

# Summary of Village Survey – Redevelopment of Recreation Area

## GENERAL

96% of those who responded were in favour of improving the area in some way. The strongest demographic that people wanted to focus on was children with 36% of responses stating this. 24% even commented that they wanted to focus specifically on younger children. There was a reasonably strong preference for natural looking play equipment with only 8% preferring a colourful aesthetic. Additional comments made by several individuals were to keep younger children's play equipment closer to the houses to minimise noise disruption and to consider adding an all-weather access path to the site.

## SOCIAL AREAS

64% of responders stated they would like some additional seating or picnic areas and ideally wooden not metal. The addition of a BBQ provoked an equally positive and negative effect from villagers.

## NATURAL PLAY/AREAS

There was a positive response to the addition of varied natural environments. In particular a wildflower garden (32%), orchard (28%) and forest school. Other ideas were mentioned including bird boxes and bug hotels which would add to this concept.

## ADULT RECREATION

24% of the village were keen for adult fitness equipment but 16% had concerns. 16% of the village were in favour of a Petanque zone and felt this would help make the area more inclusive.

## CHILD RECREATION

The strongest response was for a games pitch to be retained in the centre of the field and to consider making this a multi-use sport area (or adding a multiuse area elsewhere) (32%). Swings (24%), Climbing frame (20%), slide (20%) were equipment parents felt were most enjoyed by children. Equipment the village were reasonably against was a zipwire (20%) with the main reason being their reliability.

## CONCERNS/CONSIDERATIONS

The main concern was that the village do not want the area to become overdeveloped (24%) and risk overuse, antisocial behaviour and additional traffic problems. Maintenance costs should also be considered (20%) with some citing buying quality over quantity and choosing sustainable equipment with less moving parts.

## SUMMARY STATEMENT

The overall preference appears to be for a modestly developed area with quality classic pieces such as swings, slides and climbing frames which retains the central playing field. The area should be of natural design and be enhanced by wildflower areas and orchard trees. Children should be the priority beneficiaries, but additional seating is much needed and in a sunnier location. In the longer term this area should progress towards greater inclusivity for all ages.