

# Great Horkeley Parish Council – Open Spaces Working Group

Report from Public Consultation – 4<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Parish councilors present:

Cllr C Arnold, Cllr A Banks, Cllr J Burns- Langton and Cllr P Tempest

## Summary

Despite the poor weather and the cancellation of JBFC football near the Village Hall there was a relatively good attendance from the community. The vast majority of the people were positive and supportive of the general idea of improving the facilities in the park.

Every person (including children) who attended the consultation were given 2 stickers to vote with. Based on the number of stickers (124) on the voting sheets 62 people attended the consultation.

## Results of vote:

- Zip Wire – 46 votes
- Multi-Sports Game Area – 41 votes
- Sail Shade – 21 votes
- Outside Gym Equipment – 16 votes

See reference photo below

## Sign Up to Open Spaces Working Group

7 members of the community put their name down to join the Open Spaces Working Group. See reference photo below.

## Feedback

Received 30 feedback notes, grouped them at a high level into 4 groups but some feedback notes had multiple points. A few highlighted points along with numbers below. Reference photo below shows all feedback received.

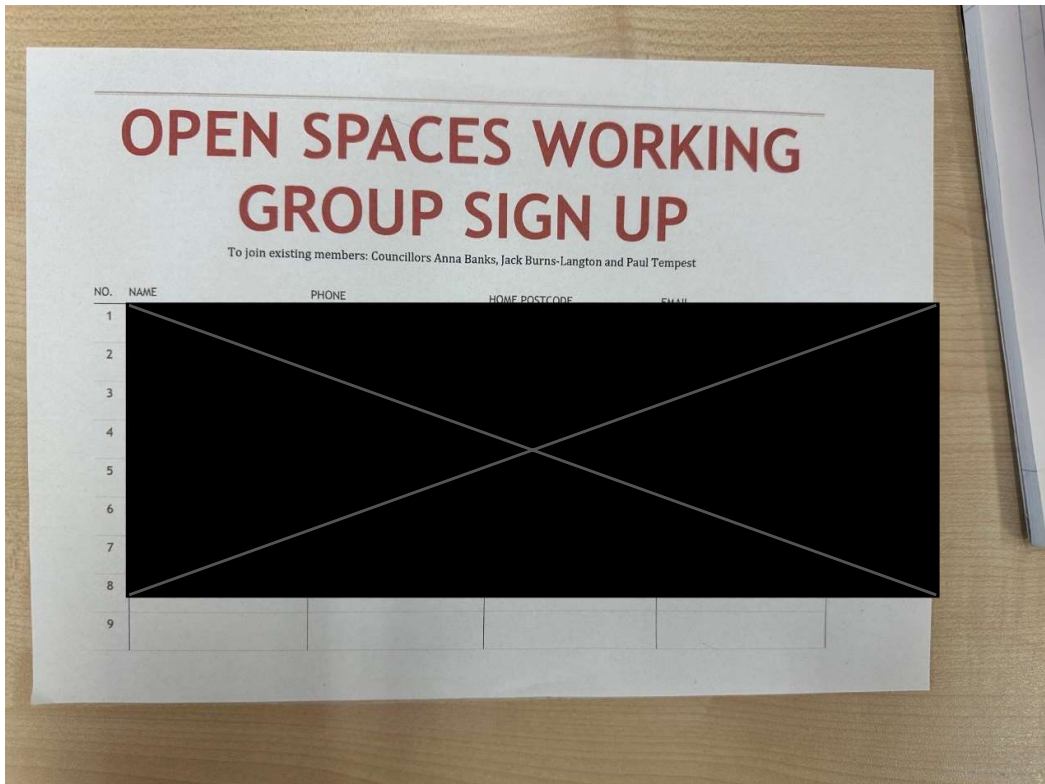
- Existing facilities – 12
  - Sandpit – 7 comments to remove it/replace with Pirate ship and 2 to keep it
  - Roundabout – multiple comments about repair or replace as apparently is often hard to move
  - 3 comments to fence in existing playground to keep dogs etc.
- Other ideas – 9
  - Climbing wall
  - Trampolines
  - More bins
- Additional points for proposed options – 8

