

# DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

**REPORT TO: Leisure and Arts Services Committee – 17 November 2003**

**REPORT ON: Future of Mill O'Mains Bowling Green and Pavilion**

**REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Arts**

**REPORT NO: 748-2003**

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to advise on the current use of Mill O'Mains Bowling Green and Pavilion and to propose alternative future use.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the principle of the disposal of the pavilion to community groups is agreed, together with the change of use from a bowling green to general leisure use.
- 2.2 Remit the Director of Leisure and Arts and the Head of Communities Department to liaise with community groups and explore opportunities for a lease on the basis of greater community and all year round use of the facility.

## **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 Any saving from the change in use of the bowling green would be minimal. The area would no longer have to be maintained to the standard required of a bowling green resulting in savings in fertiliser and top dressing. The current annual income from the bowling green is £250.
- 3.2 In the longer term capital expenditure of approximately £15,000 would be required to replace the aging irrigation system which is currently used to water the bowling green and there is the potential of an additional £10,000 cost of restoration of levels of the green due to sinkage.

## **4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The proposal will ensure that the resources are used efficiently and waste is minimised while the surrounding features in the park are improved. It will also make sure that the opportunities for culture, leisure and recreation are readily available to all and that places, spaces and objectives can combine beauty with utility

## **5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The proposal will allow all users access to the facility, including people with disabilities.

## **6.0 MAIN TEXT**

- 6.1 Mill O'Mains Bowling Green is currently situated within Mill O'Mains Park to the south west of Mill O'Mains housing scheme and was opened in 1979.

The annual income for the attendance at the green equates to approximately £250.

- 6.2 Due to the bowling green having been built over a former rubbish tip considerable subsidence occurs which results in high maintenance costs in the closed season in order to ensure a level surface. Periodically full restoration of the levels is required and it is

estimated that in order to both level the green and the footpath the cost would be £10,000. There is no guarantee that there will be no further settlement and in all probability there will be a need to address these levels in 5 - 7 years from the restoration.

6.3 The irrigation system for the bowling green is nearing the end of the working life and outline costs for replacing the system is £15,000.

6.4 The usage, therefore, of the green and the pavilion is low and consultations with the Local Member and Mill O'Mains Community Council have highlighted the need for resources for the community and youth in particular.

It is therefore proposed that the Director of Leisure & Arts, together with the Communities Department, look at the better utilisation of the Mill O'Mains facility by working with the Mill O'Mains Community Council and seek to change the use of the site from a bowling green to more general use where a greater cross section of the community can use the facility.

Any current user would also be consulted.

It is envisaged that there would be no financial implications and that the facility can be used as is. The bowling green grass area would not be maintained as a bowling green but would be cut under normal maintenance cycles and can be used for other sports. In addition it be remitted to the Director of Economic Development to seek a lease agreement with the community parties so that the pavilion can be used all year round. The facility could be used for community events and to improve the opportunity of links with youths of the area.

## **7.0 CONSULTATION**

7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) and Head of Communities Department have been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its contents.

## **8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

8.1 None

**STEVE GRIMMOND**  
**DIRECTOR OF LEISURE and ARTS**  
**14 OCTOBER 2003**