

## Report to Cabinet

**Subject:** Public Realm Works – Achievements of the Scheme

**Date:** 24 April 2014

**Author:** Service Manager – Housing & Localities

### Wards Affected

All wards

### Purpose

To provide an update of the achievements of the first four years of the Public Realm Works (PRW).

### Key Decision

This is not a key decision

### Background

1.1 When the Council decided to transfer the housing stock to the newly formed housing association – Gedling Homes, in 2008, part of the agreement included the requirement for Gedling Homes to make available funding to the Council to improve the overall appearance of the borough.

1.2 The funding is detailed in the table below.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Budget ( base budget plus RPI)</b>
2009/10	£550k
2010/11	£579k (RPI 5.3%)
2011/12	£609k (RPI 5.2%)
2012/13	£630k (RPI 3.5%)
2013/14	£649k (RPI 2.9%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>£3m</b>

1.3 The first schemes were delivered in 2009, and to date the PRW funding has delivered

- Improvements to 10 parks
- Estate based remedial/ improvement works in 19 different locations
- Improvements to over 20 shop fronts

1.4 Details of the schemes are contained in appendix 1.

1.5 In addition the PRW funding has also been used to

- Provide apprentices in Streets and Park Care – the apprenticeships run for 18 months and the scheme enables them to obtain up to level 2 NVQ in Horticulture.
- Contribute towards the costs of the Arnold town centre works
- Commit £649k to the Gedling Country Park.

1.6 The priorities for each year's funding has focussed on different areas.

#### **Year one – 2009/10**

1.7 The first year saw a significant amount of the funding being used to redress structural issues with bungalows in Carlton, coupled with the installation of a teen shelter at Jackie Bells Field in Netherfield and fencing works at the Colwick play area. An amount of work was also carried over to the second year. Some delays were encountered as it took time for the Council and Gedling Homes to agree the process for determining the schedule of works.

#### **Year two - 2010/11**

1.8 The second years' schedule saw the focus shift to parks and open spaces and included the remodelling of the play facilities, in consultation with local residents, youth groups and schools at:

- Colwick
- King George the Fifth– Standhill Road
- Burton Road
- Killisick – first outdoor gym in the borough
- Replacement of equipment at play areas across the borough
- Extension of the skate park in Arnot Hill Park

1.9 This year's programme also included issues which had been identified by residents such as problems with parking areas on the Phoenix Estate and

the need to improve the walk ways around the estate to make residents feel safer. Following a detailed period of consultation, plans were agreed which remodelled 5 parking areas and improved the visibility on the cut throughs by removing the adjacent garages.

### **Year three and four - 2011/12 – 2012/13**

- 1.10 The focus for the next two years was around estate based improvements, with an objective of the programme being to tackle long standing issues which were causing problems for our residents, and reducing the Council's ongoing maintenance and liability. The scheme included a significant number of areas across the borough and delivered improvements to parking areas, footpaths, signage, open spaces, installing CCTV and the replacement of a substantial retaining wall in Killisick.
- 1.11 The programme also included initiatives to support our business community through the shop front grants scheme which provided funding for painting, security and signage etc at over 20 businesses across the borough. To support people seeking employment and experience the scheme also funded three apprenticeships in Parks and Street Care, and made a sizeable contribution to the remodelling of Arnold Town Centre.

### **Year 5 – 2013/14**

- 1.12 The final years funding will be used to support the delivery of the Gedling Country Park which is an impressive scheme that will ultimately see the phased development of the former mining area.
- 1.13 The visual impact of this programme of works has been considerable and appendix 2 contains before and after images showing the range and quality of improvements which this funding has enabled across the borough.
- 1.14 In summary the PRW funding has enabled the Council to not only improve the condition of its parks and open spaces, but has also enabled long standing issues, which were a constant problem for residents and Councillors to be addressed and reduced the Council's ongoing maintenance liabilities. The wide scope of the scheme has provided support for local businesses, people seeking employment and made a significant financial contribution to assist the Council in the delivery of both the Gedling Country Park and the re-modelling of Arnold Town Centre which will change both the appearance and the range of facilities available in the borough.
- 1.15 The management of the scheme has also embraced the views of residents and Councillors who have been heavily involved with some of the schemes.

