

# Hartington Park Consultation Results

## Summary

Overall priorities for improvements include in order of resident's and parks user's priorities:

1. Litter Issues
2. Improvements to the play area
3. New focus to the Central Junction
4. Improvements to the corner of Scotland Green and Kemble Road
5. New paving at Carbuncle Passage
6. Improvements to the ball court
7. Benches
8. Lighting for improved security
9. Creating a path along the desire line by the play area

### Improvements to Hollingworth Road entrance

The original £40k S106 funding for this project was specifically to address the issues of waste such as needles, undesirables hanging around and excessive tree cover in the corner of the park by the sheltered housing unit (Hollingworth Road entrance). This area was part of the consultation but didn't come out as a high priority for park users.

Due to the amount of work needed / wanted by residents, it is proposed to prepare a Master Plan where improvements can be made over time as funds are raised to make the improvements possible.

## Consultation results

### 1. Litter Issues

This was a priority issue for residents, and spending capital funding on the park needs to go hand in hand with improving the cleanliness of the park, to ensure people are able to enjoy the new facilities. One of the main concerns people reported was litter and waste – some extra bins may discourage this somewhat. Overall people felt the park wasn't cleared often enough, which is something that could perhaps be taken up by the council. For example, through the consultation Groundwork heard from one resident that she picked up very undesirable waste from the play area so her children could play in it.

### 2. Play area

Although this is a top priority for respondents, the amount of work and funding required is likely to be significant. It is felt that its better to wait and do this properly, where the funding is there that can address the desired improvements.

Improvements could include:

1. Replace the swings
2. Add 1 moving piece of formal play equipment
3. Upgrade the safety surface underneath the swings

### **3. Central Junction**

Ideally the existing run down raised bed will be removed. It would be best to replace this with an interactive piece on the ground – a sundial / compass / mosaic or similar.

It is likely that the ground here will need to be re-levelled as it is very uneven, including issues with flooding around the entrance to the ball court. An alternative is to re-level and grass over the whole area. The nursery may use this space to collect lunch deliveries etc and for turning their vehicles around. One option is to do a project with the nursery and get their input into the design for the space.

### **4. Scotland Green/Kemble Road Corner**

The plan is to lift the canopy, remove the bench and improve visibility at the Scotland Green/Kemble Road corner. Perhaps even removing some trees.

### **5. Improve path at Carbuncle passage.**

This is not a huge priority either for park users given some of the other things that need addressing. Although people thought it would be a good idea to improve it, it is not felt that it is used enough for it to be a high priority for funding.

### **6. Ballcourt**

The ballcourt improvements should be done early on as these are minimal and involve replacing the basketball equipment. Ideally, the lines need repainting if funding allows.

### **7. Benches**

The consultation suggested that people do not want benches removed at all, in fact they would like nicer ones and more of them. The plan is to address the benches issue at a later stage as part of a wider phase looking at 'Benches, park furniture and pathways' as it would be best to get the paths done first.

### **8. Lighting**

Requests for lighting the MUGA were received and several people mentioned they feel it would increase security in the park, although there are opposing views to this. The installation of lighting would cost in the region of £20k.

### **9. Formalising the desire line park through routers have created from the central area towards Scotland Green / Kemble Road**

The ultimate aim is to create a circular walking route around the whole park. Improvements are also needed at the Kemble Road and Stirling Road corner of Hartington Park as this is currently an inaccessible underutilised space – its not inviting to use; there are odd planters in there, no paths etc. Pathwork may include taking the paths around here, but also some parts may need levelling, tree canopies opening up etc.

## **Final Priorities for the Masterplan**

1. Improve the area by the Sheltered Housing scheme and small improvements to the ballcourt
2. Scotland Green/Kemble Road corner improvements
3. Central Junction improvements
4. Play area improvements
5. Lighting
6. Benches, park furniture and pathwork
7. Kemble Road and Stirling Road Corner

A phased approach will be adopted, aiming to implement the first few phases (or as much as is possible within budget) as part of the first phase.