

East Bridgford Park Renewal Scheme Report - Summary of Response to Parish Council Consultation



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for
East Bridgford Parish Council



**East Bridgford Consultation Schedule
Summary of response to Parish Council Brief**



Content of Consultants Design Brief issued by Parish Council June 2008	Concept Design (Rev E) response to Brief
Design Principles:	
Age appropriate areas, but not age segregated	Toddler Area (0-3yrs) Junior Area (3-11 yrs) Youth Area (11+ yrs) All interlinked to enable play by all to each area.
Use of natural landscape elements:	Achieved throughout.
· Boulders	Boulders around toddler play arena and within linear sandpit for climbing and seating.
· Tree trunks	Tree trunks from surrounding areas will be brought into the site and carved with site specific features, providing unlimited creative, imaginative play and climbing, hiding and balancing opportunities.
· Grass mounds	All of the play areas are to be enclosed by low undulating grass mounds, to shield the play areas from the football pitches and the playing fields, and provide vantage points for the children to use to view the playspaces.
· Timber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Timber uni-log retaining walls to toddler play enabling informal play and seating. · Timber boardwalks / seating providing site specific play access and seating.
· Sandpit	Sinuous interconnecting sandpit, of varying depths providing high play value.
Fixed / manufactured equipment, made from sustainably sourced timber, designed to accommodate multiple play opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Multi-user swing with timber supports, · Timber platforms / towers with interconnecting bridge and slide, · Toddler swings, · Timber balance bridge, · Sustainable rubber belt bridge with timber supports, · Balance ropes with timber supports, · Toddler slide with wide timber ladder access · Timber zip-line, · Timber bike / skate practice jumps, and · Timber boardwalk play access.
Play provision and equipment that allows for greater risk taking, and extended challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Timber platforms / towers with interconnecting bridge and slide, · Timber balance bridge, and belt path enabling risk taking for toddlers and younger children,

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Timber stepping logs throughout providing alternative informal routes from each play space, · Timber zip-line, and · Timber bike / skate practice jumps.
Equipment provided to facilitate use by disabled children where possible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Multi-user basket swing with timber supports, · Timber platforms / towers with interconnecting bridge and slide, and · Wide embankment slide with wide timber ladder access.
Strategic Site Brief Principles:	Concept Masterplan Rev E
Remodelled play area, using organic forms, landforms etc. to form an adventurous play area linked organically (no fences) and as an extension (for chasing / hiding games etc) to the sports field.	<p>The design re-models the site into three age related but not age specific, interlinked playspaces. Toddler play area (0-3yrs) adjacent to the Pre-school / WI Hut, a junior (3-11yrs) linear play park, and a skate / bike adventure area for all (11yr +) linking the linear play park with the triangular 'wild' play area.</p> <p>All of these playspaces are enclosed by low grass mounds and interconnected via a sinuous sand pit of varying depths. The existing fencing only remains around the toddler playspace, enclosed by planting softening its appearance. The remainder of the site is un-enclosed enabling use of the full site for play including the playspaces and the playing fields.</p>
<p>Working with the linear nature of the available site, integrating the different elements of the play area with a strong theme (an example could be a dry river bed, with bridges over 'culvert' tunnels, stepping stones, rain formed puddles, a 'beach'etc.)</p> <p>Play equipment sited in and around this area could be specified to reinforce the play possibilities of this theme.</p>	<p>The linear nature of the site has been exploited to its full potential.</p> <p>The playspace site boundaries are determined by the pre-marked football and cricket pitch extents which are fixed. This means that the linear play park is wider where it abuts the Pre-school / WI hut than at the opposite end, the triangular 'wild' area.</p> <p>We have used this to our advantage to form an enclosed, easily supervised, circular arena for toddler play adjacent to the Pre-school / WI hut, which is filled with sand.</p> <p>The sand pit weaves its way from the toddler play arena, through the junior playspace to the skate/ bike adventure area, on its way linking all</p>

