

**CABINET – 6 APRIL 2005      PORTFOLIOS: LEISURE ENVIRONMENT**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:  
MILFORD ON SEA: SEAFRONT PHASE B**








**Summary of Purpose and Recommendations:**

This report presents proposals for Phase B of the refurbishment works to Milford Seafront and seeks agreement on the process for their funding.

**Cost to Council:** The Phase B works would require a capital expenditure of £78,000

**Within existing budget?** No. This is a bid for funding

**Contribution to Corporate Plan (Minor/Moderate/Major/Neutral):**

	+		-		+		-
	Moderate			<b>Priorities</b>			
	Moderate			Clean Streets and Public Space	Major		
	Moderate			Crime and Disorder		Neutral	
	Major			Housing		Neutral	
	Major			Managing our Finances	Moderate		

**Comments on Impacts on Corporate Objectives and Priorities:**

The seafront at Milford is heavily used and forms one of the key elements of the Council's directly managed public spaces. It's impacts are therefore principally in respect of social and environmental factors. The seafront had become "tired" and in need of refurbishment. Phase A is now largely completed and has been warmly welcomed locally. This addressed the fundamental needs of surfacing, together with works to improve overall landscape design and layout. Phase B was considered at the time of approving Phase A but it was to be subject to a further report. This report sets out those proposed works and the budget required to complete this scheme.

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**1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 In March 2004 Cabinet agreed arrangements and funding for Phase A of the Seafront refurbishment. This phase is largely complete and this paper brings forward proposals for Phase B
- 1.2 A recent meeting of the Project Board has confirmed a suggested phase B for the project and Cabinet’s approval is sought.

**2. SEAFRONT REFURBISHMENT**

- 2.1 Phase A of the scheme is close to completion. The scheme is expected to be completed close to budget and on time. The work of the project management structure helped ensure a clear client brief and with favourable weather conditions and good contractor performance, the scheme has progressed well. The feedback from local users has been very encouraging.
- 2.2 At the review of Phase A, the Project Board determined that Cabinet should be approached to seek agreements for funding to undertake the Phase B items. These items were listed in the original report of March 2004 but it was always understood that they would be the subject of a further report, in order to determine if there was support for their funding.
- 2.3 With some relatively small adjustments, Phase B was presented to the Project Board in March. The Board has reviewed the need for these items and believes they should be completed. In summary:

1.Under 5’s Play area	A strong favourite throughout the consultation with local people
2.Painting the beach hut backs and roofs	They have a strong visual impact and currently present a very tired prospect now the promenade is refurbished
3.Western car park wall incl. lighting	The wall is broken down and unsightly
4.Works to integrate with public conveniences contract	A small amount of work is needed to tidy up around the shared boundaries of the projects. This cost is less than originally estimated as the building has been moved forward on its “footprint”
5.Additional low-level bollard lighting	Included in Phase A works
6.Closing the gap between huts and Promenade	Revised cost estimate £90,000, but formal risk assessment confirms level of risk is low and acceptable, therefore Project Board has agreed not to pursue.

- 2.4 Upgrading of the eastern section of the sea wall (cladding and coping) had been identified as a priority “C” item (estimated cost £53,000), but in view of the limited potential sources of funding, the Board recommend that it is not pursued at this stage.

### **3. PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

- 3.1 The Project Board also reviewed the project management structure and recommend that it is retained for any Phase B works. It has helped to engage local representatives and generate a shared understanding on design matters.

### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 Phase B is estimated to cost £78,000, which will enable provision of the first four items listed in paragraph 2.3 above. Whilst there is not currently specific provision in the 2005/06 Capital Budget to cover these costs, Cabinet considered a report on the proposal for the construction and sale of beach huts at Milford on Sea (Report C – 1 December 2004). That report proposed the consideration of the capital receipts arising for the funding of Phase B of the Milford Promenade Improvement Scheme. It is recommended that a process for funding this scheme is agreed.

- 4.2 As part of the Project Board process, the Parish Council has expressed the intention to implement the play area on the basis of an interest in the land and their commitment to have responsibility for its maintenance and operation. This is yet to be formalised, pending the decision on Phase B.

### **5. CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 Consultation has been a key part of this scheme to date, as set out in earlier reports.

### **6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The seafront at Milford is one of the most visited sections of the coast. It is also the one location that offers the potential to cater for increased use by local people and visitors alike. The Phase A works made a major difference to the quality of the environment along the seafront. However, functionally and visually, there are some items that, if implemented, would complete the project.

### **7. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The principal issues have been addressed in the Phase A works. The additional low level lighting will be of some assistance in Phase B as proposed.

## **8. PORTFOLIO HOLDERS COMMENTS**

8.1 The Portfolio Holders for Leisure and Environment both support the recommendations.

## **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 It is recommended that:

a) The proposals for Phase B of the scheme to renovate Milford Seafront be approved.

b) The process for funding Phase B be approved.

c) That the provision of the under five's play area be subject to a formal Agreement with Milford Parish Council, which secures their interest in the long term tenure of the land and commitment to maintenance of the area.

d) The project management arrangements remain in place for the duration of the project and are used on an "as required" basis.

### **For further Information contact:**

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### **Background Papers:**

Published report.

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