

MEMBERS CIL FUNDING REQUEST FORM

AREA COMMITTEE – MEMBERS CIL FUNDING REQUEST	
MEMBER	Cllr Ella Rose
DATE	11/12/2023
WARD	Whetstone
<i>cross-ward applications</i>	
SCHEME SUMMARY	
<p>Feasibility study and consultation for Capel Close tennis court improvements.</p> <p>The area outlined in green is a tennis court in Capel Close that is falling into disrepair. As such, residents don't use it very often and it has had instances of ASB in the past.</p> <p>The request for funding to fund a small feasibility study and consultation with residents of Capel Close to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gather feasible options for conversion of the tennis court (bearing in mind ASB, ongoing costs and most use) 2. Ask residents which options they would like to proceed with <p>The current options for conversion include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multi-use games area (MUGA) - Playground - Outdoor gym - Raised planters/community garden <p>Add on options to reduce/avoid ASB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low-level light bollards - Closed fencing 	
Funding Request (£)	£360
CIL Eligibility	<p>Capel Close is a Barnet Homes-managed asset.</p> <p>As the tennis court has fallen into poor repair, this feasibility would enable it to be brought back into community use.</p> <p>An informal consultation has already taken place with residents of Capel Close who stated that they would like to bring the asset back into use in a way that is safe and beneficial to their community of homes.</p>
Area Committee priorities	<p>AC Priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community safety: thinking about keeping neighbourhood safe when deciding new option - Community engagement: asking the community what they want - Public health: improve access to active spaces <p>The Barnet Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Effective and engaged council: neighbourhood working, community participation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Caring for places: safe and attractive neighbourhood and town centres. - Caring for people: family friendly
Who will deliver the scheme	Barnet Homes, Greenspaces officer and NCIL Coordinator
Community Grants <i>(if applicable please confirm this is included with the application)</i>	N/A
Feasibility Study only	Yes – a future funding request will be brought to area committee dependent on the results of the consultation with residents.

BUDGET & DELIVERY

Barnet Homes officer time (7 hrs @ £20/hr) 3 hrs preparing consultation options 3 hrs delivering consultation and analysing consultation 1 hr creating options/bid for the favoured outcome	£140
Greenspaces officer time (2 hrs @ £30/hr) 2 hrs preparing options and undertaking site visits	£60
Consultation (letter drop x52 @£2.30 per letter)	£120
Contingency (10%)	£360

Quotes provided with the application	N/A
Timescale for delivery	Feasibility – Feb-March Consultation – March Consultation analysis – April
Council Service Delivery	Madeleine Herbert – NCIL Coordinator Rob Wiltshire – Greenspaces Officer Amanda Quinn – Senior Neighbourhood Manager (BH) Genevieve Tetley – Neighbourhood Housing Manager (BH) Nuvin Ramiah – Senior Neighbourhood Manager (BH) Darryn Miles – Estate Services Manager (BH)
Dependencies/Risks	The progression of this project to full construction is dependent on the outcomes of the feasibility study and the consultation with residents. Feasibility will assess the legal and regulatory requirements for each option. Options not viable by these measures will be discounted and not presented to residents for decision.

VALUE FOR MONEY

Undertaking feasibility at this stage will give us value for money in the future – in ensuring that we progress with the scheme that will benefit residents in a way that they want.

This will also give us the time to examine how we can programme social value into the next phase of delivery.

No ongoing revenue costs	There are no ongoing costs for the feasibility study
---------------------------------	--

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

This feasibility would enable a community asset to be brought back into use. The consultation will ensure that the next stage of the project will take into account the community’s thoughts on the matter. We can also tailor the next phase of the project to meet the needs of the community, which will include accessibility for protected characteristics, such as disability and age.

Lead Officer Review – if required

Lead Officer	
---------------------	--

Date	
-------------	--

Assessment & Recommendations	
---	--

Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGAs) have become increasingly popular in housing estates, offering residents a dedicated space for various recreational activities. communities. There are several advantages and disadvantages to consider when considering installing a MUGA on our estates :

Advantages:

- **Community and Individual Well- Being**

MUGAs can act as social hubs, encouraging a sense of community by bringing residents together. Families, neighbours, and individuals can engage in sports and recreational activities, promoting social interactions and building stronger community bonds. In addition, the presence of a MUGA may encourage physical activity, contributing to improved health and well-being. Residents of all ages can enjoy outdoor exercise, promoting a healthier lifestyle and reducing the risk of sedentary habits.

- **Inclusivity**

MUGAs cater to a diverse range of interests, offering spaces for various sports and activities. This inclusivity ensures that residents with different preferences and abilities can find enjoyment and engagement within the community.