	<p>of the playspaces with specific play opportunities.</p> <p>The sandpit takes its form from a dry river bed, drawing on the locally significant river Trent, close to East Bridgford.</p> <p>Low undulating grass mounds enclose the 'dry river bed', similar in feature to that of Pancake Hill, a possible example of a medieval 'motte and bailey'. Where Pancake Hill provided a strategic vantage point for medieval armies to survey the lower lying river plain, so the newly created grass mounds will enable children to survey the surrounding play areas.</p>
<p>Providing a toddlers' play area adjacent to the Pre-School. This area to have a natural enclosure – grass mounds, timber retaining wall, boulders etc to give easier supervision of young children, at the same time as providing play opportunities for older children and natural places to sit and socialize.</p>	<p>Following consultation it was agreed not to provide a direct link between the toddler play space and the Pre-school / WI hut.</p> <p>The current scheme sites the toddler playspace adjacent to the Pre-school /WI hut with low grass mounding enclosing the space. The mounding forms a grass arena for play, with tiered grass embankments centred around a circular sand pit, the source of the 'dry river bed'.</p> <p>Rounded timber stepping logs are positioned around the arena offering unlimited play opportunities for older children, and natural places to site for parents / carers, enabling them to supervise their children playing, and survey the other playspaces.</p> <p>Rounded, locally sourced river boulders are to be positioned around the multi-user swing centrally centred in the toddler play arena, as well as imaginatively located throughout the 'dry river bed' in the junior and youth areas, offering additional informal seating and climbing opportunities.</p>
<p>Use of multi sensory natural textures and surfaces as well as hard surfaces for trikes / bikes etc.</p>	<p>Sand, rounded river boulder, rounded timbers, grass, rubber reinforced grass, timber decking and bark surfaces are provided throughout the linear playspaces offering multi-sensory play value.</p>

	<p>The grass will be stripped from the bike routes through the 'wild' adventure area and naturally sourced, self compacting, aggregate laid offering easy rolling and hard wearing surfaces for informal cycling.</p> <p>Timber ramps on cambers will be imaginatively fixed together forming curved raised bike stunt practice jumps.</p> <p>The skate / bike practice jumps will be surrounded by hard wearing asphalt surfacing, decoratively painted by the teenagers through artist workshops.</p>
<p>Use of slopes / steps and levels for exploratory play.</p>	<p>Multi-tiered low grass embankments enclose the toddler playspace edged with either rounded timber logs or rounded river boulders to offer unlimited exploratory play.</p> <p>Elsewhere, low undulating grass mounds, raised timber boardwalks, and further rounded timber logs and river boulders extend the exploratory play throughout the site, provided informal alternative play routes between the play features.</p>
<p>Appropriately sized swing and slide / other equipment.</p>	<p>A fully accessible, multi-user basket swing, a low embankment slide with wide timber access ladders and the re-sited toddler swings provide toddler age appropriate play close to the Pre-school / WI hut.</p> <p>Further afield, timber platforms connected via a timber bridge, a taller curved slide, timber balance block bridge and belt path, all offer appropriately sized play pieces for older children.</p> <p>Larger boulders, skate / bike jumps and a zip-line are located in the 'wild' adventure area, which offer unconstrained play value, age related risk taking and a safe practice area where older children can play, without restricting play by the younger children in shared areas.</p>
<p>Consideration of water feature, possibly hand operated for small scale water play.</p>	<p>A dished granite surfaced circular den will be formed, accessed by sloping grass paths and surrounded by tropical planting. The edges of the den are built up from locally sourced river boulders, forming informal climbing / seating</p>

