



To: Members of Shaftesbury Town Council's Recreation, Open Spaces and Environment Committee,

Councillors: K Tippins (Chair), Francis, Hall, R Tippins, Taylor and Todd

All other recipients for information only.

You are required to attend a meeting of the Committee to be held **at 7.00pm on Tuesday 5th January 2016 in the Council Chamber, Shaftesbury Town Hall** for the transaction of the business shown on the agenda below.

Stephen Holley

Town Clerk

Members are reminded of their duty under the Code of Conduct

Public Participation

The Chairman will invite members of the public to present their questions, statements or petitions submitted under the Council's Public Participation Procedure.

Members of the public and Councillors are entitled to make audio or visual recordings of the meeting provided it does not cause disruption or impede the transaction of business. Out of courtesy to those present, the Council requests that intention to record proceedings is brought to the Chairman's attention prior to the start of the meeting.

Agenda Item	
01. Apologies	To receive and consider for acceptance, apologies for absence
02. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations	Members and Officers are reminded of their obligations to declare interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct 2012. The Clerk will report any dispensation requests received.
03. Minutes	To confirm as a correct record, the Minutes of the Recreation, Open Spaces and Environment Committee meeting held on 10 th November 2015.
04. Chairman's Announcements	To receive a verbal report from the Chairman to include but not be limited to; East Green play area Jeanneau Close Mampitts Recreation Town-wide railings

Agenda Item		
05. Snowdrop Festival	Presentation by the organiser of the Snowdrop Festival. No Officer report.	
06. Tree Applications	To consider responses to any tree applications received before the date of the meeting, for return to the Planning Authority. Report 0116ROSE06 attached	p3
07. Ash Close Play Area	To consider additional play area equipment for Ash Close Play Area. Report 0116ROSE07 attached.	p5
08. Barton Hill	To consider purchase of robust litterbins for Barton Hill. Report 0116ROSE08 attached.	p10
09. Skate Park	To consider the principle of contracting for specialist inspection and maintenance; and to consider placing a contract for non-urgent repairs. Report 0116ROSE09 attached.	p14
10. Castle Hill Management Plan	To consider proposal from Dorset Rangers. Report 0116ROSE10 attached.	p17
11. Swimming Pool	To consider recommending to the General Management Committee that the Council takes on the direct operation of the Swimming Pool in Barton Hill; to consider placing a contract for the supply of a giant inflatable to facilitate party bookings; and to receive an update report on other activities relating to the Pool. Report 0116ROSE11 attached.	p50
12. Historic England – Castle Mound and St John’s Churchyard	To note recommendations from the Open Spaces Group, and to consider inviting an Inspector from Historic England to a site visit in preparation for an action plan for Castle Mound and St John’s Churchyard from the ‘At Risk’ register. Report 0116ROSE12 attached.	p52
13. Allotment Polytunnel Request	To consider request from an allotment holder for a polytunnel. Report 0116ROSE13 attached.	p54
14. Benches	To consider a standard style of bench for key areas in the town To consider request for a memorial bench on Park Walk. Report 0116ROSE14 attached	p55
15. Officer Report	To receive Officer report 1115ROSE15 attached	p62

(End)

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TREE APPLICATIONS

1. Purpose of Report

To consider responses to any tree applications received before the date of the meeting, for return to the Local Planning Authority, North Dorset District Council.

To receive and note the tree preservation orders detailed below.

2. Recommendation

That the Committee provides its observations on the below mentioned applications, and any applications received subsequent to the despatch of these Agenda papers and to note the tree preservation orders as detailed below.

3. Background

- 3.1. Shaftesbury Town Council is not a statutory consultee for tree applications but is provided the opportunity to make observations on tree applications within its Parish Boundary. These observations are reported back to North Dorset District Council in order that they can make an informed decision when determining the application.
- 3.2. Tree applications can be viewed online at <http://planning.north-dorset.gov.uk/online-applications/> or at the Town Hall offices.
- 3.3. Representations from the Shaftesbury Open Spaces Group and the Shaftesbury Tree Group will be invited.

4. Applications to provide observations on

Reference	Address	Detail
2/2015/1844/ TPTREE	Trinity Centre, Bimport, Shaftesbury, , SP7 8BW	G1 - Line of 17x Lime - Re-pollard T3 - Yew - Reduce canopy by 4m. T4 Conifer - Fell (Please see supporting document for reasons).
Tree Group Comments: No objections		
2/2015/1854/ CATREE	7 Well Lane, Shaftesbury, , SP7 8LP	T1 - Bay - Crown reduction 3.5m off height and 2.5m off spread
Tree Group Comments: This proposed "pruning" is drastic for a tree of this size. We suggest that if the owner wants the tree to be reduced so much that it is done in stages - it would be kinder to the tree.		

5. Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1. The Council is not a statutory consultee on tree applications, but has been invited to provide observations. The Council does not hold any power to determine the applications itself.
- 6.2. The observations made will be those of the corporate body as determined through the democratic process.

End.

Report Author:

Claire Commons

Committee Services Officer

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ASH CLOSE PLAY AREA

1. Purpose of Report

To consider the purchase of additional play area equipment for Ash Close Play Area.

2. Recommendation

That the Committee resolves the purchase and installation of additional play equipment at Ash Close.

