

43/09 - **VALLEY GARDENS IMPROVEMENTS:** The Head of Parks and Open Spaces submitted a written report on improvement works undertaken in the Valley Gardens over the last 12 months. He referred Members to section 5.3 of the report which detailed the work done and the associated costs and added that there was still £54,762 worth of Commuted Sums available for the Valley Gardens and section 5.5 detailed the proposed allocations of work. He then delivered a presentation which highlighted some of the larger schemes which had been undertaken.

Questions were then invited. One Member queried the decision not to make a bid for lottery funding to improve facilities in Valley Gardens. The Head of Parks and Open Spaces advised that, at the time, the risks outweighed the benefits and Cabinet had decided that the funds available should be used to improve the facilities in the Valley Gardens. Members commended the improvements to the Valley Gardens, in particular the new play equipment, but raised concern over the current toilet facilities and commented that improvements to these should be prioritised. The Head of Parks and Open Spaces advised that they were looking at a scheme to build a pavilion which would incorporate toilets and would also give increased opportunities for the sale of refreshments and ice creams etc. It was **agreed** that the Cabinet Member (Cultural Services) be invited to attend a future meeting of the Commission once a proposed pavilion scheme had been developed and before it was to be considered by Cabinet/Cabinet Member.

The Chair thanked the officer for his attendance and asked that thanks be passed on to those who had been involved in the improvement works to the Valley Gardens.

(6.20 pm - 6.55 pm)