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	areas. (currently withheld)
Provision of a play area with ramps / jumps etc. for skateboards / bikes – but designed to also accommodate climbing, running up, rolling down etc.	<p>Timber curved ramps are to be located in the 'wild' adventure area forming informal bike practice jumps. When not used for practice, they also provide informal climbing / seating alcoves.</p> <p>Skate practice jumps will be incorporated close to the bike practice area, designed and built by the teenagers alongside the contractor. This provides valuable site construction training for the teenagers, and enables the jumps to be site specific and custom made to suit their requirements.</p>
Consideration of a shelter adjacent to this area, but in a position where it is in full view to discourage anti-social activities. Provision of this shelter could be a participative arts / artist based project working with local teenagers.	Close to the skate / bike practice area and seated at the foot of the zip-line embankment, a shelter will be provided, offering informal seating overlooking the playing fields and a grassed viewing balcony from which the children can access the zip-line. The exact design will be finalised through consultation with the children, and executed by them as part of the construction works.
Adaption of the triangle of trees to form a natural 'wild' play area, with logs, branches, leaves etc. for den building.	<p>The 'wild' triangular tree area will be enhanced, offering informal bike trails with staggered practice jumps, a raised zip-line which will travel through the trees, and informal areas for seating and play.</p> <p>Sensitively planted woodland shrubs will enhance the woodland glade. Imported tree trunks, carved on site to form site specific art features will offer the opportunity for natural, imaginative play, climbing and den building.</p>
Provision of seating areas (by use of landscape elements where possible for children to socialise, for parents / carers to sit when supervising their children, and for families / friends to gather for picnics etc.	Seating will be incorporated throughout, whether through the informal positioning of low undulating grass tiered terraces and mounds, rounded timber logs, river boulders and carved tree trunks, or formally with curved timber seating, timber benches, timber seating in the youth shelter and picnic tables.
Consideration of low level, unobtrusive lighting – possibly solar powered – to extend the hours of use of the play area.	Lighting provision was looked at, but the current budget precludes this being taken forward at this time.
Proposals should consider the access needs of all users and take account of the requirements of the Disability Discrimination	The playspaces are designed to be fully inclusive. All play features are accessible by all, with hard surfacing crossing the 'dry river bed' enabling

<p>Act.</p>	<p>the less mobile access.</p> <p>Specific play features are designed to enable all to use them, with the multi-user swing being chosen specifically to enable less mobile children the opportunity to enjoy play like their more mobile friends.</p> <p>Changes in surfacing have been considered to extend sensory play through the site and offer contrast, which will offer visually, impaired children the same opportunities as those with good sight.</p> <p>Throughout the site sand has been used to link the areas, and this will offer a safe play environment for all, regardless of disability.</p>
<p>Making use of Play Safety Forum's Managing Risk in Play Provision Statement, ensuring an appropriate balance between measured risk and the requirements to cover the Parish Council's liabilities.</p>	<p>Risk-taking is an essential feature of play provision and of all environments in which children spend time playing. As advocated in the Play Safety Forum's 'Managing Risk in Play Provision Statement' this scheme will endeavour to manage the balance between the need to offer risk and the need to keep children safe from harm. This will be achieved through careful design and appropriate risk assessments which evaluate the risks associated with the various features and minimise the residual risk that remains following re-design, without reducing the play value of the features.</p>
<p>The design of the proposed play area should be easy to maintain</p>	<p>East Bridgford's playspace is designed with sustainability and long term maintenance in mind.</p> <p>All the features are designed to complement the site, make best use of recycled materials for creative imaginative play, and appropriate specification of surfacing materials to reduce installation costs and on-going maintenance.</p> <p>Prior to hand over to the Parish Council a detailed maintenance manual will be produced which will detail the ongoing maintenance operations and estimate the time involved and detail who will carry out these operations, therefore leaving a sustainable play legacy for generations to come.</p>

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Consultation carried out	Concept Design (Rev E) response to consultation
Village Fair Consultation requests by residents	
Climbing – climbing wall, spiders web, climbing frame	Climbing holds attached to zip-line wall
Places for imaginary play – tree houses, dens, tunnels	Den surrounded by bamboo adjacent to the toddler play area
Swings – all types including tyre	Multi user swing and toddler swings
Sliding – all types including bumpy slides, tunnel slides, racing slides, zip wire	Toddler slide with access ladders integrated into slope
Obstacle course – bridges, wobbly bridge	Wobbly bridge, timber stepping logs, balance ropes, and possibly belt path
Skating / bike riding provision inc. half pipes	Woodland track / cycle path with timber jumps and skate jumps
Social / hanging out space – seating, shelter	Youth shelter adjacent to the zip-line
Bouncing, trampoline, bungey	Budget currently precludes this equipment, if additional funding found possibility.