- **Property Value**

The existence of MUGAs can enhance the appeal of the housing estate, potentially increasing property values. The prospect of recreational facilities adds to the overall desirability of the community for potential buyers or renters.

Disadvantages:

- **Noise and Disturbance**

The use of MUGAs, especially during peak hours, may lead to increased noise levels. This can potentially disrupt the tranquillity of the neighbourhood and create tension among residents who value a quieter living environment.

- **Maintenance Costs**

MUGAs require ongoing maintenance to ensure safety and functionality. The associated costs for repairs, upkeep, and security may place a burden on the community's financial resources.

- **Space Utilisation**

The space for the propose MUGA may limit other potential uses for the land, such as green spaces or communal gardens. Balancing the need for recreational facilities with other community preferences can then become a challenge.

- **Inadequate Utilisation**

In some cases, MUGAs may not be utilized to their full potential, either due to lack of interest or competing recreational options. This in turn raises questions about the effective use of resources and whether alternative community amenities would better serve residents.

- **Vandalism and Graffiti**

MUGAs may be susceptible to vandalism or graffiti, This can lead to a decline in the overall aesthetics of the housing estate and create a sense of insecurity.

- **Exclusionary Practices**

If certain groups dominate the MUGA, it may lead to feelings of exclusion among other community members. This can contribute to social tensions and a lack of cohesion within the estate.

In summary the implementation of Multi-Use Games Areas presents both advantages and disadvantages. It is important that we can strike a balance between fostering community engagement, promoting well-being, and addressing potential challenges, this requires a thoughtful and people centered approach. Ultimately, understanding the diverse needs and preferences of residents is critical in creating a harmonious living environment that will enhance the environment for all our residents.

MEMBERS CIL FUNDING REQUEST FORM

AREA COMMITTEE – MEMBERS CIL FUNDING REQUEST	
MEMBER	Cllr Emma Whysall
DATE	1 December 2023
WARD	High Barnet
<i>cross-ward applications</i>	
SCHEME SUMMARY	
<i>To supply and plant a new hawthorn hedge along boundary of the allotment To supply and plant rosa canina by the fence area near carpark</i>	
Funding Request (£)	IGS Subtotal £11,120.00

	<p>There needs to be a 25% contingency for this work £2,780.00</p> <p>Also, officer time @ 5% £556.00</p> <p>Grand Total £14,456.00</p>
CIL Eligibility	<i>The scheme is located within the borough and has wide community benefit.</i>
Area Committee priorities	<i>The scheme falls under the Corporate Plan of supporting caring for out places and caring for the planet.</i>
Who will deliver the scheme	Greenspaces
Community Grants (if applicable please confirm this is included with the application)	N/A
Feasibility Study only	N/A
BUDGET & DELIVERY	
<p>To supply and plant new hedge along boundary of the allotment Approx 136lm</p> <p>1, To cut back existing vegetation Remove to contractors tip</p> <p>2 To create a trench approx.. 1m wide for planting Add fertiliser to area Cultivate area Supply and plant approx.800 Hawthorn whips as specification</p> <p>cover planting bed with 20cm bark mulch Leave site clean and tidy</p> <p>3, To water hedging on 25 occasions through spring /summer</p> <p>4, car park side , supply and plant approx 54 x rosa canina By fence area , same planting spec as above</p>	
Quotes provided with the application	
Timescale for delivery	<i>These will be delivered as soon as officer time allows and in accordance with best time to plant</i>
Council Service Delivery	<i>Rob Wiltshire</i>
Dependencies/Risks	N/A
VALUE FOR MONEY	
<p>Two quotes were obtained</p> <p>BW Services quoted £13,050. IGS £11,120.00</p>	

Therefore utilising the IGS service is good value of money.

No ongoing revenue costs

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

The initial request to explore this came from the Allotments at Byng Road to replant the previous hedge which had been vandalised. Allotment holders and committee members met with myself and Rob on site earlier this year to discuss options.

Currently there is a patchy natural hedge along the North boundary of the Allotments.

The fields are well used locally by dog walkers, runners and local residents as well as being the site of the Medieval Festival and Barney Elizabethans Rugby Club. Planting the hedge would help further define the boundary and give privacy to the Allotments.

Further the proposed planting is in sympathy with the existing sections of natural hedge elsewhere along the boundary and at the nearby Environment centre. The hedge would also provide habitats for local wildlife increasing the bio diversity in an already diverse area.