- Zip wire make sure it is robust and can be maintained
  - Sail shade – concern it would create a congregation area for teens which could cause noise complaints etc.
  - A couple of comments about comparing to Boxted as a good example
- Negative – 1
  - General comment - not sure how much this would benefit the village

#### Recommendation for next GH Parish Council Meeting

- The 7 members of the public who signed up to join the Open Spaces Working Group are officially invited to join the group
- Advice on what the next steps are for the Working Group e.g. liability insurance, which options to focus on, routes for funding etc.
- In what format and frequency do the Open Spaces Working Group feed back to the Parish Council i.e. will there be a standing item on the agenda in the monthly Parish Council meetings etc.
- Open Spaces Working Group meeting scheduled including new members to review output of the Consultation and agree on next steps

Reference Photos



Additional points to proposed options - 8

Shade, soils around  
Village hall so  
people can use it,  
not sink hall floors.

The Zip line will make  
my walk to school  
much longer if we zip  
on the way.

Zip wires -  
ones require  
frequent  
maintenance - Fix  
but need to  
ensure it is  
robust.

Need to think  
carefully about where  
things go -

- not just around village  
hall, other places in  
village
- Multi-sports - (for  
planning etc.)

Multi sports  
area but needs  
to be sealed  
after dark

Multi sports would  
be so good for young  
people, we would need  
it covered as the grass  
get destroyed by muddy  
weather and it becomes  
unusable.  
Small shelter could be come  
a canopy/shading area for  
parents to sit, also for  
noise + dog complaints.

Current Issues

- Sandpit - Dangerous & Messy
- Roundabout - Not working
- Grass too long around play areas
- Tree area/natural area - Used as toilets
- Dog mess in play areas

Suggestions

- Fenced play area to avoid dog mess
- Boxed is a very good example  
of a park that we would like to  
see in Great Horsham and achievable  
for a local village.
- Mixed age play area for toddlers to  
early teens.
  - ↳ Small slides with steps (Toddler friendly)
  - ↳ Zip wire (older children)
  - ↳ Sandpit (Younger children)
  - ↳ Trampolines - (All ages)
  - ↳ Roundabout (All ages)
- Terraced area for hot weather play  
with Multi sports area (older children)

We feel from the age of 10, children  
don't have many options for play.  
A multi sports we feel would be a  
great option for the older children.

Sailshade is a poor choice  
They are not weatherproof & do  
last very long.

- ongoing please sort out round about so  
it works.

Skatepark full water sports court

Existing Facilities - 12

My sons  
favorite thing  
is this sandpit.

Please  
close  
get rid  
of the  
sandpit!

No Sandpit!  
Multi sports area  
Better football goals

I think we need  
to get rid of the  
Sandpit at the park  
because kids through the  
Sand and their 20 lbs  
ice poe etc in it.

Get rid of  
the sand pit!  
Put something else  
in its place for  
smaller children

Please  
can we  
have the  
A-rate-shi!

Noo  
So pleased things are  
going forward with  
this Planning looks  
great in future of  
all the equipment.  
Happily consent  
equipment will be replaced  
maintained.

The A-rate needs to be repaired  
Duplicate the boxed playground  
Rethink the sand pit

I would prefer a school  
of the children they  
are with a soft  
shock close to the  
sandpit.  
Not see a gym or  
multi sports would  
be good.

The roundabout  
is since it doesn't  
work, it's better  
to use a lot of  
space at safety  
space. Roundabout  
can be replaced with  
something else  
and reduce equipment

Large Tree Planting  
Multi sports area  
Better play area for younger children  
Fence round the Park  
No Social.

Please to focus  
on outdoor play that  
is safe & fun  
Also think out ideas  
for all users

