

## **Play Area Capital Programme**

### **Parish Vision Compliance:**

**Priorities:** Provide a high standard of services and facilities, protect and improve our environment

### **1.0 Recommendation**

- 1.1 That Members consider and approve the report as presented.
- 1.2 That the report as presented, including the scope of works (as detailed in 2.2) and the timeline (as detailed in 6.0) are presented to June 24 Full Council Committee for consideration and approval.
- 1.3 That Members note the necessity to secure the PWLB funding to facilitate the Play Area refurbishment programme.
- 1.4 That as part of the process, officers are tasked with imbedding value for money (e.g. seeking economies of scale) wherever possible, as to reduce the demand on the loan amount. Savings on the overall project are to be used to complete other play strategy play area refurbishment works in future.
- 1.5 That Members note the Rodbourne Cheney Play Area project delivery is not dependant on the outcome of the Community Ownership Fund. That should Council be successful with COF funding then the balance of the accrued EMR is to be used to support the funding criteria as required 'match funding' with the attributed monies from the PWLB be used to support other Play refurbishment, as per the overall play area strategy.

### **2.0 Introduction**

- 2.1 This report details the process for the proposed capital works to upgrade and improve several of the Council's play areas. The objective is to ensure these areas are safe, accessible, and enjoyable for all children and families in the community.
- 2.2 This programme of works includes the Rodbourne Cheney, Barnum Court and Alanbrooke Play Areas as full refurbishment works. With accessibility improvements at St Marks and Penhill Park.
- 2.3 The completion target for this project is by the end of the 2024/2025 Financial Year.

### **3.0 Detail**

- 3.1 The Councils desire and ambition to improve its play provision started in 2018 following transition of the ongoing management of the assets from SBC to CSNPC.
- 3.2 In 2020 CSNPC established the Play Area working group to create advocacy and drive change through community input, with key members of the group being local parents who have children with disabilities.
- 3.3 In 2022 the Council adopted a Play Strategy that identified a scheduled approach to refurbishment based on risk rating.

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- 3.4 As part of the 2024/2025 budget setting process. Councillors agreed to apply for a loan to the value of £250k as to support the delivery of the Play Strategy.

**4.0 Additional Information**

- 4.1 Officers advised that CSNPC do not apply for the capital works loan until the loan application for the Moredon Sporting Hub has been successfully completed and approved. The outcome of that loan application is expected June 2024.
- 4.2 The capital loan application is likely to take approx. 12 weeks to complete.
- 4.3 From the £250k apportioned to Play Areas, £25k earmarked to support with the onboarding of a project manager to oversee delivery.
- 4.4 A Further £25k is recommended to keep in an EMR to facilitate general play area repairs and maintenance.
- 4.5 Concept designs based on the above projects received approximating between £190k - £210k.
- 4.6 EMR of circa £31k available to contribute towards the Rodbourne Cheney Play Area and £4,500 towards Barnum Court.
- 4.7 Moredon & Rodbourne Cheney Members likely to commit further Ward allowance to the project in 2024.

**5.0 Early Engagement Work**

- 5.1 In March 2024 CSNPC publicised an early engagement opportunity as to enable third parties to express interest in the works.
- 5.2 Please refer to the appendices 'Notes to Opportunity' for further information.
- 5.3 From this CSNPC had 5 contractors approach, of which 4 supplied concept designs.
- 5.4 The concept designs were shared and discussed at the Play Area working group meeting, held 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024.
- 5.5 Sample concept designs found below in 7.0
- 5.6 Key comments recorded as:

**5.6.1 Rodbourne Cheney Play Area**

- Fully inclusive & accessible design.
- Accessible Multi-play unit.
- Double width slide
- Swings with high back
- Wheelchair roundabout.
- Double high back accessible rocker.
- Tactile and play panels.

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- All agreed Sutcliffe design offered best play value and design.
- Mixed age range as to allow for siblings to play together.
- Multi-play with double with slide and solid walkways (rather than cargo nets)
- Double trampoline.
- High back swing
- Tactile panels

**5.6.3 Barnum Court**

- Local Park primarily for residents – younger children / limited space.
- All agreed with train theme linking to heritage.
- Small multi-play with double slide
- Inclusive train or designed to allow for wheelchairs.
- Inclusive springer
- Inclusive larger spinning dish
- Tactile panels

**5.6.4 St Marks**

- Destination Park
- All agreed with the plan to surface the area currently laid to bark chippings.
- All agreed that given St Marks was an identified destination park, the proposal to extend the area to allow for another piece of equipment was a good idea.
- All agreed that the wheelchair accessible rocker would be great inclusion.