Please also see the statements in support from the Police, Barnet Society, Environment centre and Allotment Committee

Lead Officer Review – if required

Lead Officer

Date

Assessment & Recommendations

Mr Robert Wiltshire
Green spaces
London borough of Barnet

11th November 2023

QUOTATION

Location ...Byng Road , Open space , EN5

<p>Estimate to carry out the following</p> <p>To supply and plant new hedge along boundary of the allotment Approx 136lm</p> <p>1, To cut back existing vegetation Remove to contractors tip</p> <p>2 To create a trench approx.. 1m wide for planting Add fertiliser to area Cultivate area Supply and plant approx.800 Hawthorn whips as specification</p>	
--	--

cover planting bed with 20cm bark mulch Leave site clean and tidy		
Material, waste , Plants ,bark mulch Hire , labour	COST	£ 6,245.00 & VAT
3, To water hedging on 25 occasions through spring /summer		
	Total Cost	£ 3,750.00 & Vat
4, car park side , supply and plant approx 54 x rosa canina By fence area , same planting spec as above		
	Material & Labour Cost	£ 1,125.00 & Vat
		ALL PRICES EXCLUDE VAT

Quotation valid for 30 days from above date

Signed on behalf of IRIS Gardening Services LimitedG. Dipple

Supporting statement – Byng Road Allotment Group

Along with Barnet Society, the Environment Centre, Police Sergeant Edward Stokes, Barnet Residents Association, St John’s Church in Chipping Banet and our local Councillor, Emma Whysall, the Byng Road Allotments Group, consisting of 75 tenants also support the replacement of a Hawthorn hedge, which is sustainable, biodiverse and sympathetic to the area. The replacement hedge will also increase our security and privacy, reduce flooding and contribute to reducing emissions in the Byng Road Playing Fields.

The proposed hedge runs along the north fence of Byng Road Allotments, which sits in Byng Road Playing Fields along with Barnet Elizabethans Rugby Football Club (BERFC) to the north, and Byng Road Open Space between BERFC and Byng Road Allotments. The proposed hedge is approximately 130 metres long. The following diagram, not drawn to scale, shows the location of where the hedge is to be replaced as detailed in the proposal, submitted by Councillor Emma Whysall.



History

The previous hedge ran along Byng Road Allotments and was mainly made up of brambles with a three large trees on the west side of this hedge. Some parts of the hedge protruded up to 5 metres onto Byng Road Open Space, as seen in the following aerial views of our allotments.



Figure 1: Google Earth View from May 2019

According to Google Earth, this hedge has been here since at least 1999 as seen in the following diagram.



Figure 2: Google Earth View September 1999

Unfortunately, Google Earth does not have any aerial views before this time, but the hedge was started in 1952 when 5.25 acres^[1] of Field 1038 (now Byng Road Playing Fields) was appropriated by the Ministry of Local Government and Planning for permanent allotments (Parks and Open Spaces Committee, 1 May 1951) and tenants planted blackberries along this perimeter to deter thefts, as a fence was not installed around Byng Road Allotments until 1960 (Allotments Committee, 5 July 1960) at a cost of £200.

For decades, residents brought their children and extended family to pick blackberries from July to October while using Byng Road Playing Fields and the adjacent fields; and shielding our allotments' privacy, so it seamlessly blended into the background. However, on Friday 14 October 2022, while walking a neighbour's dog in the Byng Road Playing Fields, I saw workers using chemicals in the Byng Road Playing Fields. It was not until a few days later that the devastation became apparent, as shown in the following photographs.



Figure 3: Taken 18 October 2022



Figure 4: Taken 18 October 2022.

Except for the large trees and bindweed nothing has grown back along this hedge and all we are left with is the dead debris of the brambles and exposed chainlink fence.

According to Woodland Trust around 118,000 miles of hedgerows have disappeared since 1950, (<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/habitats/hedgerows/>, 4 December 2023). The 2007 Countryside Survey of Great Britain estimates there are 402,000km of managed hedgerows in England^[2] and between 1998 and 2007 the total length of managed hedgerow decreased by 6.1%, or 26,000km (<https://hedgelink.org.uk/guidance/importance-of-hedgerows/> 5 December 2023).

Chapman and Biffi recommend that extending hedgerows by 40% (193,000km) will help reach net-zero carbon by 2050 (<https://hedgelink.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Sequestering-carbon-by-planting-hedgerows-flyer.pdf>, 5 December 2023), which also supports the London Borough of Barnet's, declaration of "Climate and Biodiversity Emergency and set the target of becoming a Net Zero council by 2030" (<https://engage.barnet.gov.uk/barnet-zero-new-sustainability-campaign>, 5 December 2023). By replacing the hedge at Byng Road Playing Fields will help increase the number of managed hedgerows, help reach net zero for the London Borough of Barnet, as well as support the key aims and objectives of the London Borough of Barnet's, Barnet Tree Policy 2023-28

1. Support the Councils commitment to Climate Change initiatives and support delivery of the Sustainability Strategy targets.
2. Increase street tree canopy cover to improve ecosystem services (air quality, shade, flood risk, public health) and resilience to pests and disease.
3. Guarantee the replacement of every street tree that is removed to achieve a sustainable urban forest.
4. Support and enhance opportunities for community engagement.
5. Preservation of existing mature and maturing trees through good tree management and policies.
6. Utilise new and improved methods of tree planting and aftercare.

