

HORSTED KEYNES PLAYGROUND REGENERATION AND OUTSIDE GYM

HAVE YOUR **FINAL** SAY

The parish council need to seek support for the proposed plans for the regeneration of the playground.

The current playground and flooring has been assessed as medium risk by ROSPA. Previous councils have not increased the precept over several years to make any provision for replacement or refurbishment of the playground, which leaves the current council without funds to replace or repair it.

Over the last 2 years community consultation has taken place to assess what people in the village would like to see in the playground.

Based on these surveys and consultations a plan was drawn up and was put out to tender early this year. A successful bid was identified. The plans for the proposed playground have been publicly available at 3 different events and are currently within the council office for anyone to view.

To pay for the playground, the council would like to apply for a loan over 10 years. The repayments of this loan would come out of an increase in the current precept that is part of your council tax. Horsted Keynes precept currently stands at £33,411 which is extremely low in comparison with similar size neighbouring villages such as Ardingly (£79,501), Turners Hill (£68,250) and Ashurst Wood (£64,575). The council would need to raise the precept to make the repayments which would result in an increase of £15, (**per year/NOT month**), for the FIRST YEAR on a property paying council tax in Band D.

NB: The precept would ONLY RISE ONCE and then not increase again for this project. The loan would be a special works board loan which is set at an extremely low rate of interest for parish councils.

In seeking permission to apply for the loan the council must show the impact on Band D properties, but we appreciate there are many larger properties within the village so please see appendix A for the impact on other bands.

The Parish council hosted a fund-raising village day in June 2016 and there have been various donations from Swoove and the Cahagnes Roving supper. A grant was given by GATCOM. However, the council have been declined grants from MSDC and Sport England, so a loan is the only way forward.

There are 2 sections to the accepted tender

Playground: installation, equipment, safety flooring £ 85,353.97 + VAT

Outside Gym and All-weather table tennis table: installation, equipment £13,251.43+ VAT

In reserves the council has about £15,500, so to support the total project a loan would be needed of £102, 826 INC VAT

What we need from you is to please complete the voting slip attached, one vote per registered elector **Please post the slip into the council office at the back of the village hall by Monday 11th December. Results will be announced at the council meeting on the 12th December.**

We appreciate your time and views on this and we know some of you have already commented but this is the final full consultation and will take precedence over the previous submissions, so please take the time to have your say.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Please note the rise will be per year and will rise in the First year and then remain at that figure for the next 9 years unless other issues necessitate a rise.

1. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE REGENERATION OF THE PLAYGROUND TO BE PAID OUT OF A PRECEPT RISE OF £12.60pa*? YES / NO

2. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE CREATION OF AN OUTSIDE GYM TO BE PAID OUT OF A PRECEPT RISE OF £2.30pa*? YES / NO

3. DO YOU AGREE WITH BOTH THE PLAYGROUND AND CREATION OF OUTSIDE GYM TO BE PAID OUT OF A PRECEPT RISE OF £14.90pa*? YES / NO

4. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE CURRENT COUNCIL PLANS FOR THE PLAYGROUND?
YES / NO

***this represents the rise for a band D rated household**

Appendix A

Council Tax Bands: Rise per annum for first year if total loan £102,826 is taken. (Tax base 688.70)

A 6/9	£9.95
B 7/9	£11.61
C 8/9	£13.27
D 9/9	£14.90
E 11/9	£18.25
F 13/9	£21.56
G 15/9	£24.88
H 18/9	£29.86