

I am also pleased to see that there will be some improvement to the Bourdillon, this is a valuable un-used space that should be utilised.

Strong support from me for the proposed plan. I think this park will be invaluable to villages with it's secluded location away from busy roads and proximity to the school. The site as it stands is in disrepair. It is worth noting that since this report has been produced, the bench within the playground has since broken and now remains as 2 unsightly and unsafe stumps of metal and wood. One other question I would have is how will the immediate residents be effective by works to the paths. As my fence backs on to this path we would like to know how that will effect the structural integrity of it in particular. This is not to say I am against it would obviously benefit immediate residents enormously to have a better access path behind their houses! Section V13.1 – this is clear in bourdillon where we now have a broken bench and a missing swing – which has been missing or years. These plans are likely to be another 5+ years to fruition and many can't help but feel are used as an excuse for areas to fall further behind.

agree with recommendation

Option 1

Please consider putting up some fixed goals so kids can play impromptu games.

Improvement to children's play equipment long overdue & very welcome

I don't see the need for a public toilet or planting to produce shade. As a resident of Milldown Road I regularly walk though this area. We have had issues with drug dealing & anti social behaviour down that end of the road, so I would add that improved lighting along that path to the Bourdillon would be advantageous for safety, particularly for children leaving school that way in the winter.

Planting more trees would reduce the already small area available & creates muddy areas in the Autumn & winter.

We are writing to express our views on the proposed Goring Open Spaces Review, specifically the plans for Bourdillon Park, item B11.1 "lack of shade within site".

The proposal is to "plant trees around the perimeter of the site and around the play area to provide shade". The diagram indicates this will be mostly along the southern border of the park.

I would like to point out that there is already an existing hedgerow with several tall trees along the southern boundary of the park. There are mature specimens of common beech (over 100ft tall), ornamental cherry (over 40ft tall), and various other tall and ornamental trees along this boundary. A significant amount of shade is already available along this edge of the park. Planting a new row of trees parallel to the existing boundary hedgerow and tall trees seems somewhat pointless, as the new trees will only duplicate the existing shade already available in that area.

Our other concern would be with the type and eventual height of trees that are proposed for this area. Trees gaining any significant height at maturity could potentially block the far-reaching and distant views from properties on Milldown Road. Views across Cleeve and of the hills beyond, that have been enjoyed from these properties for over 100 years.

Obviously, any use of fast growing conifer trees would cause particular concern.

The information on the Bourdillon mentions signs suggesting that dogs be kept on leads, are these actually there? Given that dogs are regularly walked off lead in this area, indeed the "Summer of Play's" dog's picnic was held here (off lead), is there any reason for leads to be mandatory?

Accessible footpaths should be a given in all open spaces operated by the PC
 Football pitch useful if it maximises playing space - please see below.
 Play area does need upgrading but Gardiner is a greater need so if it is a choice then Gardiner

[] despite not having any need today for a play area I think this is the greatest need in the village. Our playgrounds are so poor compared to almost every other town or village anywhere near here. Getting a decent play area at Sheepcote in my opinion is the top priority.

I have also played cricket for 45+ years. I'm originally from the [] where I played at a decent league standard and can confirm Goring CC punches well above its weight despite very poor practice nets. The academy is thriving - offering boys and girls teams and provides access to cricket for state school children (against the general trend in the country). The club would massively benefit from better nets - I personally back the club's view that the bowling green is the ideal location.

I do not support any material investment in planting or pathways at this site.

I do not support exercise equipment - I have seen this in the US and UK (including Streatley) and almost never seen it used.

There is some concern in the report about football being played at this site. I am perfectly comfortable for this to continue and think it is wholly appropriate for Goring Utd - the village team - to play in the centre of the village. Overall we need to maximise pitch space.

I'm not alone in wanting to know why Bourdillon Field has not been included as a potential site for the new Skate park / pump track. As an established play area with plenty of space, surely it's a better option than cramming it into the already stetched space at Sheepcot? Bourdillon is: in the heart of where most of Goring Primary School children live, would be readily accessible to the school children after school, and everyone who lives backing onto this space has chosen to live there in the knowledge it is an existing play area (of sufficient distance from the station not to cause concern). Space at Sheepcot needs to be dedicated to better football pitches if this thriving volunteer-led activity is to survive. The football and tennis clubs (the attendance to which far exceeds any other local activities) deserves a clubhouse and parking befitting of the contribution it makes to our community.