([Barnet Tree Policy - FINAL 16-3-23.pdf](#), 5 December 2023, page 4)

Advantages of a Hedge.

1. Hedges are an effective means of storing carbon.

When the previous hedge was destroyed last October, the stored carbon was released into the atmosphere (<https://clear.ucdavis.edu/explainers/what-carbon-sequestration>, 5 December 2023) and according to Chapman and Biffi, the older the hedge the more carbon it will store. For example, a hedge that is 3-6 years old will store 8.3metric tonnes of carbon per hectare, a hedge that is 7 – 12 years old will store 21.92 metric tonnes of carbon per hectare; and a hedge that is over 40 years old will store 40.42 metric tonnes of carbon per hectare. In addition to the hedges storing carbon, the soil holding the hedge also captures carbon, increasing the carbon capture further, by 2.6 to 20.38 metric tonnes per hectare, depending on age (<https://hedgelink.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Sequestering-carbon-by-planting-hedgerows-flyer.pdf>, 5 December 2023). Therefore, not only is it important to replant this hedge as soon as possible, but to also maintain this hedge for several decades to utilise its full potential of offsetting carbon emissions and meeting net zero targets.

2. Captures harmful particulates (<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/media/1800/wood-wise-hedgerows-and-hedgerow-trees.pdf>, 5 December 2023, page 3).

Since 2017, car parking, hence car usage and pollution have significantly increased with the opening of Noah's Ark Children's Hospice, with 33 cars parked at Byng Road Playing Fields on Thursday 6 July 2023 most of which is staff from the Noah's Ark Children's Hospice. In addition to this, BERFC use Byng Road Playing Fields as an overspill car park to meet their demand, as shown in the following photograph.



Figure 5: Taken on Sunday 7 May 2023 at 1.28pm.

Furthermore, in an email dated May 2023 to the London Borough of Barnet's Highway Department (see attached) BERFC state "in a typical weekend, the parking demand is 105 vehicles" and they predict that car parking demand will increase up to 252 vehicles when the new clubhouse is built on matchdays (page 2) with plans to include an overspill car park for 183 cars - a 74% - 140% increase in car usage and pollution at Byng Road Playing Fields, from BERFC alone^[3]. In addition to their matchday traffic on weekends, BERFC's planning application also states that the car park "would likely be used on a continuous and regular basis" for evening hire and "daytime use/rental of the clubhouse" (London Borough of Barnet's Planning Department Report, page 18, see attached).

Therefore, due to the predicted increase of car use and hence car pollution in the Byng Road Playing Fields, a healthy hedge also means healthy people as they protect us against pollution given the rising pollution at Byng Road Playing Fields. Also added to the increase in car use and pollution, according to the London Borough of Barnet's Long Term Transport Strategy 2020 -2041, there will be a population increase by 10% by 2041 and so there will be more people using outdoor spaces (<https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2021-10/Barnet%20LTTS%20v8.pdf>, 8 December 2023, page 2).

3. Flood Mitigation

Hedges help to protect soil from erosion by wind and water, their dense root systems bind the soil together to prevent erosion by:

- decreasing wind speed over the ground surface and reduce water loss through evaporation in hot summer months.
- storing water for later use. A hectare of field with a 50m hedgerow can store between 150 and 375 cubic metres of water during rainy periods for slow release, during dry periods which is particularly effective in clay soils.
- using their deep roots, to remove water faster from the soil during periods of excessive rainfall, through increased evaporation from the soil and transpiration from the actual trees.

(<https://hedgeline.org.uk/guidance/importance-of-hedgerows/>, 6 December 2023).

The Royal Horticultural Society recommends using Hawthorn trees as their large leaves and hence a larger surface area can remove more water, and being an evergreen tree, they will continue removing water over the winter months when flooding increases.

(<https://www.rhs.org.uk/plants/types/hedges/with-environmental-benefits>, 7 December 2023)



Since the annihilation of the previous hedge, 14 months ago:

- our plots next to the north fence have become more flooded and waterlogged. Byng Road Allotments sits in the lowest part of Byng Road Playing Fields and all the surface runoff from the top of Byng Road, the car park at Byng Road Playing Fields and Byng Road Open Spaces all flows straight into our allotment. The following photograph taken on Saturday 21 October 2023, before Storm Ciaran, 1-2 November 2023^[4] and Storm Debi 13 November 2023^[5] and at the end of Storm Babet, 18-21 October 2023^[6] shows the amount of flooding our allotments need to manage. The flooding in this photograph was several inches deep that it covered my feet and could not enter the allotments with just my work shoes.
- Our tenants, with plots closest to our north fence have also noticed a decrease in crops grown this year in comparison to last year. They have noticed a decrease in their yields compared to last year and not only is the harvest less, but they are smaller in size.

