

Appendix K

NB This is the paper from last year just to remind everyone what we are planning on doing

Introduction

Goring's Neighbourhood Plan identifies a need for improved facilities for young people. The Gardiner Playing Field is owned by the Parish Council and is a popular recreational facility in the centre of the village within the Conservation area. There is a fenced-off children's playground within it, providing play equipment for children aged 5-12 years. The Council wishes to take advantage of what is currently wasted space by extending the fenced off area by 4m. This will enlarge the playground area and provide the opportunity to significantly improve the range of play equipment available.

Gardiner Playing Field

The Gardiner is in the centre of the village and is a flat grassed area of approximately 22,400m² (178x126 m), mainly used for recreation and play. Specifically, it has a pavilion and facilities for cricket, football, croquet and bowls. It has private gardens on one side and quiet village roads on the other 3 sides.

The Gardiner Children's Playground

A small fenced-off children's playground is in the NE corner and is shown on a Location Plan included in this planning application. The existing playground area is approximately 272 m².

The playground perimeter will be widened by 4 metres to the north into wasted space. The depth of the playground will remain "as is", to run parallel with the croquet/bowls pitch. This small extension will provide an enlarged area which will enable the Parish Council to upgrade and extend the children's play equipment. The extension is shown on the Block and Site Plans included with this planning application.

The expanded children's playground will:

- enlarge the children's play area from 1.2% of the total playing field area to 1.5%;
- be enclosed by bow-top fencing with two "soft close" entrances gates, as at present;
- have no impact on the functionality of the rest of the playing field. The planned extension uses space that is currently unutilised for other recreational activities;
- not cause harm/loss of privacy to the amenity of any properties. The extended area remains a similar distance away and there will be minimal increase in its use and therefore no increase in noise and disturbance;
- have minimal impact on visual amenity, the National Landscape or heritage assets and be compliant with Goring Neighbourhood Plan policies;
- have minimal impact in the Conservation Area;
- provide additional space to include Accessible and SEN play equipment.

Photographs

Photographs are included below showing the Gardiner Playing Field and the bow fencing surrounding the fenced-off children's playground area.

Photo 1 – Gardiner Playing Field from SW corner. The small playground is at the far end.



Photo 2 – Bow topped fencing around the children's playground.



Photo 3 – The existing playground showing the croquet/bowls area alongside



Photo 4 – View of the Gardiner Playing Field looking SW from the playground



Photo 5 – Showing the unutilised space alongside the childrens playground