Do 'children's play field' and 'dog's welcome' sit well together? They are together in this report. This field is a safe area for younger children and so dogs should not be allowed to defecate on the grass where children are encouraged to play (even if it is cleared up, bacteria are left on the grass). My suggestion is a track for pre-school cyclists/wheelchairs all the way round the central field – dogs allowed around the outside edges on lead only. Children love a circuit and older children can use it for running. There is open space elsewhere for dog exercise.

The access footpaths are poor but I think there are other places in the village where paths need improvement and public footpath improvements should be prioritised in the context of the whole village.

I agree that the play area needs a lot of improvement, but bear in mind that this area has had problems with vandalism in the past. Keep the mound – all ages like that – make it bigger if possible.

As I am resident on Milldown Road and have been for [] years, our back garden backs onto the field and we have direct entrance through a gate from our back garden to the field, I want to express my strong objection to the planting of trees along the south boundary fence which will have a direct and negative effect on us. It will completely block our wonderful far-reaching views of the surrounding fields (which was one of the reasons we bought our house in the first place), it will impede our access to the field and if we wish to move the position of our back gate maybe even block our access entirely and will also create unwanted and un-needed shade onto our gardens.

We also we have very strong objection to the toilet block proposal which again would have a negative effect on the local residents for obvious reasons and is in my opinion completely unnecessary as the majority of people that frequent the Bourdillon Field are local kids and parents that can nip home if necessary to use their own loos.

I am in agreement with the upgrading and improvement of surrounding access paths and the improvement of the play area for the smaller children and this would be most welcome. We would however not want to encourage any more football users, there are enough other spaces within the village – especially Sheepcot that kids can use to kick a ball around. At times, especially in the summer there can be 30 kids in that field, playing football all day and night long, smashing the ball into the existing basketball metal grating with sometimes offensive behaviour and language being shouted around. Their presence discourages other park users such as families with small kids who may want to use the field to learn to ride their bikes or have a relaxing picnic etc – they do tend to completely dominate and take over the field.

Some space for teenagers

I agree with the reports recommendation for more facilities for teenagers but I do have a question about how the solution of a 'pump park' was reached. What data was that decision based upon and have the young people of the village been surveyed to find out what facilities they'd like to see? I have not been a teenager for sometime and have seen many occasions when people my age make assumptions about what the younger generation want, without asking them. I would fully support a pump park, or similar teenage activity, but only if there was data that these are the facilities that teenagers would like and would use.

As per my comments about Sheepcot previously, I would not support that site being used for such a facility. The current dilapidated area on Bourdillon beside the fences playground, seems the ideal spot for such a facility.

Although the provision of a toilet would be useful, it would need to be regularly cleaned and maintained. Would it be locked at night, and, if so, who would lock and unlock it? If it was left unlocked, I fear the local teenagers who use the park in summer until 'the wee small hours' would find it a source of amusement.

As our garden in Milldown Road backs onto the Bourdillon, we enjoy seeing the bats flitting between the trees at dusk on summer evenings. Any disturbance, such as increased lighting, that would disturb the bats would be contrary to the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981, and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations, 2019.

There is no provision for outside activities for the elderly residents of Cleeve, many of whom do not have transport and are unable to walk to the Gardiner. The provision of a cinder pétanque court, as seen in most French villages, and some in England, would be an inexpensive and easily maintained venue for people of all ages to enjoy gentle sport and social interaction.

Would have to double check size of pitch to make sure sufficient space

Key note= dig up the old concrete foundation from old play equipment on the field i have seen 2 areas on the field which has concrete areas have the parish got old drawings of play equipment so we might know where more could be?

Issue of parking

Option 1 for Bourdillon

Option 2 for the boudillion field

I also support new and modern park and play equipment in Goring. Goring has always had a poor standard of play equipment compared to neighbouring villages of South Stoke and Streatley. This play equipment will be of great benefit to children in Goring.

I like the options for Bourdillon Field and Ferry lane.

Although the lighting in the two alleyways leading to the Bourdillon could be improved, the field does not need lighting because this would damage its simple character and disturb the bats that are frequently seen there in the summer.

The report is correct in saying that equipment in the children's playground, here and elsewhere in Goring, is dated and not up to the standards found in neighbouring villages.

Although provision of a public toilet would be useful, the cost of cleaning and maintaining it (presumably at least daily), as well as securing it at night, would be substantial. Furthermore it would be incompatible with the comment in the earlier consultation that there was a strong objection to any new structures, with the concern that they might encourage anti-social behaviour.

My wife and I would like to comment on the Thirlwall proposal for developing the Bourdillon recreation ground. We have much experience of the area as: our property () backs [] onto it; []

Whilst supporting the overall ideas in the report and welcoming the suggestion that the playground should be refurbished to increase its value as a child-focussed area for primary aged children, we have considerable concern over the suggested improvement and expansion of the sports area in its current location.