While the unpredictable weather (wet summer of 2023 and three autumn storms) contributed to our flooding and crop failure, the fact that there is no hedge to minimise flooding damage and

mitigate the soil and nutrient erosion proves that the replacement hedge is crucial for our allotments to reduce the effects of climate change. According to the Soil Association the UK has lost 84% of its fertile topsoil since 1850 and soil degradation and erosion in England and Wales costs £1.2 billion every year ((<https://www.soilassociation.org/take-action/protect-the-environment/why-are-hedgerows-so-important/>, 7 December 2023).

4. Providing barrier.

Hedgerows are an integral part of the countryside and were originally planted to mark ownership and provide a barrier to prevent the movement of stock such as sheep and cattle, with many planted as part of the Enclosures Act between 1604 – 1914 (<https://www.parliament.uk/about/living-heritage/transformingsociety/towncountry/landscape/overview/enclosingland/>, 7 December 2023). Apart from serving as a historic and contemporary boundary line and barrier (<https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/hedging-biodiversity/>, 7 December 2023), this replacement hedge, together with the grouped trees will:

- create shade and keep the surrounding soil cool. Hedges reduce hot temperatures during summer by shading the area around them and by transpiring cooling water vapour (<https://www.rhs.org.uk/plants/types/hedges/with-environmental-benefits>, 8 December 2023), which will benefit all users of Byng Road Playing Fields, including pets during hot temperatures as they will be able to rest in the shade. Furthermore, for our tenants closest to the replacement hedge, this will also minimize the amount of watering needed for their plots.
- during the winter the replacement hedge will insulate the surrounding area and act as a windbreak, especially from the cold strong winds that tear through Byng Road Playing Fields which reduces the temperature. Users of Byng Road Playing Fields can seek refuge from these winds by walking along the proposed hedge. For Byng Road Allotments, this new hedge will reduce the damage to sheds, polytunnels/greenhouses and fruit and vegetables, caused by the winds. The new hedge will also act as a windbreak for our tenants' crops, especially fruit trees and bushes, which will reduce shoot damage, frost damage, wind damage, root rock and premature flower and shoot shedding in the surrounding plots (<https://hedgerowsurvey.ptes.org/the-benefits-of-healthy-hedgerows>, 7 December 2023).
- Create a sound barrier for our tenants. **According to the Royal Horticultural Society a dense 2 metre hedge consisting of evergreen trees, like the Hawthorn Tree, can reduce noise by about 8dB** (<https://www.rhs.org.uk/plants/types/hedges/with-environmental-benefits>, 7 December 2023)

The noise emanating from our allotments, with machinery, such as rotovators, strimmers, lawn mowers will be reduced for the people using Byng Road Playing Fields.

- enhance the beauty and overall aesthetic value of Byng Road Playing Fields. They provide a more attractive backdrop and shield unsightly views of our allotments – compost heaps, back of sheds and debris stored near this fence. According to the Tree Council, hedges improve the looks and feel of our area, which in turn boosts the users' moods, which ultimately encourages more healthy ways to travel such as walking and cycling. (<https://treecouncil.org.uk/seasonal-campaigns/national-hedgerow-week/>, 4 December 2023)
- increase security for our allotment. Since the demolition of the previous hedge, our allotments have been left exposed and vulnerable. Edward Stokes, the police sergeant in High Barnet supports the replacement of this hedge as it creates a wider, thornier, and an

unstable barrier that deters uninvited visitors from jumping our fence. On top of the damage, stress and theft that break ins leave behind, there is the added concern that allotments are dangerous places and anyone, especially people unfamiliar with allotments, can and will injure themselves. The replacement hedge will also reduce the risk of injury for uninvited guests as it will be more difficult for them to enter the allotment via our north fence.

