

MATLOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting: 17 July 2006

Report by: *Susan Smith/Lindsay Allen*

DENEFIELDS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update on the project proposal for activity on Denefields, working with Groundwork and to approve Council funds to match Lottery funding.

The overall aim is to establish a regular programme of volunteer involvement in Denefields, through a 'Green Gym' developed and supported by Groundwork in partnership with, and on behalf of, Matlock Town Council

2. INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS

In March 2006, initial discussions were held with Groundwork to explore how the community in and around Denefields could become more involved with the aim of reducing incidences of anti-social behaviour and increase the usage of the site.

At a further meeting on June 30th it was discussed that Groundwork had an opportunity to include Matlock in national lottery funding for a Green Gym.

The Green Gym is a weekly programme of environmental improvements carried out by volunteers, through which they can also improve their physical and mental wellbeing. The Green Gym trademark is owned by BTCV and Groundwork would deliver one in Matlock as a 'franchise' using the national model and all the support and accredited training that go with it.

The outcomes for the project include:

- To enhance the public open space known as 'Denefields' in Matlock, Derbyshire
- To engage a wide range of individuals and groups, develop skills, interest and social cohesion
- To enhance health and wellbeing (through use of this public space and also through volunteering)
- To provide educational value
- To promote and enhance bio-diversity
- To enhance enjoyment of Denefields e.g. through voluntary work and public recreation
- To share best practice and be involved in a national programme that demonstrates that as a Town Council we are committed to the health & well being of our community and our green spaces.

3. OFFICER COMMENT

This would be an excellent opportunity for this Town Council to be involved in a national programme demonstrating our commitment to the well being of our community and making best use of green space.

4. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The project runs for two years (not necessarily in line with financial years or even half years as suggested below) and would bring approximately £21,000 revenue per annum of lottery funds to the area to support Matlock Town Council funding.

Source of funding	Oct 2006 – March 2007- half year (October is a provisional start date pending confirmation)	April 2007 to March 2008 - full year	April 2008 to September 2008 - half year
Lottery - 'Well Being'	£10,500 (provisional)	£21,000 (provisional)	£10,500
Matlock Town Council Revenue	£7,500	£15,000	£7,500 to £15,000*
Matlock Town Council Capital for tools and materials	£2,500 ^	£2,500	£2,500*

* depending on whether MTC wishes to help to sustain the project beyond the 2 year Lottery funding.

^ capital amount depends on which projects MTC wants done at Denefields

The National Model proposes that a second Green Gym be run elsewhere probably by the same project officer, funded within this the same Lottery funding (time shared equally) with local revenue and capital funding provided by partner(s) appropriate to the second area/site.

5. RECOMMENDATION

That Matlock Town Council commit the above sums for a Denefields Green Gym so that a completed proposal can be submitted for consideration for national lottery funding.

Signed: *S. C. Smith.*
Town Clerk

Dated: 10 July 2006