Our property [], and since the installation of the football/ basketball facility in its current location in 2004, without any consultation with us beforehand, it has produced many problems for us and concerns for the safety of the children playing there. Teenagers with considerably more enthusiasm than accuracy often kick balls into our garden and the surrounding properties, including the school, and then take great pains in trying to retrieve them. This has caused substantial damage to fencing and hedging as they try to climb over or through boundaries and is not a safe environment as they can hurt themselves in trying to gain access. We have often seen children hanging off the high fence that separates the school grounds from the Bourdillon as they try to climb over. In our case, we have tried a number of solutions to reduce the problem, principally in recent years trying to encourage trees and bushes to grow up as much as possible to stop balls coming over, but without total success. Expansion of the sports area in its current location would undoubtedly increase the potential for damage and reduce the safety of the environment even further.

[Continued From Above]

As an alternative to the current siting, would it be possible to move the sports area to a different place in the Bourdillon? The area immediately to the east of the current playground, running in parallel with it, would seem to be an ideal spot. Expansion and re-development here would create a far more “decent” facility making better use of the available field whilst not diminishing its open character or the utility of the overall space. The sports area would then be far less cramped than is currently the case and would enable more children to use it. It may be possible to place goals at either end, enhancing the experience for the children, who, as stated in the report, often have to bring in equipment themselves. Importantly, re-establishment in such a new, open location would reduce the temptation to gain access to any surrounding properties to retrieve lost balls, resulting in less damage to property and a much safer environment for the children themselves.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Open Spaces Strategy.

Children's play facilities

We would agree that these need updating, particularly with areas aimed at smaller children and areas aimed at slightly older children where the sports area is in need of renewal. There seems to be a very wide budget here and it would be beneficial to get a more detailed report of levels of equipment that could be provided at different price points. For example £200K seems a lot to spend when there are plenty of other areas where the council needs to provide funding.

Trees

This is an interesting idea, while trees would add shaded areas would it not make the area more difficult to maintain? Making the grass harder to cut which would increase long term maintenance costs. If this is being considered we would suggest low level tree planting so as not to impede views, yet still provide shade.

Toilet

We really cant see the point of this. Any children leaving school would use the facilities there and children on the way to school would already have used the facilities at their homes. We can only see this being misused and before too long being removed. I will declare an interest here in that we would be close to the proposed toilet. Regardless of that we can't see any real benefits.

Lighting and access

Lighting leading into and out of the field as well as walking down from Lockstile Way is very poor. We would see the improvement here as a top priority to provide a safer environment for all those using these paths as access to the Bourdillon field.

Priority 3. Bourdillon

Wait, there's a park here?! With Goring Primary struggling for numbers, a fancy park in their back garden would be a great selling point. Also a welcome update from existing primary school families and the local community on Cleeve side.

This email is to inform you that both my husband and I approve of the options as follows:

Bourdillon – Option 1

I support Option1. Comments:

Extra heavy standard trees are large and will be expensive to buy and difficult to establish without exceptional care - large water demand.

Could fruit trees be used please instead of ornamentals?

B5.3 'Basket ball hoop and goal' implies that this could become a MUGA (multi-use games area) for teens with the right surfaces and equipment. Is this intended? Would this be compatible with a 'Children's Field'?

Please see below for our family comments on the Open Spaces Review:

For us, we would like the Bourdillon and Sheepcote to be the prioritised areas for development as there is little in the village for young, primary school aged children compared to other villages in the the same district.

With the bourdillon, an improved play area is essential and would be well used and appreciated by all the families in the village but especially the primary school children.

agree with the design principles although unsure whether toilet facilities are needed as the site is currently primarily used by local children, the majority of whom we think would have access to either their own toilet or that of their friends/neighbours. However, if the site is significantly improved, perhaps it will bring others from a little further afield who would benefit from toilet facilities.

We are really shocked and strongly object to the idea of public toilets and more trees to be planted on the Bourdillon field []. We have North facing gardens this side of Milldown Road and do not want more shade and leaves in our gardens thank you. The thought having public toilets [] is outrageous, a ridiculous idea?. Why? this is a complete waste of tax payers money, there is no need for a toilet block of any kind to erected on a natural open space between houses and a a school. There are toilets at school for the children to use before they start & finish, most of the children live close by and can use their own facilities if need be. The idea is awful, they will be a complete eyesore, and attract anti social behaviour, and they would spoil the natural green open space in our village.

