

RUNNING TRACK AT MEADOWS, CAMPBELTOWN

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A request has been received from Campbeltown Running Club to create a 200m x 2m running track adjacent to the playing field at the "Meadows" Campbeltown. This proposal will require full planning permission and a formal lease of ground agreement with the Council.

In Principle, officers have no objections to this proposal and we seek the approval of the Area Committee before responding to the Running Club to develop a lease and set of conditions for the proposal.

Recommendations:

Members should note the points summarised in the report and provide officers with a recommendation to the request to form a running track at the Meadows, Campbeltown.

RUNNING TRACK AT MEADOWS, CAMPBELTOWN

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to outline the request from Campbeltown Running Club to form a 200m x 2m. Running track at the Meadows playing fields in Campbeltown.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That the members of the Mid-Argyll, Kintyre and Islay, Area Committee, note the contents of this report and give a recommendation to officers on this proposal.

4.0 DETAILS

- 4.1 The Campbeltown Running Club was formed in July 2010 and trains with two structured sessions a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays with a longer run on a Saturday. The Tuesday and Thursday sessions are carried out around Campbeltown using pavements and roads, which the club feels can present operational challenges due to runners being on the public highway. As well as adult members, the club also have a junior section, the juniors train on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays, often on the pavements. This is seen as a risk to the club, especially in winter months, The Club are looking to identify any areas of ground that could accommodate a form of running track, free from traffic.

4.2 Introduction

- 4.2.1 Campbeltown Running Club had previously enquired about the possibility of having a track formed along with the new sports facilities at the new Grammar School in Campbeltown. It is understood that this has not been possible as part of the school development.
- 4.2.2 The Club have decided that the most viable option will be to look for an alternative site. The club have identified a vacant area of ground beside the playing fields on the Meadows in Campbeltown, as a possibility, and

approached a local contractor for assistance in developing the site for their use/

4.2.3 It has been proposed that a 200m in length x 2.4m width track, to be constructed of compacted limestone, graded to a dust on top could be constructed on this site and would meet the needs of the Club.

4.3 The Chairman of the club contacted officers to set up a site meeting, which took place on 9th April this year, to ask about the possibility of Campbeltown Running Club putting a track on the identified area of ground. Officers advised that Area Committee would have to be consulted and a formal lease document would need to be put in place detailing the conditions associated with the use of the land. Planning have confirmed that the proposal would need formal Planning approval and have advised that the application would be considered favourably as it would be beneficial to the whole community. The club stress that the track will be available to all, not just members of Campbeltown Running Club.

4.4 Before the Running Club submits a full planning application, the Council will be required to enter into an agreement with the club to allow Planning to give full consideration to the proposed plan. Formal permission from Argyll and Bute Council to take the proposal forward will be required. The formal agreement will set out:

- Extent of the land to be used
- Construction specification
- Maintenance liability for the track and surrounding ground (this to rest with the club)
- Level of ongoing maintenance
- Provision should the club disband
- Reinstatement of grass area should the track become unused

4.5 See enclosed copy of plan (Appendix 1) already submitted to officers and Planning. The specification is as follows : Forming the 200mm x 2m wide track with stone scalping's, laid on Terram, and finished with compacted Limestone 50mm deep (stone size 20mm down to dust).

4.6 Should Members approve the above officers will advertise an 'expressions of interest' in the local press to establish if any other local groups wish to express an interest in the site. If not, then the formal agreement will be progressed. Should any other offers be received these will be reported to Area Committee.

5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 Officers have no objections in principle to the proposed running track and require approval of the MAKI Area Committee prior to giving a formal response to the request as outlined above.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1	Policy	None
6.2	Financial	Funded by Campbeltown Running Club
6.3	Legal	Lease agreement for use of land
6.4	HR	None known
6.5	Equalities	None known
6.6	Risk	None known
6.7	Customer Services	None known

Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Proposed Site Plan

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