**5.6.5 Penhill Park (Inglesham Rd)**

- Destination Park
- All understood and agreed with the need to install a connecting pathway thorough the field where the existing equipment was, as to make the items more accessible for all. Along existing desire line.
- All agreed on the proposal to improve the existing stone path to extend it to the gates as to allow for better access.
- All agreed that given Penhill Park was an identified destination park, the proposal to add an additional piece of equipment was a good idea.

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- Potential to install a new accessible piece of equipment along the new path.
- Future consideration to change bark chippings surface under the existing bird nest climber.

#### **6.0 Project Timeline**

- 6.1 June 2024: CSNPC commence PW' application for capital loan.
- 6.2 June 2024: L&R Committee to seek Full Council approval to commence procurement process for the identified Play Area works.
- 6.3 July - August 2024: Officers draft & publish full Tender opportunity.
- 6.4 September 2024: Community & PAWG consultation on concept designs.
- 6.5 October 2024: Final Evaluation of tenders and community feedback.
- 6.6 October 2024: Anticipated completion of PWLB application.
- 6.7 October – November 2024: Employment of Project Manager.
- 6.8 November 2024: Council approval on selected design.
- 6.9 November 2024 - March 2025: Contractors instructed, mobilisation and completion of specified works.
- 6.10 April 2025: Project completion and official opening of upgraded play areas.

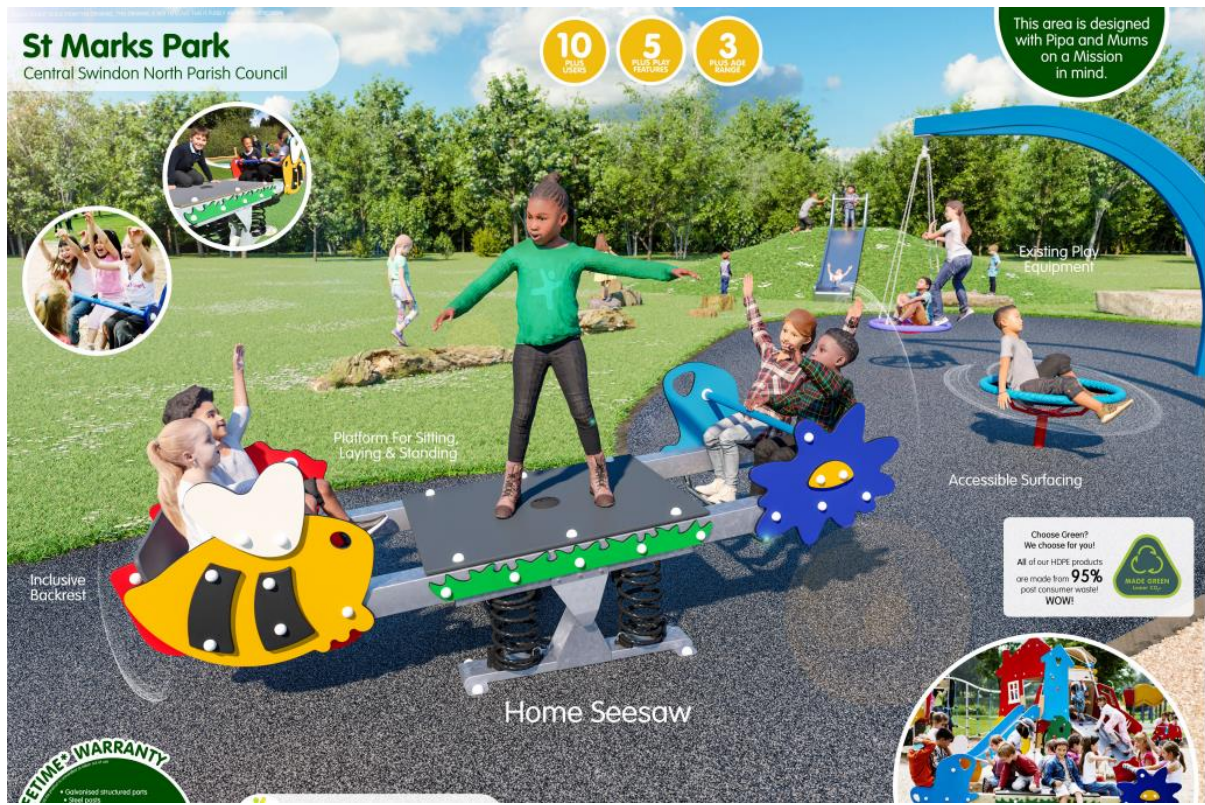
#### **7.0 Sample Concept Designs**



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**8.0 Site Plans**

**Alanbrooke Play Area**



**Play Area Capital Programme**

**Barnum Court Play Area**



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**Rodbourne Cheney Play Area**



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**Penhill Play Park**



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# St Marks Park

