



# B O S T O N

## B O R O U G H C O U N C I L

**REPORT TO:** BOSTON TOWN AREA COMMITTEE

**DATE:** 30 JANUARY 2019

**SUBJECT:** BTAC PLAY AREA IMPROVEMENTS  
"WISH LIST"

**REPORT AUTHOR:** HEAD OF PLACE AND SPACE

**EXEMPT REPORT:** No

### **SUMMARY:**

Following the 2018 play site tour BTAC members requested details of potential future play area improvements to BTAC play areas to enable the committee to continue its investment in outdoor play areas.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That this committee:

- i) Consider the potential improvements identified in the report
- ii) Indicate the amount that the Committee would wish to release at this time
- iii) Refer any recommendations to the BTAC Sub Group to prioritise future play opportunities.
- iv) Consider inspection and ongoing maintenance costs.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

To provide an improved play offer to residents and visitors.

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## REPORT:

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION:

- 1.1 Following the 2018 tour of BTAC open spaces and play facilities, members established a Sub Group to develop plans for the improvement of play facilities in the BTAC Area.
- 1.2 The report proposes a 'wish list' following public consultation of potential future play development opportunities following public consultation and discussions with BTAC Sub Group. See Appendix A.

### 2.0 IMPROVEMENTS

#### 2.1 Table 1 – Wish list for each play area

Site	Improvements	Estimated cost
Woodville Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 4m high Climbing Net</li><li>• Steel Cableway</li><li>• Play Panels</li><li>• Nest Swing</li><li>• Octopus See-saw</li><li>• Junior Pirate Ship Unit</li><li>• NB: Boston Big Local have provisionally approved a grant of £19,000 towards the Pirate Ship which will be confirmed April 2019</li></ul>	£54,000
St Johns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• High Slide</li><li>• Play Panels – Musical, Manipulative</li><li>• Steel Cableway</li><li>• Goal Posts</li></ul>	£19,000
Burgess pit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dome Climbing Net</li><li>• Steel Cableway</li><li>• Larger Hoop on existing Basketball hoop</li><li>• Nets in goals – metal to avoid them being stolen</li></ul>	£40,000

Sheltons Field	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Higher Slide</li> <li>• Play House with floors</li> <li>• Crazy Scrambler Springer</li> </ul>	£13,000
Central Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The entrance gate to the play area needs altering to accommodate wheelchairs and double buggies, otherwise Central Park is a lovely play area</li> </ul>	£300
Broadfield Lane	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building contractors are working with play providers to install play equipment – Section 106</li> </ul>	This site is funded by S106 developer contribution of £60,000 (No initial BTAC cost)
Garfit's Lane	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multi Use Games Area Tender being prepared - Section 106</li> </ul>	This site is funded by S106 developer contribution of £73,000 (No initial BTAC cost)

- 2.2 Future budgets will include costs associated to the maintenance and inspection of any new play equipment.
- 2.3 Total potential costs of £127,727. If the funding from Boston Big Local is confirmed this will reduce to £108,727.
- 2.4 It is proposed that any improvements are referred to the BTAC open spaces sub-group for further investigation so that viability and cost proposals can be submitted to BTAC for consideration.
- 2.5 Any improvements agreed by BTAC will be subject to contract procurement rules and any expenditure over £10,000 will be subject to Cabinet approval. Once approval is granted, works will be issued to a relevant service provider so they can be delivered as soon as practicable.
- 2.6 Members wished to continue extending wildlife and orchard planting schemes in the larger recreation areas with appropriate management of the boundaries with domestic properties. This work may need additional ongoing revenue support which will need to be considered in future.

- 2.7 In Central Park it was confirmed that officers are exploring the potential to develop a young person zone.
- 3.0 There are unallocated reserves of approx. £70k at present, plus future possible amounts arising following budget decisions. However, BTAC members are reminded that there will be other potential areas for “spending”, therefore should consider the amount appropriate to allocate towards further play area improvements.
- 3.1 The new proposals outlined in this report should be evaluated against the previously agreed improvements so that BTAC can prioritise and maximise the use of its funds.
- 3.2 Officers recommend that match funding is investigated where possible in order to maximise investment opportunity.

#### **4.0 Conclusion**

- 4.1 Members were pleased with the progress of improvements already carried out on BTAC open spaces and felt these had made a significant contribution to improving the quality of those spaces provided in the town and that the plans discussed for further development will encourage greater more positive use of public open spaces.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The financial implications are outlined in 2.1 and 3.0 of this report.

#### **LEGAL & EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

The Council is required to conform to the requirements of the EU Procurement Directive and its own Contract Procurement and Procedure Rules Part 4 (H) of the Constitution.

The Council is required to comply with the public sector equality duty. A full equality impact analysis will be undertaken at the appropriate time to ensure that any new equipment intended for procurement will consider the needs of all individuals.

#### **ANY OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

NONE

**CONSULTATION**

Consultation on this proposal has taken place with the Chairman of BTAC and the Town Centre (and BTAC liaison) Portfolio Holder and the Public.

**APPENDICES**

Appendices are listed below and attached to the back of the report: -

<i>APPENDIX A</i>	Public Open Space Consultation
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**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

No background papers as defined in Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the production of this report.

**CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THIS REPORT**

None