

**NONSUCH PARK JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
30 JANUARY 2017**

SEMI-PERMANENT SHELTER FOR THE NONSUCH VOLES

Report of the: Head of Operational Services

Contact: Samantha Whitehead

Urgent Decision?(yes/no) No

If yes, reason urgent decision required:

Annexes/Appendices (attached): Annexe 1: Location of Shelter

Annexe 2: Shelter Designs

Other available papers (not attached):

REPORT SUMMARY

To seek permission in principle for the Nonsuch Voles to provide and erect a semi-permanent structure in the Nursery Garden for the purpose of carrying out woodcrafts which provide a vital income stream for the volunteer group.

RECOMMENDATION (S)

Notes

- 1.1 That the Joint Management grant approval in principle for a replacement shelter subject to the necessary planning consents and legalities.

2 Background

- 2.1 Towards the end of last year, the Nonsuch Voles approached the Streetcare Manager regarding a proposal to replace their current gazebo which is located in the Kitchen/Nursery Garden adjacent to the Tractor Shed. Please see Annexe 1.
- 2.2 The gazebo is used to protect the volunteers whilst they make woodcraft items, which they rely on selling in order to pay for their running costs.
- 2.3 The Voles reported that their current gazebo was constantly being damaged by the weather and was proving costly to repair.

3 Proposals

- 3.1 The Voles have researched alternatives to the current gazebo which would provide them with shelter in inclement weather and allow them to continue working throughout the year for the benefit of the Park.
- 3.2 Two options were presented, both of which are semi-permanent structures which could be dismantled should the need arise. Please see Annexe 2.

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- 3.3 The Streetcare Manager agreed that a replacement was needed and advised that the project would need JMC approval and possibly planning permission.
- 3.4 On this basis the Nonsuch Voles have successfully applied for a grant from the Community Foundation for Surrey to cover the costs of a replacement shelter and now seek formal permissions from the JMC and Epsom & Ewell Planning department in order to proceed.
- 3.5 Epsom & Ewell Borough Council Planning department has been contacted and preliminary conversations have suggested that Planning consent may be required. The Planners have agreed to work with the Nonsuch Voles in order to assist them with an application should it be required.
- 3.6 Permission for a replacement shelter is now sought from the Joint Management Committee for a decision in principle subject to any necessary planning consents and legalities required to protect both parties.

4 Financial Implications

- 4.1 The cost of procurement, installation and maintenance of the shelter will be borne by the Nonsuch Voles.
- 4.2 Officer time may be required to assist the process and prepare any legal documentation should it be required.

5 Conclusion and Recommendation

- 5.1 It is recommended that the Joint Management grant approval in principle for a replacement shelter subject to the necessary planning consents and legalities.