We also fully support the upgrade of Bourdillon and Gardiner play equipment. For the size of our village and the amount of family's residing here the parks are pretty poor. I personally don't see the point of a toilet on the Bourdillon.

Agree with proposals here.

All of the equipment is dated and needs replacing and updating.

I agree that more can be made of this space and improvements to the playground as proposed are much needed. I full support Option 1

Bourdillon's play facilities need a refurb in a cost effective way but I would consider any resources should be most usefully used for Gardiner's field (Option 2) and Sheepcot (Option 4) at this stage.

Overall very pleased with the change in tac to make this play area more widely age appropriate. Also the upgrading of the pathways will be good.

Keen to understand whether the 'make space for girls' report has been taken into account there, or rather, where it will be. Basket ball and Football nets being refurbished potentially lean more into activities for boys vs girls. I'd love to see a further design which accommodates their social as well as physical needs.

Is it possible to include an undulating pathway perhaps, so that this area too can be a fun place for kids on bikes, scooters and roller blades? It could serve as a useful solid walk-way that is flat on one side, and then a more fun bit as well.

Please confirm if the plan is to refurbish or replace the pay equipment, keen to understand if the design and overall range of equipment will be improved, or just refreshed and renewed with the same equipment?

Is it possible to see photo examples of the similar projects referenced that were used to set the price – so we can understand what they are like? As per the example images of the pump track, it's easy to imagine that, but I'm not really sure what the play provisions, design or style will be. Would be great to understand that to be able to comment properly on the recommendation as I'm not entirely sure of the details.

Is it possible to add some more seating to the site, perhaps not just in/around the play area? Something to bring the site together a bit more than play at one end, and barren open field the rest.

Could there be a plan for some solar powered lighting – once it's dark, it is very very dark there and you can be caught short on a play time that lasts longer than intended, maybe some soft low level / low angled lights around the edge of the play area and to help navigate to the path? This would help it feel more welcoming in the darker months.

We are in support of the changes to Bourdillon.

Improvement to the Sports area are especially welcome as the surface is in poor repair at the moment and it could do with an extended, non muddy area around the goal/basket ball.

Play equipment also needs updating. The basket swing that was removed is very much missed by the children. Equipment for the older primary school children is needed.

A planted, shady area would be brilliant but also keeping the mainly open, free space.

Having a public toilet at this end of the village is a good idea.

no need for a toilet, the children that use the park are all local people don't travel long distances to use the park

I agree all playgrounds are in desperate need of refurbishment and extension. Making Bourdillon more age appropriate due to it being heavily used by school children before and after school is a good idea. Also upgrading the pathways will be good. I do think it is important to keep some equipment for pre-school children (young children's swings etc), is important as that part of the village is heavily populated with young families who also use the park and not just at school drop off etc. It would be good to get more of an idea on specific equipment/design.

We have been passed on the plans for open spaces that all looks very exciting. The Bourdillon field definitely needs updating as the currently facilities are pretty dire, especially the basketball ring, this could do with being similar to South Stoke recreation ground.

As a parent of [] school age children who utilise the Bourdillon I am highly supportive of the desire to improve the area and to make it more enticing and accommodating to children.

The existing playground equipment desperately needs updating and requires greater provision for children in the age group 7-11.

The existing sports area is poorly maintained and needs updating. From my observation the basketball hoop gets relatively limited use (other than as a climbing frame) and the football goal element of the court is far more popular. Having said that, the retention of a similar style of multi-purpose play area for both football and basketball would be very welcome.

I agree that the access path from Milldown Road and the paths within the area are not in a good state of repair and could and should be improved. Similarly I have no objection to the widening of the paths within the site other than the estimated cost (if funds are limited then this doesn't add huge level of value to the open space usage and the existing paths remain usable by prams and pushchairs)

I don't feel it is necessary to spend any money on clear entrance signs - whilst the report highlights that the site is not well known to those who don't attend the primary school that encompasses the majority of the school age children in the village and it is well known and used by the children who live in that part of the village. Spending money on large entrance signs is (in my opinion) not going to significantly increase knowledge of the site nor change behaviour of attracting other children to utilise the site

Shade planting - I agree that this would be a welcome addition to the site provided that it did not reduce the playing space significantly nor impeded access to the field from the houses that back on the field (both Milldown Road and Elvendon Road)

[Continued From Above]

Provision of a toilet - I do not believe that this is a necessary addition to the site - most of the children who use the site live within the surrounding streets and have easy access to toilets within their own homes or those of their friends. If a toilet were to be installed (which I do not believe is necessary) then it would make far more sense to install next to the playground rather than at the entrance from Milldown Road - given the distance from the playground to the edge of the field I suspect most children would not use it anyway and would continue to use the existing tree area behind the basketball hoop or the newly proposed planting shaded area

I have concerns about the use of a trial compost toilet in what is a residential area - would the smell from the toilet not potentially impact local residents? My experience of composting toilets at campsites and festivals is that they do generate a strong stench. In the past year we have seen on several occasions waterlogging of the ground close to the entrance from Milldown Road (the proposed site of the toilet). If this were to occur with a composting toilet would it potentially result in raw sewage leaking out onto the playing field?

