



LYMINGE PARISH COUNCIL
MERIDEN PARK
REFURBISHMENT

Location:

St Mary's Close, Etchinghill, Kent, CT18 8NX

WhatThreeWords location:

///control.swordfish.dock



Background and vision:

Lyminge Parish Council recently took Meriden Park from Folkestone District Council. The park is nestled at the corner of St Mary's Close and St Mary's Drive in Etchinghill which is within the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The park is currently closed to members of the public due to the equipment being unsafe¹.

The Parish Council has discussed the refurbishment of the park, at length, with its regular users. The general consensus is that the parish would like to see the park feature more inclusive and accessible equipment. The Parish Council also feel that the aesthetics of the park are important and should be natural in appearance².

The general ethos for the park should be inclusivity and accessibility with a focus on encouraging imaginative and educational play.

Equipment:

The Parish Council are keen to see the following items incorporated into any proposals³:

- Climbing frame with a slide
- Swings
- Ground level trampoline (suitable for wheelchair users)
- Ground level roundabout (suitable for wheelchair users)

In addition to this, and subject to available space⁴, the Parish Council are eager to see smaller, filler items and would welcome proposals with flooring options⁵

You will notice that there are two entrances to the play park, a single gate entrance and another double gate. The double gate should be utilised to increase access for wheelchair and pushchair users.

Budget:

There is no set budget at present and any acceptance would be subject to obtaining the necessary funds however we would expect the refurbishment to be in the region of £80,000. The Parish Council is under no obligation to accept the cheapest offer and will consider each proposal on its own merit.

¹ Closed in December 2023 - State of disrepair can be seen in photographs (see appendix).

² Ideal visual style can be seen at the nearby play park on Tayne Field, Church Road (CT18 8JA).

³ Subject to available space and relevant legislation re health and safety etc.

⁴ The fence on the perimeter of the park has measurements of 14100mm x 17000mm.

⁵ The current floor is grass but the Parish Council would be open to full flooring or maintaining the current grass floor. Options are welcome!

Timing:

The Parish Council are keen to have the work completed as soon as possible so please include a schedule of works/timescale in your proposal.

Installation:

The contractor shall supply and secure the play area, in accordance with H&S guidelines, for the duration of the work. All rubbish and excess spoil are to be removed from site⁶ by the contractor at the end of the construction works, to include reinstatement and making good, as agreed with the Buyer, to grass areas and existing surfaces.

All works materials and parts should, at a minimum, comply with both the British and European Standards for playground equipment, outdoor gym equipment and surfacing, and be easy and affordable to maintain, with replacement parts readily available.

The Seller to provide the Buyer with:

- full legal name of the company supplying equipment
- full T&Cs that the companies propose
- full written version of the warranty to be provided
- quotation validity time
- full breakdown of cost for each item, not just a total
- Does the contractor have a Quality System/member of an association?
- expected length of time for the works
- recommendations from recent clients

Site visits:

If you would like to discuss this further or conduct a site visit, please contact the Clerk via clerk@lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk

Apply:

Please submit your tenders by email to clerk@lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk with the subject 'Meriden Park - Tender submission'. If you wish to apply by post, please send to Chani Sanger, Lyminge Parish Council, C/O Coach and Horses, Church Road, Lyminge, Kent, CT18 8JA.

⁶ This includes the removal and disposal of the existing play equipment.

Appendix:

























