
Report To:	Regeneration Committee	Date:	7th May 2009
Report By:	Corporate Director – Regeneration and Resources	Report No:	RC/09/05/11/SJ/WW
Contact Officer:	Head of Economic and Social Regeneration	Contact No:	01475 715555
Subject:	Birkmyre Park - Update		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to apprise Members in respect of the consultation which has taken place in respect of pitch use at Birkmyre Park.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 A report was considered by the January Committee in respect of a proposal to change the rugby pitch at Knockbuckle Road, within the Birkmyre Park into a football pitch.
- 2.2 The Committee remitted the Head of Economic and Social Regeneration to consult with the existing pitch users and the Kilmacolm Community Council in respect of this proposed change
- 2.3 On this basis consultation took place with Inverclyde Leisure, Birkmyre Rugby Club, Hamilton Academicals (Inverclyde) FC and St Columbas School.
- 2.4 After extensive consultation it became apparent that capacity within the pitches could be increased by re-designating the rugby pitch as a dual rugby and football pitch.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Committee notes the progress on the consultation of the re-designation of the pitches at Birkmyre Park and agree that a report should be presented to full Council, as the Trustees of the Birkmyre Park, to re-designate the pitch at Knockbuckle Road into a dual use pitch.

Stuart Jamieson
Head of Economic and Social Regeneration

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 At present there are 3 rugby pitches and 1 football pitch at Birkmyre Park. Due to local demand, it was recommended that one of the rugby pitches (i.e. the one between Knockbuckle Road and Park Road) be redesignated as a football pitch..
- 4.2 A report was considered by the January Committee in respect of this proposal and the Committee remitted the Head of Economic and Social Regeneration to consult with the existing pitch users and the Kilmacolm Community Council in respect of this proposed change.
- 4.3 Consultation took place with the Chief Executive and Development Manager of Inverclyde Leisure, The President of Birkmyre Rugby Club, The Manager of Hamilton Academicals (Inverclyde)FC, and the Rector and Head of Physical Education of St Columbas School. Consultation with the Chairperson and her deputy of Kilmacolm Community Council also took place
- 4.4 Following consultation it was apparent that the bookable pitch utilisation could be improved if the pitch at Knockbuckle Road was re-designated for football and rugby during the appropriate seasons and it could continue to be used for athletics during the summer
- 4.5 Officers have verified with the governing bodies of both football and rugby that it is appropriate for dual use, and understand that this is now commonplace within the professional ranks of both sports.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial Implications – One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Year	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	None at this stage

Financial Implications – Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (if Applicable)	Other Comments
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	None at this stage

- 5.2 Human Resources and Legal Services: None
- 5.3 Equalities: In preparation of the report equality issues have been considered.

6.0 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 Consultation has taken place with the Kilmacolm Community Council, Inverclyde Leisure, Birkmyre Rugby Club, Hamilton Academicals (Inverclyde) FC and St Columbas School. Consultation has also taken place with Property Resources and Facilities Management, and Environmental Services

7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 None