

CITY OF PLYMOUTH

Subject: PROPOSED ALLEY GATES FOR TRESLUGGAN ROAD LANE,
ST. BUDEAUX

Committee: Ham and St. Budeaux Area Committee

Date: 16 September 2009

Cabinet Member: Cllr Kevin Wiggins

CMT Member: Director of Development

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Part: I

Executive Summary: This report provides a progress update since the 8 April meeting and asks members to make a decision on applying for funding for the proposed alley gates to the Home Office, through a newly-available grant scheme.

Corporate Plan 2007-2010: This project addresses CIP4, specifically to 'deliver improved quality of life for priority neighbourhoods'.

Implications for Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

Including finance, human, IT and land: The revised total cost of the project is estimated at £21,250. £17,250 from the 2008/09 Local Environment Fund has already been earmarked leaving a shortfall of £4,000.

It is proposed that an application for funding to the value of approximately £15,000 be made to the Home Office under the Small Retailers Capital Grants Fund, to cover capital costs of the alley gates and in addition a CCTV camera.

A successful bid would release £7,000 of Local Environment Fund money for other schemes. However, should a bid not be successful then the existing £4,000 funding shortfall could, subject to agreement, be met from the 2009/10 Local Environment Fund.

Other Implications: e.g. Section 17 Community Safety, Health and Safety, Risk Management, Equalities Impact Assessment etc. This project will deliver benefits for community safety, as confirmed by experience from pilot projects in Keyham and Stoke.

Recommendations & Reasons for recommended action: The Area Committee is recommended to authorise officers to proceed with a funding application for the project to the Home Office through the Small Retailers Capital Grants Fund, on behalf of the Wolseley Road independent shopkeepers. If the application were to be successful, the budget shortfall would be avoided and Local Environment Fund money already committed to this project could be saved and potentially reallocated to other schemes.

Alternative options considered and reasons for recommended action:

a) That the Area Committee funds the current shortfall through the Ward Councillors' personal 2009/10 Local Environment Fund allocations of £1,750 per Councillor. This is not recommended at present in light of the available grant funding, but could be pursued if the funding application were to prove unsuccessful.

b) That the Area Committee terminates the project. This is not recommended as the benefits to community safety would not be realised.

Background papers: Drawing No. 398439/02 – Tresluggan Alley Gates;
Overview Summary of Small Retailer Capital Grant Scheme.

Sign off:

Head of Fin	Dev F910 0039	Head of Leg	JAR/09/107	Head of HR	n/a	Head of AM	CJT/034/0309 09	Head of IT	n/a	Head of Strat Proc	n/a
Originating SMT Member: Clive Perkin CSP 04/09/09											

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides an update on further progress with the project since the 8 April meeting and makes a recommendation regarding additional funding for the scheme.

2.0 Project update

- 2.1 A revised detailed design for the Tresluggan Road Lane scheme has now been drawn up by Plymouth Transport & Highways engineers (please see Drawing No. 398439/02 – Tresluggan Alley Gates). By positioning the gate posts outside the lane at the Trelawney Avenue end, it is possible to maintain just enough clearance for a medium-sized van to access the lane, as used by one of the Wolseley Road shopkeepers for deliveries.
- 2.2 Three detailed quotes for supplying and installing the gates and fencing have now been obtained (please see 3.2 below).
- 2.3 At the request of Councillor Bragg, additional information has been obtained as follows:
- a) the latest (unofficial) crime figures from the police show there have been 17 reported crimes and incidents in the lane from 1 January to 9 August 2009. This is a 65% increase compared to a similar period in 2008. A comparison lane in Mutley has had 1 reported incident in the same period.
 - b) Fire Officers from Camels Head Fire Station have visited the lane and confirmed that a fire engine could not currently drive down the lane due to its width. They have no objections to gates being installed. The emergency services would be issued with keys as a matter of course, if the gates were installed. This includes the local police and fire stations.
 - c) All local residents would be able to object to the proposed gates i) through the Traffic Regulation Order procedure and ii) at the planning application stage if they so wished. Council officers would consider all objections received.

3.0 Budget

- 3.1 Of the approved budget of £17,250, £7,268 has been spent to date, leaving £9,982 remaining.
- 3.2 Projected costs to project completion are in the region of £14,000, leaving a budget shortfall of around £4,000. This is largely due to the extra engineering design work that has been needed.
- 3.3 However, an application could be made to a new funding source from the Home Office which is now available to Plymouth – the Small Retailers Capital Grants Fund – “a group of Small Retailers applying for Partnership Grant of up to £50,000 to purchase security/ crime prevention equipment for their shops/ retail outlets”. Please see background paper ‘Overview Summary of Small Retailer Capital Grant Scheme’ for further details.
- 3.4 Subject to the project fully meeting the funding criteria, it is suggested that an application for funding could be made to the Home Office, to pay for purchasing and installing the gates/fencing and installing a CCTV camera to

cover the lane. If successful, this would enable the Committee to i) avoid an overspend on the existing approved budget and ii) reallocate any savings to alternative potential Local Environment Fund schemes.

- 3.5 There is considered to be a good chance of securing funding from the Home Office for this project. However, if the application were to be unsuccessful, the project would not proceed due to the existing budget shortfall unless additional funds could be secured i.e. from Ward Councillors' 2009/10 Local Environment Fund allowances.

4.0 Recommendations

- 4.1 Members are recommended to authorise officers to proceed with a funding application for the project to the Home Office through the Small Retailers Capital Grants Fund, on behalf of the Wolseley Road independent shopkeepers and subject to their approval.