The path from Lockstile Way through to Milldown Road, the Bourdillon and Elvendon Road is highly utilised however I am aware that many people do not like to use it at night as it is poorly lit and there have been a couple of issues with female users in particular feeling unsafe. The presence of a toilet block at the corner of the Bourdillon potentially increases this level of concern as it could encourage groups of elder teenagers to congregate in the area in an evening

The report makes reference to the open play area being suitable for a 9x9 football pitch? It is not clear whether this is a suggestion that this a formal 9x9 pitch to be used by the Goring Robins or if it is just retention of an informal space of that size. If the former then I would consider that the area is not suitable for organised Goring Robins games as it replicates the existing issues experienced at Sheepcot (i.e. there is no suitable parking) and that it inhibits the use of the space for younger local children on weekends

Have been lacking in quality standard childrens play equipment for a number of years and despite the fact that young people make the best of subquality sports area and play equipment Option 1 proposal provides an excellent opportunity to upgrade. I believe commitment and priority should be made for the upgrade to the facilities, as per the recommendations and not to the suggestions of improved signage, shade from trees and pavement, these should be supplementary additions later on.

After [Sheepcot Option 4], the play equipment at bourdillon and Gardiner's would definitely benefit from a good revamp, making them accessible and appealing to younger members of the community.

In the plans for the Bourdillion field and Gardener rec there needs to be zip wires as these are very popular with the children along with climbing walls catering for different age groups and levels.

I would like to give my feedback on the recently issued green spaces proposal. My children are primary and pre-school age and I am in particular very pleased to see the proposals for Bourdillon field. We use this park often and the facilities are slowly falling apart. Recently a bench broke and now my daughter thinks that is new play equipment – despite it being potentially dangerous. A swing has been missing for nearly 3 years now. I think the new proposal provides the right balance for all users and improves the area immensely.

I'm not convinced we need to be investing in more public toilets! This is in reference to Bourdillon, the huge majority of people who use this space live within 5 minute walk from the field, that means they're 5 minute walk from a toilet, I don't see why it would be necessary to invest in a toilet in this space.

As a realist however, the plans to improve the bourdilon would be, in my opinion, the minimum and most appropriate site for improvement.

What wonderful proposals for the play areas and recreational space in Goring!!
Sheepcot on a Saturday is filled with Gorings young people The park behind school is so busy when school finishes after 3 There is some awful wire fencing between the park and the school which is often full of children climbing and is quite dangerous .It would be great if that can be replaced and some climbing equipment installed in the park I look forward to bringing all my grandchildren to the play areas in the future

One thing that could be removed is the toilets on Bourdillon as I don't think the site size or intended usage warrants the outlay.

SUPPORT All of the proposals for the Bourdillon recreation ground. Children from the school need an improved play area.

This is a lovely and well-used outdoor space. The proposed landscaping, including improved paths and tree-planting, should make the space even more accessible. From a biodiversity perspective, this is good opportunity to plant native species of trees and shrubs to support local wildlife.

The proposal to make the Bourdillon more welcoming and to increase its usage seems to be very well thought out. The 9 v 9 playing field would be a welcome addition, this would hopefully enable the school to play matches locally and also increase the opportunity for local children's sport given the current shortage of suitable pitches. This might partially alleviate the problem of people having to travel out of the village to play sport. If a permanent structure for changing room/toilets could be incorporated into this it would also allow the slightly older girls to use the facility, this would not otherwise be possible.

One of the problems that the school has is that the proximity of the play area to our boundary does seem to encourage some children and young people to climb on the fences to gain access to the grounds. Not only does this damage the fence but it does lead to some safeguarding and security issues. As the play area is to be revamped would it be practical to re-site this to the east end of the field alongside any new structure?

I believe it would be dangerous to put a toilet at the corner you plan. It could become a spot where young girls are afraid to pass and it is very hidden with trees and undergrowth across the path.
Further, the suggested planting of trees for shade are on the eastern side so no shade!!, and will just make that side muddier than it already is.
More seating around the play area would be a bonus.
Otherwise I support the Leap plan.