Public Meeting 23/06/2008	
Group 1	
Lots of trees	Already on the site
Natural boulders to climb	Boulder within the sand pit and around the den
Risky tree climbing	
Stepping stones over shallow stream	Informal rounded river boulders along shallow dry river bed – in filled with sand
Grassy hill to roll down	Extensive grassy knolls segregating the play area from the football pitches
Shady sitting area for picnics	Timber seating boardwalks under the existing trees / youth shelter
Tunnel area with secret entrance	Grass access paths into the den area
Big swings	Multi-user swing
Park benches on chains!	Park benches adjacent to the toddler area and the junior area
Surrounded by natural fencing	Natural fencing enclosing the toddler play area
Group 2	
Equipment that is suitable to 'bridge' variety of ages	All equipment throughout can be used by all ages
Equipment that encourages use of imagination	All natural equipment encourages use of imagination e.g. timber logs, stepping stones, timber sculptures
Group 3	
Somewhere to shelter from the rain	Youth shelter
Mound of mud and some puddles	Shallow dished den area / woodland track / cycle

East Bridgford Consultation Schedule
Summary of response to Parish Council Consultation

	routes
Hole in the hedge and the children made a den	Den adjacent to the toddler play area
Willow caves	Willow sculptural elements within the woodland area
Fallen tree for hiding and climbing	Fallen trees brought to site carved into imaginative climbing structures
Path for cycling	Woodland track / cycle route.
Mini path system and a bridge	Dry river bed sand pit with climbing rope crossings and timber boardwalks
Lots of humps	Woodland track / cycle route and grassy knolls within the toddler and junior play areas
Echoing tunnels	Along approach routes into dished den.
Logs to layer	Logs layered within the woodland area for seats, sculptures and informal bike jumps
Long, long slides	Slide from timber tower
Chance to be sociable	Scheme will enable this interaction to take place.
Sculptures to sit on	Fallen trees brought to site carved into imaginative seating units
Sensory equipment	As design progresses, opportunities for sensory equipment will be incorporated.
Group 4	
Versatile hard surface for ball games	Hard standing, decorated by the older children with their own patterns
Goals and hoops	Hoop attached to the skate equipment
Social space / somewhere to chill - covered	Youth Shelter
Open space to run around / kick a ball	Majority of the site remaining as existing

Mothers and Toddlers 06/06/2008	
Slide – wide enough with access steps – integrated into slope	Slide incl. in toddler area
Swings	Multi user swing and toddler swings
Somewhere for teenagers to hang out	Youth shelter / zip-line / woodland track / cycle routes with skate jumps
Tree(s) for climbing	Tree stumps brought
Zip-wire	Within the woodland area
'Natural' play area with dens / hiding places	Whole scheme encourages 'natural' play as requested by design brief
Rubberized safety surfacing	Not a cost effective or sustainable solution, not in keeping with the open nature of the park
Sand / natural softer surfacing integrated with equipment / landscape features	Within the dry river bed linking the toddler play area with the woodland track / cycle routes
Equipment open to a wide variety of uses	Throughout, all features designed for a wide variety of multiple uses
Space for running / chasing / hiding	As existing
Picnic tables	Timber picnic table will be incorporated close to

East Bridford Consultation Schedule
Summary of response to Parish Council Consultation



	toddler play area
Water play possibilities – could be natural – dishes or hollows	Shallow dished den could accommodate water play if consent provided for provision of water supply from Pre-school / WI Hut
Climbing wall	Climbing holds attached to zip-line wall

Pre-School 22/05/2008	
Age appropriate play	Specific play features designed to provide age appropriate play.
Enclosed for ease of supervision – could be mounded / landscaped enclosure instead of fencing	Toddler play area enclosed by natural fencing, remainder of play enclosed by grass mounding
Natural textures / sensory / touchy-feely surfaces	Throughout with natural surfacing and imaginative planting
Natural elements – logs for sitting / climbing	Timber climbing logs, stepping stones, boulders around the den, suspended ropes across the sand pit.
Some form of shelter	Youth Shelter
Basket Swing	Multi-user swing
Small scale flowing water feature – water bubbling over rock	Shallow dished den could accommodate water play if consent provided for provision of water supply from Pre-school / WI Hut
Solar powered operation	During detailed design Cracknell will look at ways of incorporating solar powered items within the scheme
Small scale contoured looped path / figure of 8 for trikes	Woodland track / cycle route
Some lighting to extend hours of use	Budget and ongoing maintenance currently precludes this feature.

