

## PROJECT JUSTIFICATION DETAILS

**Scheme Name: Improvement Works on the Path Network for Bedelands Farm LNR and Railway Land North**

**Purpose of project :**

Improving the path network of Bedelands Farm LNR and Railway Land North. The path through the reserve is to provide a circular, all weather route. On Railway Land North a surfaced path will be provided to formalise the desire line that is currently used by visitors across the site.

**Total Amount : £80,000**

*Capitalised Salaries included in the project total : N/A*

*Other sources of funding :*

S106 Contributions collected by Lewes District Council.

*Revenue Implications :*

Ongoing maintenance of both paths – c.£ 1,500 p/a

**Value For Money Assessment:**

*Current practice / doing nothing:*

The network of paths on the Bedelands Farm LNR have been laid for a number of years and is in need of upgrading. An all-weather circular path has been noted as desirable for access to the reserve and has relied on nominated paths rather than an constructed route. It is intended that the route will cater for equal access for a wide range of abilities. The path across Railway Land North that is currently a muddy desire line, but improves links to Bedelands Farm with a route from the station up to the reserve.

*Other alternative approaches:*

The project is part of a wider consultation that Lewes DC undertook on completion of the Theobolds development that is adjacent to Valebridge Road, but within Lewes District Council boundary. MSDC agreed to accept the priorities of their consultation.

**Business Unit/Service:** Landscapes

**Head of Service :** Judy Holmes

**Project Manager :** David Terry

**Cabinet Members :** Gary Marsh

**Continued..**

**Ward Members :**

Bedeland Farm LNR = Cll. Robert Salisbury; Cllr Pete Bradbury  
 Railway Land = Cllr Colin Holden ; Cllr. Kirsty Page

**This project contributes to achieving the Corporate Plan in the following ways :**

Providing better infrastructure development for healthy lifestyles.

**Summary of discussions with Cabinet Member:.**

Cllr. Gary Marsh is supportive of the need to enhance the path network of Bedelands Farm LNR & Railway Land North to provide better access for the local residents and visitors to enjoy the natural environment.

**Risk Analysis :**

The main risks for this project are:

Potential risk of an administrative delay with the transfer of money from Lewes DC as funding is project specific and transferred at the point of contract award. The agreement between Lewes and Mid Sussex has prescribed a time frame for the provision of the transfer of funds.

The likelihood, severity, financial impact (rated low, medium, high) of each of these risks are:

Low risk as there is wide political and public desire for the proposed project to proceed.

Mitigation actions:

Lewes DC and MSDC legal teams are drafting an agreement for the fund to be transferred in a timely fashion.

**Scheme name:** –Part 2 Responsibility of the Budget Holder

**Responsibility of Budget Holder declaration:**

In relation to the following project:

I certify to say I understand my responsibility as the Budget Manager, and that I have read and that I understand I must comply with both the Council's Financial Procedure rules and contract procedure rules throughout the entirety of this capital project. I understand my responsibility to deliver the project as approved by Council as set out in Part 1 of this Project Justification Form.

I also understand that I should use the MSDC project and risk management methodology and covalent to scope, plan, risk assess and monitor progress in delivering this project. I understand my responsibility to report regularly on progress with the project to my head of service and to indicate as soon as possible if the project is likely to be over/underspent; or likely to fail to achieve key milestones; or, is no longer likely to achieve the benefits that were originally envisaged for it.

**Signed by Project Manager:**



**Name of Project Manager : (print name)**

**David Terry**

**Dated:... 7<sup>th</sup> April 2017**