

Title of Report: Update on Drainage issues at Mitchell Park, Castlederg	Officer Presenting: Director of Health & Community Author: Head of Community Development & Leisure
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1 Purpose of Report/Recommendations

- 1.1 To update Members of the measures taken to address the issue around drainage at Mitchell Park, Castlederg.

2 Background

- 2.1 Members will be aware that a budget of £20,000 has been set aside for works at Mitchell Park, Castlederg.
- 2.2 This budget was to put measures in place to address the issue of flooding at the pitch at Mitchell Park.
- 2.3 A number of site investigations have been carried out over a period of months to establish the cause of the water retention and how to correct the problem.

3 Key Issues

- 3.1 Test digs were carried out in October 2018 with a suggestion of installing piping and additional sumps to take water away from the most affected wet areas.
- 3.2 A further site assessment by ground specialists concluded that given the close proximity of the river, an additional sump hole would be ineffective as the water table will normally be high in winter months and the grounds would be saturated rendering any sump hole defunct.
- 3.3 A topographical study was also undertaken to establish levels and the outlet valve into the river was ascertained to be approximately 2m below the lowest point on the pitch.

- 3.4 Further investigations have been undertaken to establish if the current drainage network was working effectively. This identified six manholes buried approx. 1 ft below ground level and three flap valves into the river.
- 3.5 Dye tests carried out on several manholes proved inconclusive, however water appeared to drain away freely when flushed directly.
- 3.6 It has also been suggested that surface water may be due to very compact soil above the existing drains.
- 3.7 Further tests are required to ensure the drainage system is functioning correctly when the outlet valve into the river is submerged.
- 3.8 Following this a programme of improvement works will be confirmed a timeline for the ground improvements agreed.

4 Financial, Equality, Legal, HR, Improvement and other Implications

- 4.1 At present there are no financial, equality, legal, HR or improvement implications.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 That Members note the contents of this report.

Background Papers

None