5. Increase Wildlife

Hedges are an important wildlife habitat, and they are the most widespread semi-natural habitat in the UK. (<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/habitats/hedgerows/#:~:text=Hedges%20are%20an%20important%20wildlife,for%20invertebrates%2C%20birds%20and%20mammals>, 5 December 2023). In fact, hedgerows bustle with life and 130 of the wildlife species listed as priorities under the government's Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) live and thrive in hedgerows including lichens, fungi and reptiles. (<https://www.soilassociation.org/take-action/protect-the-environment/why-are-hedgerows-so-important/>, 7 December 2023). Although very few species are wholly reliant on hedgerows, the loss or decrease of hedgerows will negatively impact their populations. However, Hedgeline UK identifies five endangered species that are wholly reliant on hedgerows; song thrushes, dormice, Barbastelle bats, butterflies (Hedgerows support up to 30% of butterflies) and of course the hedgehogs (<https://hedgeline.org.uk/campaign/national-hedgerow-week/5-threatened-british-species-that-rely-on-hedgerows/>, 7 December 2023)

Hedgerows are extremely important to ecosystems and support the wildlife by providing:

- shelter and a sanctuary for birds, insects, and small mammals. Birds use hedges for nesting, while insects and small mammals use them as shelter from predators and harsh weather conditions.
- a source of food. The foliage of the hedges provides a habitat for insects such as butterflies and moths, while the ground beneath the hedges provides a habitat for small mammals such as mice and shrews. A wide range of bird species also feed on the berries that hedges provide. At the same time, insects that feed on the foliage of the hedges are food for larger predators such as birds and bats.
- travel routes for wildlife, allowing animals to move from one location to another without being exposed to predators and allows them to move from one habitat patch to another. These wildlife corridors are vital for species like the rare hazel dormouse which struggle to cross large open areas like fields.

(https://hedgeline.org.uk/cms/cms_content/files/45_what_hedges_do_for_us%2C_v2%2C_20_mar_2012%2C_rob_wolton%2C_hedgeline.pdf, 5 December 2023)

The Soil Association recommend using Hawthorn trees for hedgerows as it grows very dense, providing shelter against the weather and predators for mammals like hedgehogs and bats, as well as toads and birds. They also produce berries, which are popular with blackbirds and thrushes and pollen which attract pollinators. (<https://www.soilassociation.org/take-action/protect-the-environment/why-are-hedgerows-so-important/>, 7 December 2023).

The Environment Centre on Byng Road have been monitoring the common and soprano pipistrelle bats in their, and neighbouring hedgerows for years and are currently working with the Bat

Conservation Trust on their National Bat Monitoring Program. The information collected to the National Bat Monitoring Program gives them “and the government, the information needed to help inform bat conservation” (<https://www.bats.org.uk/our-work/national-bat-monitoring-programme>, 28 August 2023). This replacement hedge will join the existing hedges to provide the bats with places to breed, roost, feed, hibernate and use the hedges to navigate around Byng Road Playing Fields, as they rarely cross fields. Hence the support for this proposal from the Environment Centre.

In conclusion, hedgerows are a vital feature in the London Borough of Barnet’s landscape. For wildlife, they provide shelter, warmth, food, travel routes and protection which encourages biodiversity. For the London Borough of Barnet, it supports their net-zero targets, by storing carbon and reducing pollution and achieving their action plans as set out in *Parks and Open Spaces. Our Strategies for Barnet 2016 – 2026*:

19. To identify opportunities to develop and promote the borough’s walking and cycling network.

20. To ensure measures to promote biodiversity and enhance the ecological quality.

22. To Identify locations for tree planting across the borough with a focus on: committing to a programme that involves a net gain in trees across the borough and strengthening the quality of the landscape (through planting avenues, tree groups, park boundaries and woodlands.

27. From crime statistics identify opportunities to address community safety issues.

(<https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/assets/citizenportal/documents/parkssportandleisure/POSStrategyFullFINAL.pdf>, 4 December 2023)

Visitors to Byng Road Playing Fields will also benefit from the replacement hedges with increased shade during hot weather, decrease in bogginess in the area which makes it safer to walk, improved aesthetics, which also encourages more people to use Byng Road Playing Fields, thus increasing their activity and improving their mental health.

This hedge will provide valuable services for the Byng Road Allotments: preventing soil erosion, flood control, and barrier to deter uninvited visitors. Personally, this replacement hedge is also replacing and adding a piece the social history of our allotments that was destroyed on 14 October 2022 and therefore Byng Road Allotments fully support the replacement of this hedge.

^[1] Byng Road Allotments was reduced to its current size in 1960 as rationing ends in 1954 and supermarkets open in the High Street (Allotments Committee, 5 July 1960).