We used this a LOT when the children were at the primary school - it was where they let off energy after finishing school and parents could have a chat. Some of the equipment would get broken and need repairing but it was well positioned as a play area - just needs improving/repairing/maintaining. Perhaps a small skate park area here would be better if you have to have one somewhere as it's more discreetly positioned in the village.

The rest of the site is grass and only really used for the school's sports day. There was little shade if a hot day but then it was really only used for Sports Day once a year.

The Bourdillon play area is woefully tired and would benefit from investment such as those set out in the strategy

I would absolutely support the proposal for a better play area here, the playground is abysmal. I think having a renewed basketball hoop and play area would be brilliant and provide a good area, in close proximity to many residences, where children could play. I am not convinced by the requirement for a toilet and can see this may raise more issues than it solves. Whilst I appreciate the concerns about litter/ antisocial behaviour there, and have witnessed this myself, I think that smartening the area up and making it feel more cared for and looked after, would be likely to discourage this. Broken play equipment that can't be used doesn't really make it seem like a well looked after family area and I suspect some of the issues would actually decrease were it to be better maintained.

Option 1. It would be great if this could include improved basketball hoops

I would say Bourdillon and Gardiner playgrounds are in desperate need of updating as a priority before any of the other nice-to-haves elsewhere.

Replace / refurbish playground equipment at Bourdillon and Gardiner

Action point B5.2 whilst it recommends updating the play area there is no specific mention of new /different play equipment. As well as involving the school and the children I would like to see that all parents of young children in the village are to be being involved in deciding the type and purpose of the play equipment, taking into account experience from other well equipped play areas in other villages nearby.

I would also highlight that I think the plans for Bourdillon over develop a small piece of land that is not meant for use as described due to its location. I would support improving the park but the tree planting and toilet provision I think are wholly unnecessary and for the residents of Milldown it seems unreasonable to expect them to agree to this.

No strong views

Refurbish /upgrade the existing older childrens' play area in its current location
Do not provide toilet facilities or any other buildings

Agree with proposal for new play and sports playing area; neutral on new shading area; opposed to toilet provision - minimal benefit vs. 1) Significant ongoing maintenance effort and cost of toilet 2) minimal likely use 3) negative impact / not in keeping with aesthetic of a small park

For local kids the Bourdillon is a great space in need of some serious updating and the idea of providing shade is a great one - It might get used a bit more than just pre and post school with the right sort of upgrades

I agree that all play and sport equipment is in desperate need of updating

We personally would agree that both playgrounds need an update and more playing equipments for a variety of ages.

Bourdillon field needs investment for young children, the proposal option 1 would be welcome. The play equipment there is pityful considering it has a school of 250 children right next to it . It is an ideal family space, please use it. I would like to see picnic benches there and perhaps a fire pit similar to south stoke.

I live [near] to the Bourdillon park and in walking distance to all the other open spaces. I have [] children, [] who have been using the playgrounds and will increasingly want open spaces to play football, congregate with the friends and play. I was extremely disappointed with the quality of the playgrounds when I Moved to Goring. They don't compare favorably with other villages such as Benson and Crowmarsh. I would like to see enhanced attention to the needs of the under 5s with better playground equipment like we see in other villages.

What's more there is little outdoor space provision for older kids. Other more progressive villages have outdoor gyms, skateboarding. This is what I'd like in Goring. Appreciate there is an older contingent detracting from any provision for young people but this is ill advised and short termist.

Regarding Bourdillon I don't think we need a toilet - instead there can be a signpost or directions to the public toilet in the car park behind the Catherine Wheel. I also think the shade planting isn't necessary

Most important:

Please fix or refurbish the children's play equipment in the Gardiner and Bourdillon without delay – this has long been needed.

Any major changes of use should be done in consultation with the school.

(Received Twice)

Agree option 1.

Bigger/better equipped play area with more swings & benches.

Provision & maintenance/cleaning of better NO CYCLING signage to footpath from Milldown Road to Elvendon Road via this recreation ground. Signage to be at cyclists' eye level!

Toilet facilities definitely a plus! Designated sports area could do to be larger. Agree with more shade planting and wildflower edges. These should be on all of the sites where possible.

Option 1, all good except why not put the toilet closer to the children's play area?

I agree with your proposals, but much of the Bourdillon should be dog free as there is a big problem of dog fouling, especially when I walked my kids to school bringing mess into the classroom. The toilets should be close to the play area to make it easy for young children

(Received Twice)

Strongly support Option 1.

Option 1

My [children] attend the Goring school and the playground closest to that school is unsafe and needs to be replaced. Equipment was removed over covid and never returned, the equipment that is there is very old and dangerous from a health and safety point of view. This should be kept as a play area for the school children so equipment should be age appropriate. Houses back on to this park so I wouldn't have equipment aimed at older children who could potentially cause noise issues late at night.

