

Wreningham Play Project

Wreningham Play Project Committee is an action group that was formed as a result of the Parish Plan 2009 in which every person in the village had a chance to contribute.

As a sub-committee of the parish council, the objective was to turn into reality the suggestions made by young people about improving the village playing field and facilities and appeal to a broader age group.

Children at Wreningham Primary School, the Youth Club, and families at the toddler and local playgroups were asked for their ideas.

The following were highlighted as key areas.

- Toddler play area and sensory garden
- Children's play area with some equipment for older children
- Natural play corner
- Den building facilities
- Football pitch to remain intact

Over the past year we have been discussing and planning the best way to achieve a recreational area for the whole village to enjoy and to make greater use of the playing field.

This overall project will be completed over a period of time and is likely to be managed in three phases. The well-used football pitch, skate ramp, basketball net and teen shelter will be kept, the perimeter nearest the road and existing play area will be used for the play equipment. This will include the current swing and springy with the addition of an aerial runway, toddler climbing tower, basket swing, adventure climbing frame, and a den building area. The plans were displayed for public consultation at the village fete in July and subsequently.

We have identified a preferred supplier for the play equipment following site meetings with four companies and the receipt of three formal quotations. We will be working closely with this supplier to obtain the maximum benefit of value for money and quality equipment and materials. This supplier has vast experience in this market and we will use this to benefit this project.

The whole ethos of our committee is to encourage imaginative and active play, an appreciation of nature and the creation of a vibrant community space. Our plans therefore also include picnic tables and seating, and a nature area with bird / insect boxes and wild flower planting (we are hoping that some Wreningham's expert gardeners and nature lovers will help us with this!)

External funding for this project is restricted due to local and national government cuts, however we have started fundraising and will be applying to charities and funding bodies such as the National Lottery. We have already secured 'matched funding' from Archant for the money raised by the Youth Club at this year's village event, and we hope to gain the

support of other local businesses and individuals in our 'adopt a piece of equipment' scheme which could include anything from a picnic table to a climbing frame.

As the cost of high quality equipment which conforms to strict Health & Safety regulations is greater than for the domestic market, the equipment will be installed in stages as funds become available. We will also continue fund-raising events in the village. Each stage has been costed separately and these will be displayed in the future when we set up a display of the plans for business and public viewings.

A lot of hard work has gone into this project and we need your help. If anyone can help with admin, fund raising or landscaping to enable us to make these plans a reality we would love to hear from you.

Please contact Claire on 01508 481748 or Jill on 01508 481823 for further information or offers of help!