### **Geographical Impact**

- 1.16 A theme of this programme was to improve the appearance of the borough by tackling long standing issues such as the condition of parking areas and footpaths, to replace play equipment and provide new facilities for residents. Further aspects of the scheme such as the shop front grant have also enabled many businesses to benefit from the funding, across the borough. The location of the schemes is contained in appendix 3, and whilst not a requirement of the scheme, it does demonstrate a reasonable geographical split of projects across the borough.

### **Proposal**

- 2.1 The proposal is to share with Members the wide range of schemes which have been delivered via the Public Realms Works funding.

### **Alternative Options**

- 3.1 Not to report to Members on the schemes delivered. This would mean Members were not being kept up to date on the PRW and the benefits the scheme has delivered.

### **Financial Implications**

- 4.1 The PRW scheme was fully funded by Gedling Homes, however there has been significant staffing resources contributed to the scheme by the Council.

### **Appendices**

- 5.1 Appendix 1 List of schemes delivered
- 5.2 Appendix 2 Range of photographs showing before and after images of PRW schemes
- 5.3 Appendix 3 Map illustrating the location of the work

### **Background Papers**

- 6.1 None

### **Recommendation(s)**

- 7.1 That Members note the report

## **Reasons for Recommendations**

- 8.1 To inform Members of the wide range of works which have been delivered through the PRW scheme.

## Appendix 5.1

### Public Realm Works

<b>Parks</b>	
King George the Fifth – Arnold	Replacement of play equipment
Killisick – Coppice Road play area, Killisick	Provision of the boroughs' first outdoor gym
Jubilee Park, Burton Road –, Colwick	Provision of new play equipment
Arnot Hill Park, Woodthorpe	Extension of the skate park
Jackie Bells Field – Victoria Road, Netherfield	Provision of a teen shelter, decorated in partnership with local young people and a graffiti artist
Colwick Park Play area	Provision of new play equipment
Thackery's Lane, Woodthorpe	Replacement of existing play equipment
Arno Vale, Woodthorpe	Replacement of existing play equipment
Breck Hill Road, Woodthorpe	Replacement of existing play equipment
Albert Avenue, Carlton	Provision of new play equipment
Replacement programme	New pieces of play equipment across the borough
<b>Estate Improvements</b>	
Phoenix Estate – Phoenix Avenue, St Mary's and St Michaels, Gedling	Provision of soft landscaping and demolition of some garages to provide additional parking spaces, ease the parking problems experienced by residents and improving access around the estate for refuse freighters.
Newstead – Garden Terrace Chatsworth Terrace Chapel Terrace Stonehouse Terrace Newstead	Provision of fencing and security lighting
Bourne Mews, Netherfield	CCTV, soft landscaping to improve the appearance of the area and make residents feel safer
Hanworth Gardens, Daybrook	Removal of brick seating area replaced with open plan seat and planting

Phoenix Farm Methodist Church – Wollaton Avenue, Gedling	Provision of fencing and renewal of safe play surface in play area
Apple Tree Lane , Phoenix Estate	Resurfacing works
Cavendish Road, Carlton	Resurfacing works
Tavill Field, Kilnbrook Avenue, Killisick	Soft landscaping and provision of seating
Cross Street, Carlton	Resurfacing of un- adopted road
Browning Close, Daybrook	Resurfacing and clearing of parking area
Bestwood Lodge Road, Redhill	Resurfacing works
Hawthorne Crescent, Killisick	Replacement of a retaining wall
Southdale Road, Carlton	Replacement of a retaining wall
Portland Road, Gedling	Resurfacing works
29 Mansfield Road, Daybrook	Resurfacing works
Wollaton Avenue, 4 – 12 Gedling	Lighting and fencing to the rear of the shops in response to the concerns raised by residents, businesses, neighbourhood wardens and the police.
St Marys church and playing field, Redhill	Installation of a French drain and resurfacing works to the car park
Arnold Town Centre	Contribution to the remodelling programme
Arthur & Deabill Street, Netherfield	Clearing of alleyways
Bungalow improvement scheme	Gedling Homes identified a number of bungalows which required underpinning post transfer
Bourne Mews	Provision of collective storage bins to improve the appearance of the area
Dunstan Street, Netherfield	Installation of CCTV in response to concerns voiced by residents