St Peter's Primary School Year 3 Class 22/05/2008	
Climbing frame	
Climbing wall	Climbing holds attached to zip-line wall
Obstacle course	Timber logs, suspended ropes, timber boardwalks, wobbly bridge etc
Monkey bars	Attached to timber platform within junior playspace.
Rocket with buttons	Budget and ongoing maintenance currently precludes this feature.
Helter skelter / swirly slide	Slide from tower
Baby trampoline	Budget and ongoing maintenance currently precludes this feature.
Play castle / fort	Timber towers with access bridge on low grass mounding

East Bridgford Consultation Schedule
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Babies play area	Toddler play area incl. sand surfacing
Soft surfaces	Grass mounding, bark mulch safety surfacing to equipment and paths and sand to the dry river bed
Grass	On all embankments and mounds, on the toddler play arena, under toddler swings and within 'wild' adventure area incl. embankments to zip-line.
Wobbly Bridge	Wobbly bridge linking toddler play area with junior play
Bouncy roundabout	Not considered appropriate for this location.
Rotating dizzy thing	Budget currently precludes this equipment, if additional funding found possibility.
Table for mums and babies	Timber picnic table will be incorporated close to toddler play area
Rest place	Timber seating on boardwalks and around toddler play area
See saw	Budget currently precludes this equipment, if additional funding found possibility.
Swings	Multi-user and toddler
Balls to play with	Possibility of providing limited number of toys within the Pre-school / WI Hut.
Go kart and track	Not considered appropriate for this location.
Table Tennis	Budget currently precludes this equipment, if additional funding found, a possibility.
Water pistols and space to run around	Users can provide their own.
Water slide	Not considered appropriate for this location.
Skate board ramp	Skate facilities designed and built by the older children
Refreshment shop / kiosk	Budget currently precludes this feature.
Simple marking on the floor	Older children to decorate the hard standing around the skate jumps
Trees and natural features	Throughout the play area

St Peter's Primary School Year 6 Class 20/05/2008	
A tree house to sit and talk	Youth shelter seated at base of zip line provides this function.
A jungle gym	Budget currently precludes this feature.
Trim trail	Budget currently precludes this feature.
Swings	Multi-user and toddler
Assault course	Timber logs, suspended ropes, timber boardwalks, wobbly bridge etc
Climbing Trees	Not encouraged as trees within Conservation Area and along park boundaries.
Sitting in the shade	Park benches on the timber boardwalk under the

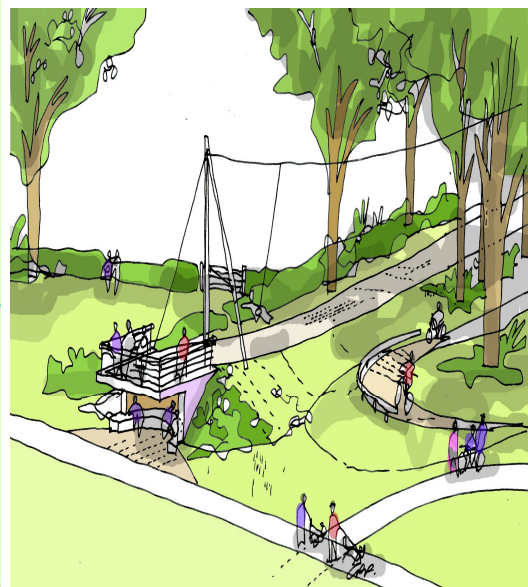
East Bridgford Consultation Schedule
Summary of response to Parish Council Consultation



	existing trees
Bike track	Woodland track / cycle routes with informal timber bike jumps and dirt mounds
Pond	Not considered appropriate for this location.
Ladder, platform and swing	Timber tower with informal access and low grass mounding
Covered slide	Wide access slide with ladders to the toddler play and larger slide to the junior play form the tower
Pets corner	Not considered appropriate for this location.



Above: Sketch Design (Rev E)



Above: Sketch view of youth shelter / zip-line & woodland bike track