

# Horsted Keynes Play Area Improvements 2017

## 2- Site information and Brief

Horsted Keynes Play area improvements- 2 - Site information and brief  
2 of 3

### **Horsted Keynes play area, RH17 7DP. Playground analysis**

Surveys have been conducted within the full parish community.

Surveys were available for all the community to comment on at two village events The May Fair and the Village day held in May and June 2016

The whole local village School completed a survey and children at First Steps, Brownies, Pre School and teenage children who catch the bus to the local Secondary School completed a survey.

### **Existing playground**

The existing playground is currently on the Recreation ground in the centre of the village.

The playground is fenced off from the wider area and features some timber and steel equipment which is reaching the end of its life.

The annual inspection rates the quality of the space as medium risk. Areas of particular weakness which we'd like to improve on were identified as:

- poor accessibility
- poor intellectual and creative stimulation
- poor design and layout for the various ages

Specifically, the inspection revealed unsatisfactory impact absorbing surface, rotting structural timbers and deteriorating swing seats.

### **Playground Theme**

The playground is used mostly by toddlers to 14 year olds. A main outcome of the surveys was for there to be a designated separate toddler area up to the age of 5 and a large centre piece that promotes climbing and imagination. Currently a large tree sits at the back of the recreation ground and children are more inclined to climb that then use the existing out of date equipment.

### **Accessibility**

Access to the fenced play area is via a 1.2m wide Concrete path from a residential area to the side of the recreation ground or a concrete path via the tennis courts. The other access is via two entrances to the recreation ground across the field. Ideally a path could be laid to connect the car park at the edge of the playground to the area to promote more accessibility especially wheelchair access.

For construction, There are two 5 bar metal gates that open onto the recreation ground from Lewes Road or through the car park. Vehicles would have to travel over the field.

There is no room on site for temporary storage of equipment.

The existing play area gets very muddy. Combined with the ground levels, this area is inaccessible to users for large parts of the year.

A small amount of ground levelling and new surfacing is desirable to ensure the new play area will be more easily accessible to all users.

### **Brief**

The existing play equipment caters for children up to about 14 years old. There are no other equipped play areas within walking distance so although this is a small space it must work hard to cater for many children. The target age range is for toddlers up to 14 years.

### **Essential Requirements**

Local farmers have agreed to remove existing equipment and old wet pour.  
The groundworks shall need to be levelled in preparation for the new equipment.

**Retained existing equipment.**

Double wooden grown up swings. The frame is to be retained but new bearings, chains and rubber seats are to be supplied

Kompan Supernova is to be retained and re positioned nearer to the South boundary fence as per the diagram

Balance beam to be repositioned between toddler area and climbing centre piece to provide a segregation

**Equipment identified through surveys as wish list:**

Sunken Trampoline 2000 Rectangular as per Huck 2000 Jump area 1.75m by 2.5

Centrepiece Huck Black Forest Birds Nest Tower 3 4652-21 Safety zone 12m by 9.9m  
Flooring to be of depth required for drop height

Hags Erwen 4637 One armed Wooden basket swing and seat 59msq

Toddler double swings Wooden with cradle seat 1.8m high

Hags Juster 5.5m by 7.5m for the toddler area

Hags springer Turtle 4 person Green

Vespy Blue single springer

Wooden stepping stones dotted around toddler area to provide segregation.

Area to have a 1 m grass border and the rest of the area to be laid to Rubber Mulch BSEN1177 standard with suitable depth for heights of equipment

**Desirable Items**

Provide 2 new benches, accessed by new surface from gate

All weather table tennis table to be positioned outside of play area adjacent with old basket ball board.

Outdoor gym items to be positioned around the outside perimeter of the play area:

Dual chest press

Leg Press

Cycling

Cross trainer