Improving the play area at Bourdillon is so well needed with benches and swings broken there isn't a lot on offer for children and it would be great to re-surface the paths as I often see children tripping and falling because of the cracks.

This is the closest Open Space to my home
 It is one my children use often without my direct supervision (playing football)
 The one I don't not use very often personally
 I fully support option 1 with the following comments:
 I do not believe a toilet facility is needed
 Paths 100% need an overhaul
 Shading would be nice but not required

Page 3. Point of fact. The Bourdillon Field is not in the Goring Conservation Area.

The current and future demographics of the village continue to change and must be taken into account. They aren't considered at all in this report. This includes the impact of the allocated housing in the Neighbourhood Plan, includes an additional circa 50 houses next to Springhill Road near the school in addition to the 14 already built next to the fire station. This will further build the centre of population in the North East of the village. It probably follows that the majority of children and teenagers will live in that part of the village in the future. The Bourdillon field is the nearest recreational space to this area so perhaps more use should be made of this recreational space for wider teenage/youth facilities.

Regarding road safety, is the most sensible option to construct a pump track/skate ramp on Sheepcote? All young people using the pump track will have to cycle through the narrow, busy, fast and blind stretch of road between the main railway bridge T-junction at the top of High Street and the railway station/Tesco junction. There is no alternative route. It would be helpful if the forecast usage of the pump track is modelled along with the additional number of young people on bicycles using this stretch of road. Also, an estimate made of whether the facility is likely to be more heavily used if it was located on Bourdillon.

We would urge that workstream 1 (Gardiner and Bourdillon, playground equipment) be a priority both in terms of timing and investment. Followed by workstream 3 (Gardiner and Sheepcot Recreation grounds) and then workstream 2 (Rectory Garden and Ferry Lane). This we feel is in the priority order of the % of people that will benefit from these changes and will have the greatest impact on the community.

In support of all of the proposed ideas. The only one I would say wouldn't be a priority is the toilet block - as a trial this is a lot of money to invest.

it's a finite amount of people who use that area - plans look fine to me but wouldnt be my top priority

We need more toilet and drinking water facilities around all the playground/park/sports ground areas.

Bourdillon and Gardiner playgrounds are in urgent need of updating and enhancing – they are some of the poorest in the area in terms of condition and extent of facilities – and it is therefore great to see these set out as clear priorities

It works very well as a dog-exercise area (and children's meeting point) due to central location and enclosed aspect (noted as weaknesses for other criteria). How many dog owners are in the village? Dogs are not covered by the criteria, but sure they are very high priorities for a significant % of residents!

Dogs will not be kept on leads here, this is just not realistic, and not necessary. There is no significant fouling problem I have noticed and I am there every day, and dogs do not deter children from using and enjoying the space. Promoting 'dogs on lead' policy is not connected to the reality of those that use the space every day, and just undermines the credibility of the whole report for me.

Bourdillon open grass is certainly used outside of school time by groups of children playing football and hanging out (often without parent supervision, due to the safe surroundings – enclosed from roads, but open field and overlooked by houses). I enjoy being there, kids are always having a good time. Personally we used it to learn to ride bikes, safer than the road!
Is it well used? Should it be better used? I have no idea.

How many houses are in 5 minute walk? How busy do we expect it to be? Is it under-used by national standards considering the surrounding population density? Is usage where we expect and therefore at its ceiling? Remember, nobody can really drive to visit it. We would need to understand this before deciding how much money we should be investing in making it more appealing vs just renewing the play equipment which has become unsafe or missing.

Be great to keep a basketball hoop for variety of activities. Not combined with football goal, as this will then always be a football pitch and not basketball court, as today.

Proposals for Bourdillon field – I would be in favour of the play and sports areas being improved, as proposed in ‘Option One’. However, I do not agree with the field being used for football. I also believe that the proposed planting of trees and toilet facilities represents over-development. Bourdillon is not a good venue for football due to access issues – parking solutions on Elvendon Road and Milldown Road would not be adequate at all. The field should continue to be used for its current purpose – i.e., by Goring Primary School, and for the use of the residential houses surrounding the open space – it is not a venue for football fixtures.

I am strongly in favour of refurbishing the two playgrounds at Bourdillon and the Gardiner. As already noted, the play equipment is either solely for very young children (Gardiner) or very old and tired (Bourdillon). I agree that there is a need for more swings and climbing apparatus - also, would a zip wire work on the Bourdillon site? While we live in the village, we travel to playgrounds at Pangbourne, South Stoke and Crowmarsh Gifford which have far more to offer. I would like to see the Gardiner playground enlarged as it could be a central meeting point for families with young children in the village.

