

THE EXECUTIVE

2 AUGUST 2005

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE STRATEGY

Title: Renaming of a Former Housing Amenity Green / Paved Area	For Decision
<p>Summary:</p> <p>The River, Village and Goresbrook Community Forum has, over the past couple of years, supported, through its small budget provision, a local environmental project involving the redevelopment of a former housing green adjoining land at the junction of Dagenham Avenue and the Heathway. The aim behind the project was to make a statement for the locality by seeking to improve an otherwise drab underused area, and in doing so provide a place for the local community to sit and rest and for young children to play.</p> <p>The project has demonstrated partnership working between the Council, the community, and other agencies.</p> <p>The final phase has now been completed, supported with monies from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister of around £63,000. This along with other match funding for earlier phases has enabled the Forum through its limited budgets to secure in the order of £100,000 of external funding towards this project.</p> <p>The labelling of the project originally as ‘Scheme on the Green’ was a reflection on the former housing amenity green which has now long gone. As a result the Forum Budget Steering Group, made up of Councillors and community representatives, has proposed that there should be a formal naming ceremony to mark the project’s completion, and to that end they feel a more appropriate name for the area would be Heathway Gardens, for which an official plaque will be produced.</p> <p>Wards Affected: River Ward</p>	
<p>Implications:</p> <p>Financial:</p> <p>No cost to the Council as provisions for a naming ceremony has already been accounted for in project costs.</p> <p>Legal:</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Risk Management:</p> <p>There are no risks to the Council insofar as this report is concerned.</p>	

Social Inclusion and Diversity:

The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 places a requirement on local authorities to make an assessment of the impact of new and revised policies in terms of race equality. Existing policies have already been subjected to impact assessments. This Authority has adopted an approach of extending the impact to cover gender, disability, sexuality, faith, age and community cohesion.

As this report does not concern a new or revised policy there are no specific adverse impacts insofar as this report is concerned.

Crime and Disorder:

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a responsibility on local authorities to consider the crime and disorder implications of any proposals. In relation to this report there are no specific implications insofar as this report is concerned.

Recommendation

The Executive is asked to:

1. Consider naming the former housing amenity green adjoining land at the junction of Heathway and Dagenham Avenue as 'Heathway Gardens'; and
2. Note that subject to 1 above, an official naming ceremony will be arranged.

Reason

To assist the Council in achieving its Community Priorities of 'Raising General Pride in the Borough' and 'Making Barking and Dagenham Cleaner, Greener and Safer' as well as to mark the project's completion.

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Background papers used in the preparation of this report:

Agendas and minutes of River, Village and Goresbrook Community Forum and associated Budget Steering Group meetings.