<b>Shop Front Grant Scheme</b>	
Various shop fronts 131-139 Victoria Road, Netherfield	Replacement of damaged windows and shutters, repair and decoration of eternal brickwork, installation of CCTV.
Mercury Fire & Security, 109 Church Road, Burton Joyce	Decoration to exterior of premises, new guttering, new UPVC windows resurfacing of car park and new fencing.
Raffles Hair Design 95 High St Arnold	New windows and door.
Valmarys Children's Centre 145 Woodthorpe Drive Mapperley	New windows
Gooseberry 880 Woodborough Road Mapperley	New signs
AE Chambers 31 Front Street Arnold	External redecoration and repairs to windows
Honeywood Gardens Retail Units The Brickyard	Scheme included 7 units, new boarding installed to the units and doors replaced with roller shutter doors. The new weather tight boarding will provide an 'urban canvas' which is being decorated as part of a GBC Leisure initiative
Nature's Remedies 289 Carlton Hill Carlton	New door, windows and improved security measures.
NG5 5a Stanhope Crescent Arnold	New windows, door and improved signage.
Herbert Button & Partners 19/21 Main Road Gedling	New UPVC windows
Physio Plus 3b Milton Court Ravenshead	New windows and door which is wider to enable disabled access, plus new shutters to improve security.
Bartram & Co 49 Mansfield Road Daybrook	New windows and door, plus the cleaning, repair and repainting the sign
Auto Technical Services 2 Bennett Road Mapperley	New UPVC windows and door



Vacant 97 High Street Arnold	New windows and door
Longdale Craft Centre Longdale Lane Ravenshead	New windows and redesigned entrance doors, new guttering, work to improve the render and external woodwork and improvements to the car park
Dental Practice 406 – 408 Mansfield Road	New windows and decoration
Home Deli 1 High Street Arnold	New windows and wide doors to match the restaurant / bar next door
Silver Marlin Fish and Chips 218 Carlton Hill Carlton	Repairs to brick work and decoration of external render
P M Robinsons - The Butchers Victoria Road Netherfield	New shop front
KKS Food & Wine 776 Mansfield Road Woodthorpe	New sign
Sew & Sew 2 Sandfield Road Arnold	New windows and door, new sign and repairs to external walls and boarding

**5.2 Appendix 2 – Range of photographs showing before and after image of the PRW scheme**

# Public Realm Update

ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SCHEME

The improvements detailed below give examples of the range of works which have been delivered through partnership working with Gedling Homes.

## Shop Front Grant Scheme



This initiative offered a contribution of up to 50% or a maximum of £2,000 towards improvements to business premises in the borough. There was an excellent response generating 20 applications for improvements to shop premises across the borough, including new signs, repainting, minor building works, i.e. re-pointing, and improved security measures. One early scheme was the frontage of the Home Delicatessen in Arnold as shown. The cheque was presented by the Mayor.



## King George V Hallams Lane, Arnold Recreation Ground Play Area Refurbishment 2013

This play area was identified as in urgent need of refurbishment as the equipment was rusting at ground level, the surfacing was breaking up and it was rarely used by local families due to regular vandalism.

PRW provided £100k and the contract was awarded to Playdale Playgrounds. The play area now has exciting equipment including a city board rider, and a viper rope swing for young people upto 19 years old.

The play area is now well used by local families.



## Colwick Rectory Recreation Ground Play Area refurbishment 2009/2010



Working with St John's Church of England Primary School in Colwick the children told us they were unhappy with their local play area. The equipment was unadventurous and dated, the boundary fencing was falling down and the see saw wouldn't move! So they told us what they wanted from a new playground.

PRW provided £100k funding for the new play area and the contract was awarded to Wicksteed Playscapes. The playground now boasts a 4m high adventurous play unit, a G Force roundabout (pictured) and a basket swing encouraging social play. The play area is very popular with local families and the children from St John's School are delighted with their new playground



## Outdoor Gym at Killisick Recreation Ground, Arnold 2010/11



Local young people requested this facility and worked with Groundwork Greater Nottingham to carry out consultation with local residents. PRW provided £50K of funding and Wicksteed Playscapes were awarded the contract to supply and install. The Gym is very popular with all age groups.

## Burton Road Jubilee Park Recreation Ground Skate Park and Car Park improvements



Following a Leisure bid to PRW for teen facilities and car park improvements on the park, £135K was awarded and the project was completed during Autumn 2012. Historically the car park flooded after prolonged heavy rain so a new drainage system and resurfacing was required to alleviate the problem. The car park now drains well and the surfacing has improved its appearance.

The Skate Park was completed during Autumn 2011 and is very popular with young people.

### 5.3 Appendix 3 - Map illustrating the location of PRW schemes

