

## Summary of feedback to survey on Dairyground play equipment

### Introduction

During October and November 2018 Shutford Parish Council undertook a survey to understand people's views around the potential replacement of the play equipment on the Dairyground. This note provides a summary of the responses to the survey and the Parish Council's subsequent decisions.

### Background to the survey

The play equipment on the Dairyground is inspected on a regular basis by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) to make sure equipment is in a suitable condition for use and does not pose any unnecessary risks.

The most recent RoSPA survey identified a number of minor risks which need to be addressed, but of most concern was the identified decay to timber supports on both the junior and toddler swings and risks associated with the hangers used on the swing chains.

The Parish Council identified three potential options to address the problems identified with the junior and toddler swings and decided to undertake a survey to seek feedback on the identified options from those people who use the play equipment, live on or near the Dairyground or have an interest in the matter.

The survey was distributed to every property in the village on 21<sup>st</sup> October with a letter to explain why people's views were being sought. The survey asked the following two questions:

Question 1: From the three options outlined in the letter accompanying the survey, which would you like to see on the Dairyground?

If you have a preference, please 'tick' in the list below.

- Option 1: Replace both the toddler and junior swings, funded by the Parish Council.
- Option 2: Replace both the toddler and junior swings now, funded by the Parish Council. AND, once funding can be found, purchase a multi activity unit.
- Option 3: Remove the toddler and junior swings (the other existing play equipment would remain).

Question 2: Do you have any other comments related to the play equipment on the Dairyground which you would like the Parish Council to take into account?

Responses could be provided by either completing the paper copy of the survey and returning it to Sunrise Cottage, Cooks Hill or emailing comments to [shutfordpc@gmail.com](mailto:shutfordpc@gmail.com) by 4 November 2018.

## Summary of the feedback received

A total of 53 responses were received to the survey. These were a mix of paper copies of the survey (43 responses) and emails (10 responses).

### Responses to question 1

The following table provides a summary of responses to question 1 on the three options being considered by the Parish Council. Note: some respondents identified a preference for more than one option and some did not identify any preference, choosing only to provide comments in response to question 2.

Option	Number of responses expressing a preference
Option 1: Replace both the toddler and junior swings, funded by the Parish Council.	20
Option 2: Replace both the toddler and junior swings now, funded by the Parish Council. AND, once funding can be found, purchase a multi activity unit.	34
Option 3: Remove the toddler and junior swings (the other existing play equipment would remain).	2

The responses to question 1 suggest there is strong support to replace both the toddler and junior swings – options 1 and 2. A substantial number of people who responded also supported the idea of adding a new multi-activity unit – option 2. There were also a few people who expressed opposition to the multi-activity unit, but only two respondents suggest removal of the swings – option 3.

### Responses to question 2

Question 2 invited respondents to provide any comments related to the play equipment on the Dairyground that the Parish Council should take into account.

Of the 53 respondents, 40 provided further comments in response to question 2. A wide range of comments were received with many providing explanation for the preference expressed to question one. Other common themes included suggestions of additional play equipment, comments on costs and funding mechanisms and concerns about disturbance caused by the use of the play equipment.

### Parish Council's actions

The Parish Council considered all of the comments raised in the responses received and discussed the results of the survey at the Parish Council meeting on 14 November 2018.

Taking into account the feedback to the survey, the Parish Council agreed to replace both the toddler and junior swings. It was agreed that a number of quotations would be sought to undertake this work and that replacement should be undertaken as soon as possible.

The Parish Council also agreed to:

- consider re-locating the swings, in response to concerns raised about overlooking of neighbouring properties;
- consider planting some vegetation to screen the swings from neighbouring properties; and
- once the swings have been replaced to re-consider the addition of further play equipment, such as a multi-activity unit and some additional seating, and the best methods of funding and delivering further new equipment.

Summary report produced by Tom Parrish on behalf of Shutford Parish Council, January 2019

Please contact Shutford Parish Council on [shutfordpc@gmail.com](mailto:shutfordpc@gmail.com) if you have any questions related to the survey or this summary.