

Record of operational decision

Decision title:	£72,940 s.106 open space monies towards a new Pump Track at Martins Way Open Space Ledbury.
Date of decision:	12 th August 2025
Decision maker:	Ben Boswell, Head of Environment, Climate Emergency
Authority for delegated decision:	Economy and Environment scheme of delegation line 71 Corporate Centre Directorate Scheme of Delegation line 159 Cabinet decision dated 02 March 2023 - Section 106 Portfolio of Works – S106 Delivery Proposals. Cabinet Report 02 March 2023
Ward:	Ledbury South
Consultation:	Internal consultation: Herefordshire Council: Ruth Jackson (Open Space Planning Officer), Spencer Grogan (Parks and Leisure Centre Commissioning Manager) and Ledbury Ward Members (Cllr Simmons, Cllr Peberdy and Cllr Harvey). External Consultation: Ledbury Town Council, Masefield Matters Project Community Consultation: On-site design workshop and community engagement, 22 July 2025
Decision made:	Approval of £72,940 s.106 open space monies from planning ref:194182 (Land to the rear of the Full Pitcher New Street Ledbury) towards a new Pump Track at Martins Way Open Space Ledbury.
Reasons for decision:	Planning: The proposal supports evidence provided by the Core Strategy Evidence Base: Open Space Assessment and Strategy 2023 which recommends creating new provision for children and young people in the southern part of Ledbury where Martins Way Open Space is located. Key stakeholders/Working Group: The project is supported by key stakeholders including Herefordshire Council, Ledbury Town Council and Local Ward Members who have formed a working group with a Project Lead to support the design concept through to delivery. Community Engagement: The working group has actively engaged with the wider community in the process. This has included the John Masefield High School carrying out a questionnaire with its pupils, the use of social media and an on-site design workshop. The latter was aimed at children and young people and their families in the vicinity of the park, with fliers sent to all local households. It was an interactive event which included demonstrations by local pump track designers, clay modelling and a questionnaire about the open space. The local Community Support Officer also attended. The event was led and coordinated by Project Lead: Nigel Koch Senior Landscape Officer Herefordshire Council. The event cost a total of £109.58 to be funded by the s.106 contribution leaving a balance of £72,830.42. In line with the Herefordshire Council's procurement rules best value for these items has been evidenced.

	<p>Initial feedback for the pump track is positive and supportive of the proposal. As the project progresses the working group will continue to engage with the wider community.</p> <p>Pump Track Design, Specification and Cost: This will be progressed by the Project Lead. Pump tracks can be designed and delivered within a range of budgets to suit the needs of the community. The s.106 monies can fully fund the delivery of a pump track as an initial phase should no other monies become available.</p> <p>Additional funding will be sought to support the delivery of ancillary facilities such as seating and planting associated with the pump track and wider park improvements.</p>
Equality Considerations	<p>Equality duty: The proposal has due regard to our public sector equality duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.</p> <p>The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying ‘due regard’ in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services. Our providers will be made aware of their contractual requirements in regards to equality legislation.</p> <p>The scheme will provide, new provision for children and young people in the southern part of Ledbury at Marins Way public open space which will be accessible and available to all.</p>
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/considerations:	<p>Unforeseen events/costs – Potential unknowns or unforeseen costs could lead to overspend. The s.106 contribution is finite; therefore, a contingency will be allowed, and any overspend above this would need to be provided through additional means.</p>
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	<p>Not to fund.</p> <p>This option is not recommended given the wider community support for the project proposal.</p>
Details of any declarations of interest made:	<p>None declared.</p>

Signed..... 

Date: 12 August 2025

Print Name: Ben Boswell