



Play Area Tender

Appendix 1

Consultation and Evidence

FCDCC has established an evidence base to ensure that any improvements meet local needs and aspirations.

The evidence base:

- Workshops with local primary school children (Delapre Primary School and Queen Eleanor Primary Academy, Feedback from Staff at Gloucester Nursery) – March 2023
- Community questionnaire - April -May 2023
- Working party meetings and site visits – Various Dates – see minutes
- Findings from the contextual safeguarding review – January 2023
- Social media posts and comments – February 2023
- FCDCC residents forum and informal feedback from residents -June 2023
- WNC feedback from regarding youth shelter at Far Cotton Rec.-June 2023
- WNC Draft wellbeing strategy – ambition three “Opportunities to be fit and well” -August 2023

4.1 Summary of Findings

The Rec is important to people in Far Cotton and Delapre.

People appreciate having a green space and play area close to their homes. But they also feel the play equipment is outdated and needs improving. There needs to be better provision for older residents and teens, this might include providing outdoor gym equipment.

Respondents to the community questionnaire frequently referred to litter, dog poo, fly tipping and anti-social behaviour these all negatively impact people's view of the Rec.

The MUGA needs improvements (although this has been re-lined since the survey was carried out).

Other comments people raised included a lack of things to do at the Rec, people would like to see more events and community activities at the Rec. A community garden, café, public toilets and bike racks were all mentioned.

4.2 School Workshops

Children taking part in the workshops were from years 3-6. (Children age 7-11 years of age) The children were invited to take part in junk modelling and make their perfect piece of play equipment, or make a collage of their favourite pieces of equipment from a range of play catalogues.



The most popular pieces of equipment mentioned by the children were:

- Basket Swing
- Zip Wire
- Climbing Frame
- Climbing Wall
- Trampoline
- Gym Equipment-even younger children supported this
- Natural Equipment – climbing rocks / Tunnel /Stepping Stones

4.3 Community Questionnaire

The Community questionnaire took place throughout April and May 2023, the full report is attached.

There were 66 responses to the questionnaire and of those respondents:

- 52 visit the Rec primarily to use the play area
- 53 visit at least once a week
- 54 take less than 10 minutes to get there
- 60 usually walk
- 48 visit with children or grandchildren
- 50 usually stay for less than an hour
- 46 would stay longer if there was better play equipment

We asked people:

a) **“What do you like about the Rec”**

Item	Frequency of response
Locality /close proximity to homes	14
Green Space	15
Play area	8
People / Community	3

b) **“What do you dislike about the Rec”**

Item	Frequency of response
outdated / poor play equipment	14
litter and fly posting	11
not much to do	2
dog poo	5
Paths and lack of seating	5
Anti-social behaviour / don't feel safe	3
Bike Storage	1

c) **Any other comments**

Item	Frequency of response
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Better play equipment including a basket swing	3
more bins or dog bins	2
public toilets	2
picnic area	1
more equipment for teenagers	2
community garden	1
more community activities	5
CCTV	1
cafe	2

4.4 Contextual Safeguarding review

This review is being led by WNC. A meeting of stakeholders took place in January 2023 and the Rec was described as below:

The Rec has historically had a range of activities on offer; currently Delpare Dragons use it for football. It is visible to the community and enhances the sense of community. There is a well used pizza van on the Rec. It is supported by the community council and school nursing have a service from the community space.

There is antisocial behaviour on the Rec; there is a lack of activities and there is a concern of child exploitation in the space.

The context has additional vulnerability as there is poor lighting in winter months; housing is overcrowded in the area.

There needs to be an increase of activity and subsequent guardianship during the evening and weekends.