^[2] A managed hedgerow is a line of woody vegetation that has been subject to management so that trees no longer take their natural shape. (<https://hedgeline.org.uk/guidance/importance-of-hedgerows/> 5 December 2023)

^[3] $(183 - 105) = 78$. Therefore, percentage increase = $(78/105)100 = 74\%$
 $(252-105) = 147$. Therefore, percentage increase = $(147/105)100 = 140\%$

^[4] https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/binaries/content/assets/metofficegovuk/pdf/weather/learn-about/uk-past-events/interesting/2023/2023_09_storm_ciaran.pdf, 5 December 2023

^[5] https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/binaries/content/assets/metofficegovuk/pdf/weather/learn-about/uk-past-events/interesting/2023/2023_10_storm_debi.pdf, 5 December 2023

^[6] https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/binaries/content/assets/metofficegovuk/pdf/weather/learn-about/uk-past-events/interesting/2023/2023_08_storm_babet.pdf, 5 December 2023

MEMBERS CIL FUNDING REQUEST FORM

AREA COMMITTEE – MEMBERS CIL FUNDING REQUEST	
MEMBER	Cllr Woodcock-Velleman
DATE	08/01/24
WARD	Whetstone
cross-ward applications	N/A
SCHEME SUMMARY	
<i>The restoration of the jetty of the much-loved Swan Lane park pond and installation of metal railings around the pond for safety.</i>	
Funding Request (£)	£24,653.84
CIL Eligibility	<i>The scheme is located within an area of the Borough with high levels of recent development and provides an opportunity to improve the local park, where families go to appreciate the vital greenspace of the borough.</i>
Area Committee priorities	<i>This scheme supports the missions of the Corporate Plan to create a more family friendly Borough and protect greenspaces.</i>
Who will deliver the scheme	Greenspaces
Community Grants (if applicable please confirm this is included with the application)	N/A
Feasibility Study only	N/A
BUDGET & DELIVERY	
<p>All quotes are from Council contractors, signed off by Rob Wiltshire. It will be delivered by the Greenspaces team.</p> <p>Pond Knee high rail fence painted in green or black</p> <p>Knee Rail Around Perimeter of Pond +/-103mts posts will be galvanised and twisted infill bars will be. painted black or green.</p> <p>sub cost £15,484.50 Contingency cost at 25% = £3871.12 Officer time at 5% = £774.22</p> <p>Grand Total £20,129.84</p> <p>Jetty Area Double Bar Handrail to Jetty to replace existing posts. Posts will be galvanised metal and twisted infill bars will be painted. Black or standard Green RAL 60005 £3,480.00 plus VAT</p> <p>Sub cost of works £3480.00. Contingency cost at 25% = £870.00 Officer time at 5% = £174.00</p>	

Grand total £4,524.00

This photo shows the state of the current jetty.



This is what the fencing would look like, providing safety for the small children who often feed the ducks.



Quotes provided with the application	<i>See above</i>
Timescale for delivery	<i>ASAP</i>
Council Service Delivery	<i>Greenspaces</i>
Dependencies/Risks	<i>N/A</i>
VALUE FOR MONEY	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving our green spaces is a part of the corporate plan. 	
No ongoing revenue costs	<i>No ongoing revenue costs</i>
COMMUNITY BENEFITS	
<p>Whether its sledging in the snow, or picnics in the summer, there is always something going on in Swan Lane park. Situated close to numerous Barnet Homes properties, this green space is a lifeline to many. Upgrading the pond and the features around it are long overdue and will enhance this vital greenspace.</p>	
Lead Officer Review – if required	
Lead Officer	
Date	
Assessment & Recommendations	

MEMBERS CIL FUNDING REQUEST FORM

AREA COMMITTEE – MEMBERS CIL FUNDING REQUEST	
MEMBER	Cllr. Phil Cohen
DATE	18.12.2023
WARD	East Barnet
cross-ward applications	N/A
SCHEME SUMMARY	
<p>This funding request is to allow for the installation of a memorial bench to the late East Barnet councillor Cllr.Laurie Williams. He served as councillor from 2014-2022 and sat on several committees including Environment, Planning and Adoption and Fostering. I nominated him for Mayor in 2017. He was chair of 1374 Squadron ATC and active in the British Legion. I have received several enquiries from residents as to whether such a memorial could be provided given he was such a long-standing and respected resident of the local community who had given so much back through the council and the British Legion. As a fellow councillor who was elected with Laurie in 2014 I felt I was in the best position to make this happen. I consulted with his wife Sally and arranged a site visit with her, family members and officers to look at possible sites. A convenient place was agreed for the bench in the heart of East Barnet Village, opposite the war memorial and Brookside Methodist church. The remaining tasks are to agree the wording of a plaque with the family and install the bench.</p>	
Funding Request (£)	£3,612.92
CIL Eligibility	This adds community value as it meets the wishes of local residents to honour someone who served local people, helped many through his casework and was highly regarded by all residents and councillors, whatever their political leanings.
Area Committee priorities	Ditto
Who will deliver the scheme	This scheme was agreed with Graham Perrior, Senior Network Asset Inspector – Highways, and Dane McKnight who is Member Liaison Officer – Highways covering East Barnet, and he will help deliver the project
Community Grants (if applicable please confirm this is included with the application)	N/A
Feasibility Study only	N/A
BUDGET & DELIVERY	
<p>The cost has been provided by officers and I have added 10 per cent for contingency and five per cent for officer time.</p>	
Bench and installation costs	£ 3,141.67
Contingency @ 10%	£ 314.17
Officer time @ 5%	£ 157.08
Total	£ 3,612.92

