

**SMALL SCALE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS**  
**(Report by Head of Environment & Transport)**

**1. PURPOSE**

- 1.1 This paper reports on the small scale environmental improvement schemes to be completed by March 2005, and proposes a programme of schemes for 2005/06.

**2. SELECTION OF SCHEMES**

- 2.1 A budget of £82k is approved in 2005/06 for "Small Scale Environmental Improvements". To qualify for funding from this budget a scheme must also attract a minimum of 25% funding from an outside source, such as Parish or Town Council, or Landfill Tax Credit.
- 2.2 Cabinet agreed the criteria for the prioritisation of the schemes in 2002/03 and this has been applied to the selection of schemes for 2005/06.
- 2.3 Town and Parish Councils were asked in October to submit schemes for consideration in this year's programme.

**3. 2004/05 SCHEMES**

- 3.1 The schemes approved in the 2004/5 programme were as follows:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Position</u>
1) Ramsey – New railings	In manufacture
2) Earith – Pond Repairs	Order placed
3) Hilton – Village Hall Lighting	Complete
4) Ramsey – Barge Dock Improvements	Postponed
5) Wistow – Church Wall Restoration	Order placed
6) Huntingdon - Medway Centre footpath alterations	In design

The Ramsey Barge Dock did not proceed due to on-going land ownership issues and a previous assessed scheme - Huntingdon Medway Centre was added.

**4. FUTURE SCHEMES**

- 4.1 Following submissions from Town and Parish Councils schemes have been assessed (Annex 1) and the highest scoring schemes up to the

approved budget (based on preliminary estimates) for 2005/06 are listed below:-

	<b>Net £k</b>	<b>Gross £k</b>
1) Huntingdon – Town Boundary signs	9	12
2) Huntingdon, High Street - Railings	15	20
3) Bluntisham – Rebuild church wall	16	20
4) Somersham – Rebuild wall leading to Church	7	10
5) Offord D’Arcy – New Conservation bus shelter	8	12
6) St Neots, Berkeley Road – Upgrade area	25	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>105</b>

4.2 Ramsey Barge Dock is still a possibility for construction and of high priority but is dependent on the development plans for the northern area. It is proposed that this scheme is scheduled for 2006/07 when the legal matters are resolved. If this is completed early, funding for the scheme will be considered at that time.

## **5. CONCLUSIONS**

5.1 The small scale environmental improvement funding has enabled minor improvements to be carried out in many villages and locations.

5.2 There is great interest from town and parish councils in promoting future schemes and the appraisal process has now been shown to work satisfactorily.

5.3 Approval is sought for those schemes with shown in paragraph 4.1 above. In the event that these cannot proceed for any reason during 2005/06 the next schemes in the order of priority will be carried out or Ramsey Barge Dock will be brought forward. Annex 2 identifies the budget allocated for these schemes and is the Release of Funds form.


## **6. RECOMMENDATION**

6.1 It is recommended that the Cabinet:

- i) note the schemes committed/completed to date
- ii) approve, for completion during 2005/06, the schemes at paragraph 4.1 above and the release of funds from the MTP to facilitate this.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Environment & Transport File T7

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Annex 1						
Small Scale Schemes 05/06						
Ref	Applicant	Description	HDC Contribution	% Contribution	Score	Comments
1	Godmanchester	Pedestrian access to east side of carriageway	10	25	8	Possible County Council scheme?
2	Gt Gransden	Disabled toilet to Church	9	25	10	Part of wider works being carried out
3	Farcet	Passage lighting	3	25	10	Community safety budget?
4	Huntingdon TC	Replace town boundary signs	9	25	13	Community safety budget?
5	Huntingdon TC	Replace existing flag pole	1	25	10	
6	Bluntisham	Rebuild eastern boundary of Church wall	16	25	14	
7	Offord Cluny	Show gates at entrance to village	4	25	10	
8	Fenstanton	Additional lighting in cemetery	3	25	11	
9	Offord D'Arcy	Conservation style bus shelter	8	25	12	
10	Gt Gransden	Reseed grass/install posts around pond	2	25	8	
11	Old Weston	Enhancement of sports area	4	25	8	
12	Hilton	Extend village car park	3	25	9	Leisure budget?
13	Buckworth	Pollard lime trees and refurbish iron railings	2	25	10	
14	Yaxley	Footpath to Crown Lakes	4	25	8	
15	Alconbury	Enhancement to street lighting	40	25	10	Possible County Council scheme?
16	Gt Paxton	New safety fencing around play area	5	25	9	
17	Ramsey	Fencing around pond	3	25	9	
18	Holywell-cum-Needingworth	Pollard willows	1	25	8	
19	Abbots Ripton	New footpath adjacent to carriageway	6	25	10	Possible County Council scheme?
20	Alconbury Weston	Village sign	2	25	8	
21	St Neots	Upgrade footpath Brook Street	6	25	10	
22	St Neots	Upgrade footpath Springbrook	6	25	6	
23	St Neots	Upgrade open space and footpath	6	25	6	
24	St Neots	Upgrade area outside bakery Berkeley Road	25	25	12	
25	Somersham	Repairs to wall leading to Church	7	25	13	Private owner to contribute and maintain
26	Colne	Replacement of village sign	2	25	7	
27	Holme	Kissing gate replacement	5	25	10	
28	Alwalton	Renovation of village notice board	1	25	7	
29	Wistow	Repaint bus shelter	1	25	6	
30	Huntingdon, 38 High Street	Railings	15	25	13	Private owner to contribute and maintain

**157 Small Scale Environment Improvements – District Wide Partnerships**  
**Chris Allen**

**Financial Impact**

	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital					
	2003/ 2004	2004/ 2005	2005/ 2006	2006/ 2007	2007/ 2008	2008/ 2009	2003/ 2004	2004/ 2005	2005/ 2006	2006/ 2007	2007/ 2008	2008/ 2009
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Approved Budget	5	10	15	20	25	29	82	82	82	82	82	90
Already Committed	5	10	10	10	10	10	82	82				
<b>Amount for which release now requested</b>			<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>			<b>82</b>			

**Justification**

The Small Scale Scheme is made up of several different projects throughout the district. These are partnership schemes with Town or Parish Councils. The parish councils have committed funding in the coming year and early approval by Cabinet would enable this work to be completed this financial year.

A report is being submitted to Cabinet for the approval of next years programme based on schemes submitted by Parish Councils. Early approval is needed to commit this money so that the Parish and Town Councils are aware of their commitments..

Release of funding up to the £82k is sought so that the process of replacement and improvement can start now and be complete by the end of the year.