

Report on	Pomeroy Forest Car Park Project
Reporting Officer	Head of Parks
Contact Officer	Nigel Hill

Is this report restricted for confidential business? If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	Yes	
	No	x

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members and to seek council approval in relation to project costs associated to the provision of improved visitor amenities and additional car parking facilities at Pomeroy Forest Park.
2.0	Background
2.1	Mid Ulster District Council manage the recreational use of Pomeroy Forest under the terms and conditions of the Licence Agreement with Forest Service (NI). The development of visitor facilities at Pomeroy has necessitated the need to provide a visitor car park and necessary safety works. Forest Service have made an area of land available to Council for the purposes of additional car park space.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The proposal is to make the forest car park and access road more accessible for traffic. The works include; change of use from an existing maintenance yard to public car park facility with the creation of additional car park spaces to reduce congestion and improve on site traffic management and safety.
3.2	The proposal is to adjust the current sightlines to 4.5m x 90m, including adjustment to existing entrance pillars. To widen the existing access road at the entrance to the site and construct passing bays to ease movement. To develop the existing walled maintenance area and provide car-parking for approximately (70nr) vehicles. The development of the carpark will require the removal of an existing stone built machinery store and reduction in height of the stone boundary walls to the area.
3.3	Council are in receipt of a draft Lease Agreement from Forest Service, which is currently with council solicitors for review. Consideration to future community based initiatives will be factored in at a later date along with council plans for the site were feasible. Council officers are in discussions with the Forest Service regarding them addressing safety issues with the stone wall and other buildings on the site.
3.4	Phase 1. (Safety Works) – These works are required to make the site safe for users. The existing sightlines are required under Planning to be increased to allow safe access and egress from the site. The existing walls are in an unsafe condition with together with the machinery shed.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To run quotation and appoint contractor for the following works; <p>Provide improved sightlines and access road passing bay works to comply with Planning permission requirements. Car park area to be regulated, weeds removed and existing surface compacted with informal parking arrangements formulated (railway sleepers). Provision of post/wire fencing to car-park perimeter after Forest Service remedial works.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(2/3 weeks, 5-26 October)</p> Works duration (4 weeks, 31Oct- 28 Nov) <p>The projected pre-cost estimate of the project is £28,000.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Financial: An allocated capital budget of £28,000 as per programme of works 3.4 Human: Existing staff resources sufficient to coordinate project support.</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
4.3	<p><u>Risk Management Implications</u></p> <p>Remain within allocated project budget and agreed programme of works.</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Subject to Council and Forest Service Lease Agreement for development proposals at Pomeroy Forest and allocated council capital budget, progress the scheme to provide car parking and associated works as detailed at 3.4 at a cost of £28,000 at Pomeroy Forest.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	N/A