***

### 4 Legal Implications (including implications for matters relating to equality)

- 4.1 There are legal implications that will need to be considered to ensure that the donations are secured with the sole intention of securing a replacement fence that will vest with the Joint Management Committee once the work has been carried out.

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- 4.2 ***Monitoring Officer's comments:*** None arising from the contents of this report.

### 5 Sustainability Policy and Community Safety Implications

- 5.1 As discussed in the report presented in May 2018, over the last 2-3 years major work to restore the Pinetum has been carried out by staff and volunteers from the Nonsuch Voles. Although, further improvements and planting are planned for the future, there are concerns that efforts to improve the area are often marred by vandalism caused after the formal gardens are locked at night.
- 5.2 One of the main weaknesses in security of the formal gardens is the fence at the rear of the Pinetum, which is in a very poor state of repair.
- 5.3 The gaps in the fence allow dogs to enter this 'dog free' area via the Pinetum, with some gaps large enough for people to gain access after the gardens are locked at night.
- 5.4 In 2016, in response to the increase in vandalism in the formals gardens, the Police Crime Reduction Officer visited Nonsuch to assess the site and recommended measures that could be taken to help reduce antisocial behaviour. One of these measures was secure fencing around the gardens.
- 5.5 Installing the proposed security fencing will uphold the recommendation and assist with securing the park against vandalism and other anti-social behaviour.

### 6 Partnerships

- 6.1 This is an excellent example of the park community joining together to raise funds to protect the park.

### 7 Risk Assessment

- 7.1 There is a small risk that the new installation will suffer vandalism but the fencing material has been selected to minimise this risk.

### 8 Conclusion and Recommendations

- 8.1 That the Committee supports the proposal to accept the donations from the parties mentioned and makes a small contribution of £100 to purchase the security fencing.

**Ward(s) affected:** Nonsuch Ward;