Quotes provided with the application	<i>{Please provide the supporting documentation of the quotes}</i>
Timescale for delivery	Installation will follow once the plaque has been agreed.
Council Service Delivery	Dane McKnight
Dependencies/Risks	Council will be responsible for maintenance of the bench but there are no other ongoing costs.
VALUE FOR MONEY	
There are no additional costs to this scheme. The value is in appreciation of the high regard that Cllr Williams was held in East Barnet.	
No ongoing revenue costs	As with other benches officers will be responsible for the upkeep of the bench.
COMMUNITY BENEFITS	
<p>This project follows consultation with local residents in East Barnet Village and with his widow Sally, who expressed a wish that a memorial be placed in the village itself where he was so well known. The materials used for the bench will be sustainable.</p> <p>East Barnet Village is a growing community and town centre. Development in surrounding wards like Mill Hill will make East Barnet village into a destination town centre. Smaller schemes like this memorial bench, as part of a wider town centre improvement, will aid in uniting the community and creating a cohesive town centre for residents in the ward, and those surrounding, to utilise.</p>	
Lead Officer Review – if required	
Lead Officer	
Date	
Assessment & Recommendations	

MEMBERS CIL FUNDING REQUEST FORM

AREA COMMITTEE – MEMBERS CIL FUNDING REQUEST	
MEMBER	Cllr Simon Radford
DATE	27.10.23
WARD	East Barnet
cross-ward applications	<i>{Please outline the additional wards and provide the Member(s) endorsement}</i>
SCHEME SUMMARY	
Installation of an access entry gate that can be locked at night alongside one way access spikes/plates to the exit side. The approach will mean that the entry gate can be locked as part of the parks locking regime but will allow for any vehicles still in the car park can still exit without allowing any additional access.	
Funding Request (£)	£33,187.56
CIL Eligibility	<i>This has been asked for by the local residents association and several local residents due to a lack of locking and enforcement infrastructure in Oak Hill Park</i>
Area Committee priorities	<i>This could contribute to better community safety, safeguarding people and making for a more welcoming place.</i>
Who will deliver the scheme	Greenspaces
Community Grants (if applicable please confirm this is included with the application)	<i>{If the funding is to be provided as third-party Community Grant - please ensure that the Barnet CIL Community Grant Application has been completed and submitted with all required supporting documentation. This ensures appropriate due diligence can be undertaken by Officers and that the Community Group agree to the Terms & Conditions of the grant}</i>
Feasibility Study only	<i>{Please state if the request is for a feasibility study only, with the result determining on whether to bring a future scheme application}</i>
BUDGET & DELIVERY	
QUOTE Attention: Rob Wiltshire Date 10 October 2023 Quote Number Q000642 Job Number Oak Hill Park Carpark Improvements Supply and Install Low Level Heavy Duty Vehicle Barrier and Traffic Flow Plates. Resurfacing and Painting. Costs Quantity Rate Amount To manufacturer and install a C1 heavy duty low level barrier 1.00 1,489.25 1,489.25 Dig foundations, cast a concrete slab to mount and install 4mts Barracuda style traffic flow plates 1.00 5,467.50 5,467.50 Plane surface & mechanically sweep, apply K1-40 emulsion, supply & lay 40mm thick black AC10 surface 1.00 15,985.00 15,985.00 Paint: double yellow lines, 52 parking bays, box hatching, 3 disabled bays, necessary warning signs 1.00 2,587.50 2,587.50 Subtotal 25,529.25 VAT 5,105.85 Total 30,635.10 Valid To: 7 November 2023	
Quotes provided with the application	Provided
Timescale for delivery	If funding is approved the works will be commissioned
Council Service Delivery	Rob Wiltshire – Greenspaces Development Officer Greenspaces & Leisure
Dependencies/Risks	There is a dependency around ensuring access to the Maintenance Depot and Golf Course can be maintained during operating hours. The scheme is designed not to affect access but will offer additional security for evening closed hours.

VALUE FOR MONEY

The project will be delivered through a Greenspaces Term contract that was price and quality tested during the contract tender process. The supplier is a specialist metalwork fabricator who will be commissioned to fabricate and install the access gates and infrastructure.

No ongoing revenue costs	There will be no ongoing revenue impact related to this project
---------------------------------	---

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

There are substantial community benefits related to this project. To start with, it has been widely asked for by residents and residents association as it is believed that this project will reduce anti-social behaviour and allow genuine park users to access the car park.

Lead Officer Review – if required

Lead Officer	
Date	
Assessment & Recommendations	