
RELEASE OF FUNDING – NORTH LODGE BANDSTAND

**Responsible Cabinet Member – Councillor Chris McEwan,
Efficiency & Resources Portfolio**

Responsible Director - Cliff Brown, Director of Community Services

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To request the release of Council capital resources, Heritage Lottery Funding and Big Lottery Community Spaces Funding to carry out the refurbishment of North Lodge Bandstand.

Summary

2. Work has been ongoing for a number of years to put in place a funding package to refurbish the bandstand in North Lodge Park. Council Officers from External Funding Team and Connecting with Communities Team have been working with the Friends of North Lodge Park to put in place the funding package.
3. Total funding achieved is £216,000 from Heritage Lottery Fund, Fair Share, Garfield Weston (Friends), Big Lottery Community Spaces and Darlington Borough Council.

Recommendation

4. It is recommended that Members approve the release of £216,000 for the refurbishment of North Lodge Park Bandstand.

Reasons

5. The recommendation is supported to enable the refurbishment of the bandstand in North Lodge Park to take place.

**Cliff Brown
Director of Community Services**

Background Papers

No Background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

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CLD

S17 Crime and Disorder	Refurbishment of the bandstand will have a positive impact on the park and therefore crime and disorder.
Health and Well Being	Continuing to improve North Lodge will encourage more residents to use the facilities.
Sustainability	Wherever possible, sustainable approaches will be used to the refurbishment.
Diversity	North Lodge Park is available and used by all residents.
Wards Affected	Northgate.
Groups Affected	All Groups can use North Lodge Park.
Budget and Policy Framework	It is not considered that this report has any impact on the budget or policy framework.
Key Decision	It is not a key decision.
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision.
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The refurbishment of the bandstand in North Lodge Park will contribute to the Greener Darlington and Safer Darlington themes.
Efficiency	The ongoing maintenance of the bandstand will be contained in existing budgets.

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

6. Council Officers from the External Funding Team and Connecting with Communities Team have been working with Friends of North Lodge Park for a number of years in putting in place a funding package to refurbish the bandstand in North Lodge Park. A funding package was secured from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Darlington Borough Council and Northern Rock. Unfortunately funding from Northern Rock did not materialise as a result of the economic downturn.
7. Officers and the Friends did not give up and have been working hard on completing a number of bids to other organisations to fill the funding gap. This hard work has paid off and a total funding package of £216,000 has been secured as follows:-

(a) Heritage Lottery Fund	£103,000
(b) Fair Share Trust	£ 17,500
(c) Garfield Weston (Friends)	£ 5,000
(d) Big Lottery Community Spaces	£ 49,500
(e) Darlington Borough Council	<u>£ 41,000</u>
	<u>£216,000</u>
8. Darlington Borough Council will receive the funding from the Heritage Lottery and Community Spaces. Funding from Fair Share and Garfield Weston (Friends) is paid directly to the Friends of North Lodge Park.
9. A specification has been developed to align with the budget available.
10. To enable the scheme to move forward, it is requested that Cabinet release the funding of £216,000.
11. The ongoing revenue costs for maintaining the bandstand will be minimal and met from existing repairs and maintenance budgets within Street Scene.
12. Annual financing costs of £5,000 for this scheme are included in the MTFP.

Outcome of Consultation

13. A significant amount of consultation has taken place with the Friends of North Lodge Park and the wider community as a result of preparing bids for external funding and developing the project.
14. Consultation and engagement with the Friends and the local community will continue once the bandstand is refurbished to enable this facility to be enjoyed by all residents of the Borough.