

Gilberdyke village play area expansion (revised)

a) Report on first stage of public consultation

Feedback from members of the public has been limited, but is reproduced in full below (edited for clarity):

Received on 23 May 2023:

I have just moved to Gilberdyke and noted the extension to the park and I would like to suggest that outdoor gym equipment be fitted. I'm previously from rural Lincolnshire and it was the best thing we did in the village. It kept the bored teenagers happy and also kept the elderly happy. It even brought these two groups together and community feeling improved dramatically.

Received on 5 June 2023:

Could the introduction of outdoor table tennis tables be considered? I have seen concrete and other such tables prove successful in other recreation areas. The only other suggestion I keep hearing is for outdoor fitness equipment for youths/adults.

Received on 25 June 2023:

We often come to the park and the one thing which would encourage people to stay longer would be toilet access. We also think a skate park and netball hoop would be great for older children.

Received on 26 June 2023:

As the parents of a five-year-old and a two-year-old, we are delighted that the council is planning to revamp the play areas and hope that our children will be able to benefit from this for years to come.

In the 6-12 area, we would be keen for the zip line to stay in place as our daughter loves it. I don't think the rest of the equipment would be particularly missed if it were to be removed.

Maybe the priorities should be new traditional swings and more/replacement climbing equipment.

In the proposed 13+ area, the older children should lead the way on the equipment they want. Maybe some kind of skate park if the budget can stretch to that.

We also think it would be a good idea to remove the existing shelters as they are not particularly appealing and they appear to be a magnet for anti-social behaviour.

Fiona Rainforth, the Council's Youth Project Lead, has also obtained feedback throughout the duration of the first stage of public consultation:

I have been out every week and spoken to many of the young people. Their ages have ranged from 9 to 19.

Firstly I asked them if they liked the park area. Over 90% agreed that it was great to have a park, but it was noticeable that the older ones were apathetic.

I asked them if they would like to see changes and most agreed, with ideas ranging from skate parks to more moving rides. A lot of the young people want a 3G pitch or MUGA, and many suggested a basketball area.

When asked about the current Youth Shelters, overwhelmingly they wanted some form of seating area. However the split was 50/50 between pulling the existing structures down and providing a new seating area, and those who wanted the seating area refurbished. I am happy to fundraise for either outcome. However I have looked at the shelters many times and they not only seem rusty, shabby and worn out, but they are uncomfortable and cold, offering little protection from the elements.

When asked the generic question, “What do you want?”, the answer that came up the most was a proper football pitch. When I asked their preference if that was not possible then their response was that they wanted a permanent goal.

b) Preferred outline plan for the project

The first stage of the public consultation deliberately avoided suggesting or implying any preferred options. For the second stage of the public consultation, the potential options chosen by the Parish Council will focus feedback upon those ideas, but may also elicit new suggestions.

The following options are suggested for consideration:

Outdoor gym equipment

This has been suggested as part of the first stage of public consultation so it would be appropriate to include this. Such equipment comes in a variety of formats and is a regular feature of play areas provided by city, district, borough, town and parish councils.

Outdoor table tennis tables

This has been suggested as part of the first stage of public consultation so it would be appropriate to include this. An example can be found at The Ashes in Howden.

Skate park

This has been suggested as part of the first stage of public consultation so it would be appropriate to include this. A small skate park of between 150-500 metres square, which would accommodate a few skaters at any one time (ie between 5-20 users depending on the dimensions), would, on average, cost £37,500.

Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)

As demonstrated by the feedback from Fiona Rainforth for the Youth Project, these are generally the most popular installation in any play area. Cost depends on size and materials used, but MUGAs also attract grants and other sources of funding as they are versatile ways of encouraging physical activity. A MUGA can include netball/basketball hoops/boards, as has been suggested as part of the first stage of public consultation.

Public toilets

This has been suggested as part of the first stage of public consultation so it would be appropriate to include this. There are currently no public toilets in Gilberdyke parish, with the nearest ones located in Howden (around 6 miles away). Grants and other sources of funding are available for such installations.

New/more swings

This has been suggested as part of the first stage of public consultation so it would be appropriate to include this. More swings would meet the desire to have more moving rides. These would be included in the revamp of the 6-12 play area.

More or replacement climbing equipment (potentially including slide)

This has been suggested as part of the first stage of public consultation so it would be appropriate to include this. A slide is not part of the existing 6-12 play equipment and could be coupled with a replacement climbing frame for the equipment that includes the suspension rope, which is regularly in need of repair. This would be included in the revamp of the 6-12 play area.

Relocated and/or refurbished zip line

As has been suggested in the first stage of public consultation, this is a popular item of equipment but would benefit from being relocated and/or refurbished.

Inclusive roundabout

As well as fulfilling the request for more moving rides, the addition of inclusive play equipment to the 6-12 play area would demonstrate the Parish Council's commitment to providing accessible play equipment. Inclusive roundabouts are now common installations in modern play areas.

Removal or replacement of existing youth shelters

This has been suggested as part of the first stage of public consultation so it would be appropriate to include this. Fiona Rainforth, the Council's Youth Project Lead, is exploring funding opportunities for the replacement of the existing youth shelters.

There is scope for a separate discussion with the War Memorial Hall regarding the request for a football pitch and/or goal(s).

Councillors may wish to add further options at this stage in order for such options to be included in the second stage of public consultation.

Summary of potential proposals to include in the outline plan:

1. Outdoor gym equipment
2. Outdoor table tennis tables
3. Skate park
4. Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)
5. Public toilets
6. New/more swings
7. More or replacement climbing equipment (potentially including slide)
8. Relocated and/or refurbished zip line
9. Inclusive roundabout
10. Removal or replacement of existing youth shelters

c) Timetable for the second stage of public consultation

All options to be subject to the second stage of public consultation, according to the timetable below:

Wednesday 19 July 2023

Start of second stage of public consultation.

Wednesday 6 September 2023

Second stage of public consultation ends.

Monday 11 September 2023

Parish Council receives report of second stage of public consultation.

Monday 18 September 2023

Services Committee makes recommendations to Parish Council on preferred options.

Monday 9 October 2023

Parish Council makes decision on preferred options.