



Design Brief – Nailsworth King George V Extension Field

March 2017

Site details

KGV extension field is an area of land off Nailsworth's King George V (KGV) Playing Field, Wood Lane, Nailsworth GL6 0HT. It is at the bottom of a wooded valley and abuts KGV Field at its western entrance and a cultivated field to its eastern edge. The town centre and residential properties are close by.

KGV extension field is a clay-capped ex-landfill site which is higher than the adjoining KGV Playing Field and forms a rectangular plateau. Drainage is very poor and during the winter some parts are very waterlogged while in summer the ground can be quite hard. It appears to have been seeded with a rough grass mix and contains some native flowers including a large amount of creeping buttercup.

The current main entrance to KGV extension field is across grass (football pitch and surrounds) to a metal farm gate, and is pedestrian only access. The area of the field is 1.1 hectares.

Current uses

The field currently has a very limited appeal and is mainly used by dog walkers to walk around it or access the woodland for longer walks. In summer 2016 the mowing regime was changed to have long grass in the middle of the field with a more regularly cut wide path around the perimeter. This was reported to be popular with dog walkers and produced an attractive display of flowers. The long grass was cut for hay by a local farmer. The intention is to cut paths through the central long grass in the future.

Nearby facilities

Acorn School is a short walk from KGV extension field and a number of pre-school groups meet in the centre of town. It is close enough to be accessible for these groups. There is a car park in KGV Playing Field.

The adjoining KGV Playing Field contains a well-equipped and fenced formal play area, a football pitch, gym equipment, a table tennis table and skate ramps. The local Scouts meet in the KGV pavilion.

Project

This project will design an imaginative, inviting and natural park with something to attract all ages of residents. The project will design a park where residents can spend a few hours having a picnic and appreciating the natural setting. A key feature is that the extension field makes a virtue of its poor drainage with creative use of informal paths, natural play features and planting. It is not intended to install formal play equipment in the extension field.

The project includes changing the main entrance to be more welcoming while retaining good access for maintenance. This could involve a feature at the gateway and some attractive signage.



There is £12,000 Section 106 funding in place for this project which will be used as match funding for grant applications. The project will be phased as grant funding becomes available.

Local identity

KGV extension field has attractive views around the valley sides and towards the town. The project should make the most of the natural setting as it changes from the very formal playing fields in the main park, into woodland edge and farmlands. The successful scheme must make the most of the poor drainage with planting, appropriate use of natural play features, such as willow structures, stepping stones, balance beams, planting and intermittent ponds, and enhancing the views out of the site.

The challenge will be to develop KGV extension field to include enticing journeys between different features, working with the existing landscape.

The extension field is leased by the Town Council for recreational use.

Consultation

Nailsworth Town Council will carry out consultation with local residents in 2017.

Maintenance

Consideration must be given to future maintenance of the field including any natural features such as mounds, slopes and planting, and ease of grass cutting. Consideration must be given to the maintenance of any new equipment, furniture or features.

Selection process

Your proposal will be presented on a single sheet of A3 paper during the consultation process. They will also be displayed on the Town Council's website. Please provide a cost breakdown on a separate sheet. You can make two different proposals but please make sure these are labelled so that members of the public can accurately answer questions such as "what do you like about this proposal?" We will not be using product catalogues during the consultation.

The deadline for proposals is **Friday 17th April 2017** in time for consultation at the Town Meeting (Monday 24th April). Nailsworth Town Council will consult on the proposals between 24th April and 26th May 2017 and decide on a chosen scheme by 21st June 2017.

Please submit your proposals by email or post to:

Katherine Kearns (Town Clerk)

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Email: clerk@nailsworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Phone: 01453 833 592