

**DOWNTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**PLAY AREA REFURBISHMENT  
PROJECT AND PROPOSED LOAN**

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

**4<sup>TH</sup>-5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2022**

# Aims of Consultation

The aim of this Public Consultation is to:

- Give you the background to the Council's project to refurbish two of its play areas;
- Show you designs of some play areas which could be built for the budget proposed for it;
- Set out the costs of opting for either a small or a large scheme for the 2 play areas;
- Seek your views; and
- Obtain your support for a proposed loan;

Please take a questionnaire and complete it as you walk around

# Introduction

- The Council plans to refurbish the play areas in Moot Lane and The Borough over the next 2 years in order to bring them into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century whilst also retaining several pieces of the newer existing equipment.
- The play area in the Memorial Gardens was installed in the late 1960s with more recent equipment being installed between 2005 and 2018.
- The play area in the Moot Lane Recreation Ground was installed in the early 1970s with further pieces of equipment being installed in the 1990s, 2000s, 2017 and the skatepark was built in 2012.

# Introduction - 2

- Following an online consultation with residents and users in May 2020, the extent of the feedback and ideas received led the Council to consider whether it could increase its budget significantly for the project.
- This would enable the play areas to be transformed with the installation of more interesting and challenging equipment which will provide interest for all ages for many years to come.
- The Parish Council sought designs from several experienced play area providers which reflect the ideas received and is now seeking your views on them.

# Small Scheme Budget & Funding

The Council has set aside already existing developer monies from the Charles Church development and monies due from the Scotts House development:

£70,000 from Charles Church site; and  
£37,691 from Scotts House site

The total Small Scheme budget would be  
£107,691.

# Large Scheme Budget with Loan

- £107,691 of existing developer monies plus
- A Public Works loan for £100,000, a loan available to public bodies, such as Parish Councils, which is readily available at a fixed low interest rate.
- The cost of a loan to be paid over 15 years:

Amount of Advance: 100,000.00

Period (years)	Rate %	Annual Cost (£)	Total Cost (£)
15	1.54	7,991.62	107,935.00

- With the loan, the total Large Scheme budget would be £207,691.

# Cost to Residents

- To repay the Large Scheme loan the parish element of Council Tax would need to increase from April 2023 by just under 50p per month for an average household.

Period (years)	Band D (current £96.87 2022/23)		
	% Change	Change £	Total £
15	5.9	5.79	102.66

- To put this increase in context, our parish has a lower Parish Council tax than other parishes in Wiltshire of a similar size and responsibility – please see next slide for details.

# Comparison of Band D Rates of Wiltshire Service Centres

Service Centre	2022/23		
	Band D	Band D Compared to Downton	Annual precept
	£		£
Cricklade	211.75	2.1x	347,871
Wilton	157.71	1.6x	248,051
Mere	139.68	1.4x	172,789
Tisbury	128.13	1.3x	121,640
Downton	96.87	1.0x	135,518
Pewsey	90.32	0.9x	140,043
West Lavington	67.68	0.6x	31,889

# Play Area Plans – Moot Lane

## Existing Equipment Retained

- Pirate Ship

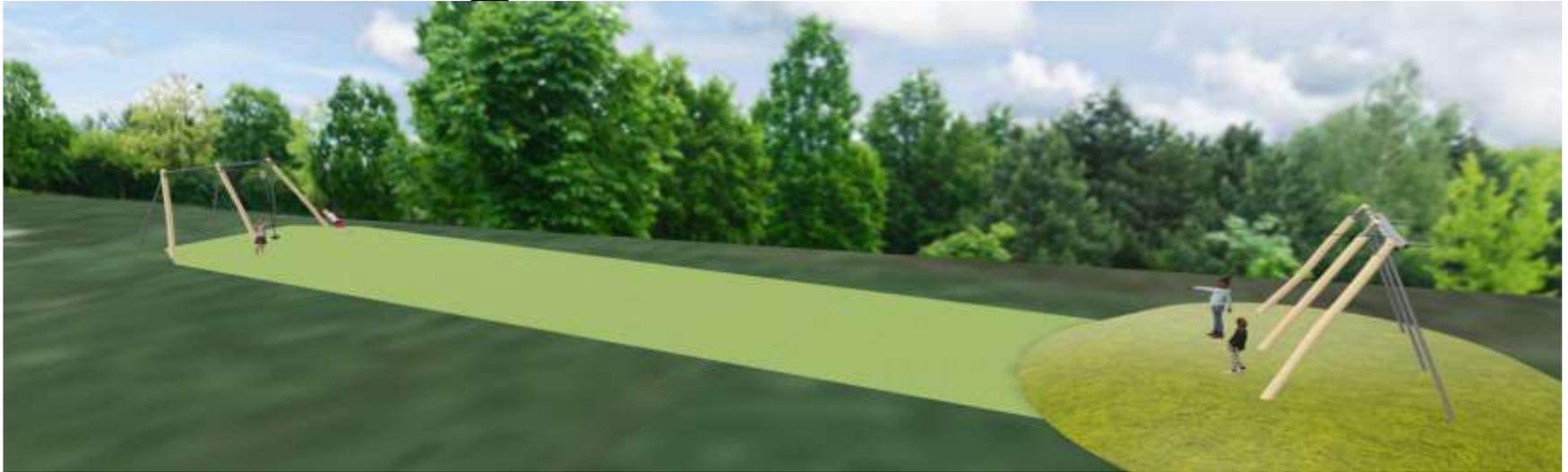
## Proposed New Equipment

- Zip Wire
- Climbing frame
- New swings, basket swing, pendulum swing
- Area for Under 5s
- Accessible equipment suitable for children with special needs

# Designs – Moot Lane 1a



# Designs – Moot Lane 1b



# Designs – Moot Lane 2a



# Designs – Moot Lane 2b



# Designs – Moot Lane 2c



# Designs – Moot Lane 2d





# Designs – Moot Lane 4



# Play Area Plans – Memorial Gardens

## Existing Equipment Retained

- Pirate Look Out
- Rope Climbing Frame

## Proposed New Equipment

- Multi-activity piece with slide
- New swings and basket swing
- See-saw
- Accessible equipment suitable for children with special needs
- Picnic benches and peaceful area

# Designs – Memorial Gardens 5a



# Designs – Memorial Gardens 6a



# Designs – Memorial Gardens 6b



# Designs – Memorial Gardens 6c



# Designs – Memorial Gardens 7





# Conclusion

Thank you for looking at this presentation. The Council believes that this project will provide significant benefit to the young people of the community.

For this reason it is very keen to seek your views and obtain your support. Parish Councillors present will be pleased to answer any questions.

Please now take the time to complete a paper questionnaire or complete the online survey available on the Council's website:

[www.downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.downtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**Thank you**