This is our closet park, really like the suggestions put forward here, just have a few additional suggestions to make.

- Really like the shade planting idea, and if given the opportunity we would love to be more involved, maybe we could have the chance to sponsor/pay for a tree to be planted and help with the planting or at least be there when its planted.
- Great idea to improve the paths, would it be feasible to add some low level lights possibly solar powered to improve safety particularly on the path that connects Elvendon Road and Lockstile way.

- the site could indeed be better signposted. It also provides access to the rear of the school which is not signposted
- protecting the flat area 9x9 pitch is important and playing ball games is the main thing I have used it for with my children
- shade would be welcome
- most people using bourdillon are quite local, it's not really a 'destination' and more of a local amenity so I would have thought most people can pop home rather than need a permanent toilet
- more dog mess bins would be good and signage pointing to Cow Hill (which is very close) might be a way to discourage dog walkers from allowing their dogs to defecate where children play

The idea that the Bourdillon would be more focused towards families and younger children is excellent, having seen that it is mostly those groups that use it anyway it makes sense that it is geared towards their specific needs.

Replace / refurbish playground Bourdillon and Gardiner
This seems sensible for the younger children.

This should be one of the priority projects. It seems least contentious.

The priorities highlighted make sense and are a good starting point for a project to develop the space. I would suggest, though that B4.5 should have some greater priority (toilet provision). The lack of toilet facilities limits the use of this space. Play equipment needs to be completely overhauled rather than like-for-like replacement and I suggest to look at the relatively new facility at Crowmarsh for inspiration of the types of equipment).

I see on the Bourdillon proposal there is new tree planting and listed as extra heavy standards I feel adding more trees would be great and I would suggest planting these as smaller specimens and this would greatly reduce the cost on the planting, but still give the same effect over the next 5 years.

I looked at the options with my [children] and these are our comments:

Bourdillon - this is crying out for an improved play area given its situation next to the school and within the local housing area. There is so much that could be done in an area of this size. We are woefully lacking decent play areas in Goring compared with neighbouring villages.

This play area is the nearest to us and frequently used but the current playground equipment is very dated, not very inspiring and following a check during the CoVID lockdown some items were removed. Replacing the play equipment is long overdue so I fully support the proposal. Play equipment for mostly primary school aged children given its location by the school makes sense but also either side of that so siblings can also enjoy using it. Involving the local children in the design/selection of the equipment would be great idea. This worked really well when the school replaced their play equipment. Popular with my children would be more swings, climbing and balancing equipment incorporating a bigger slide.

Improving/expanding the sports area would be popular and extend the age range using the site in a positive way. Retaining the open space for use by the school for sports day, running practice, football and other events is essential. Also support adding trees for shade and increasing biodiversity/wildlife. Dog mess is an issue on this field and the paths leading to it despite the dog waste bin. Improved signage perhaps but general issue in the village as no risk of rules ever being policed.

A vital element to the proposal is the improvements to the pathway bordering the field between Elvendon Road and Milldown Road and also down to the play area/school. This footpath connects a large area of housing to the village so making this route more accessible and level will benefit the whole community.

I agree that this site is most suited to primary school children due to the proximity to the school. However, I do feel that it should also be usable for slightly older children as well to allow families with a mix of age children to enjoy. Also to extend usage to evenings and weekends too.

Priority - to extend its usage beyond beginning and end of school day. To update current play equipment to include items that are usable by age 8 + children too i.e. zip line, monkey bars, outdoor table tennis tables, tyre swing.

The current combined goal/ basket ball net is in poor repair and to be honest I had never realised until now this was meant to be a goal too. It's a very odd position for a goal. A stand-alone permanent goal of reasonable size and better position would be used a lot over the week end/ evenings by local children. Ideally it would be positioned to allow a mini football match/practice. At the moment they rely on a local family lifting their own home goal onto the field.

More seats/ tables to allow parents to gather socially and to supervise/ watch their children would be appreciated.

I don't feel it is necessary to have toilet facilities at Bourdillon as it is mainly used by children from the local houses/school so have use of facilities near by.

The play equipment on this site has been subjected to repeated vandalism in the past, so should be as vandal-proof as possible.

- Dogs should be kept on leads to protect the health and the safety of young children who roll around on the ground. This is where signage should be prominent.
- Is there a need for a toilet on this site? Will its management be the responsibility of GPC or SODC? Will it be locked? Will it be vandalised?