3. Background

- 3.1. At its meeting on 17th November 2015, the Recreation, Open Spaces and Environment Committee agreed to pursue investigating new equipment to be installed at Ash Close Play Area.
- 3.2. Site visits were held with four providers, three have since provided their design concepts and quotations, the fourth is still awaited.
- 3.3. The slide which had been identified as dangerous due to the erosion of the handrail has been removed and placed in storage. This will be able to be reused with a new handrail or against an earth-mound in the future if desired.
- 3.4. It is usual for quotations to be anonymised for the purposes of being considered in open session. However, in this instance, the providers were asked to provide their design concept and therefore the quotes are not like-for-like to one specification, but bespoke to each supplier. Also, design concepts were supplied with company branding that would be difficult to redact. The concepts are attached at **Appendix A**

4. Financial Implications

4.1. Calloo - £16,995

Husson - £20,798

Wicksteed - £17,999

4.2. There is a budget of £30,000 for Play Equipment remaining in the 2015/16 budget.

5. Legal Implications

The Council has the General Power of Competence

Report Author:
Claire Commons
Committee Services Officer

Haftesbury Town Council

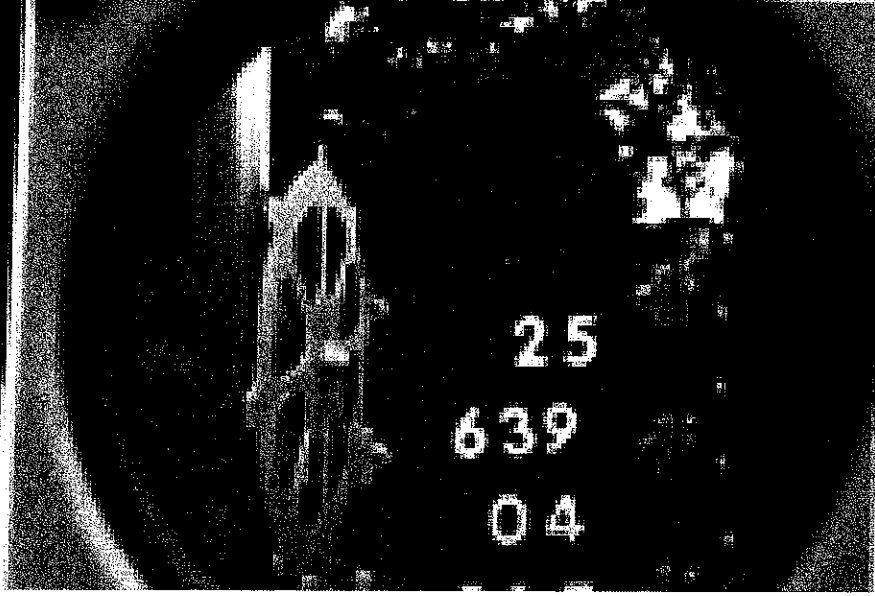
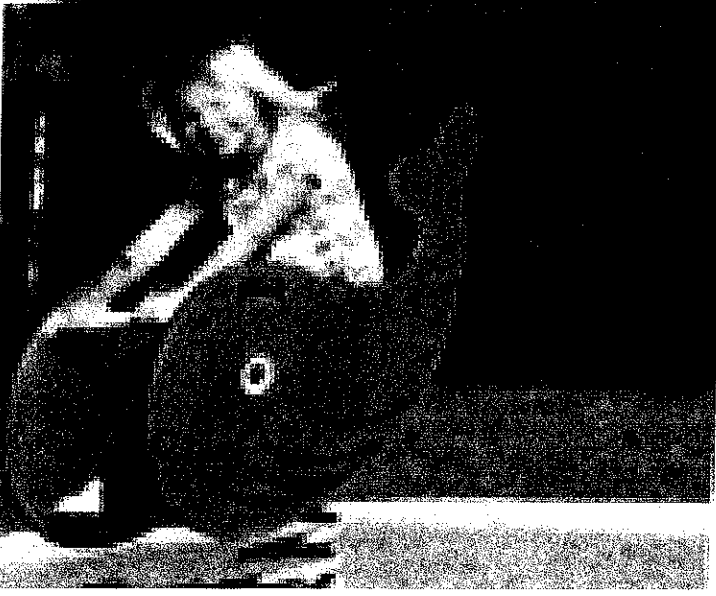
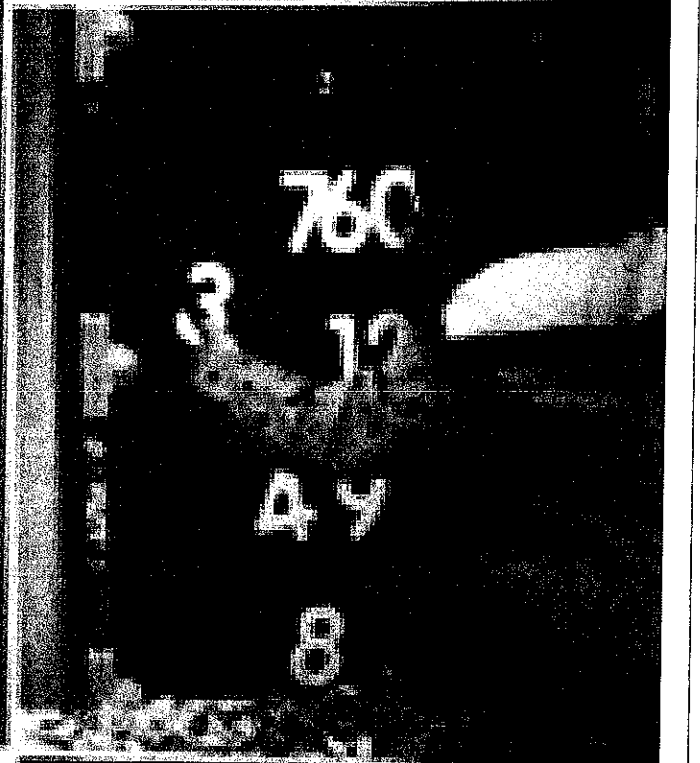
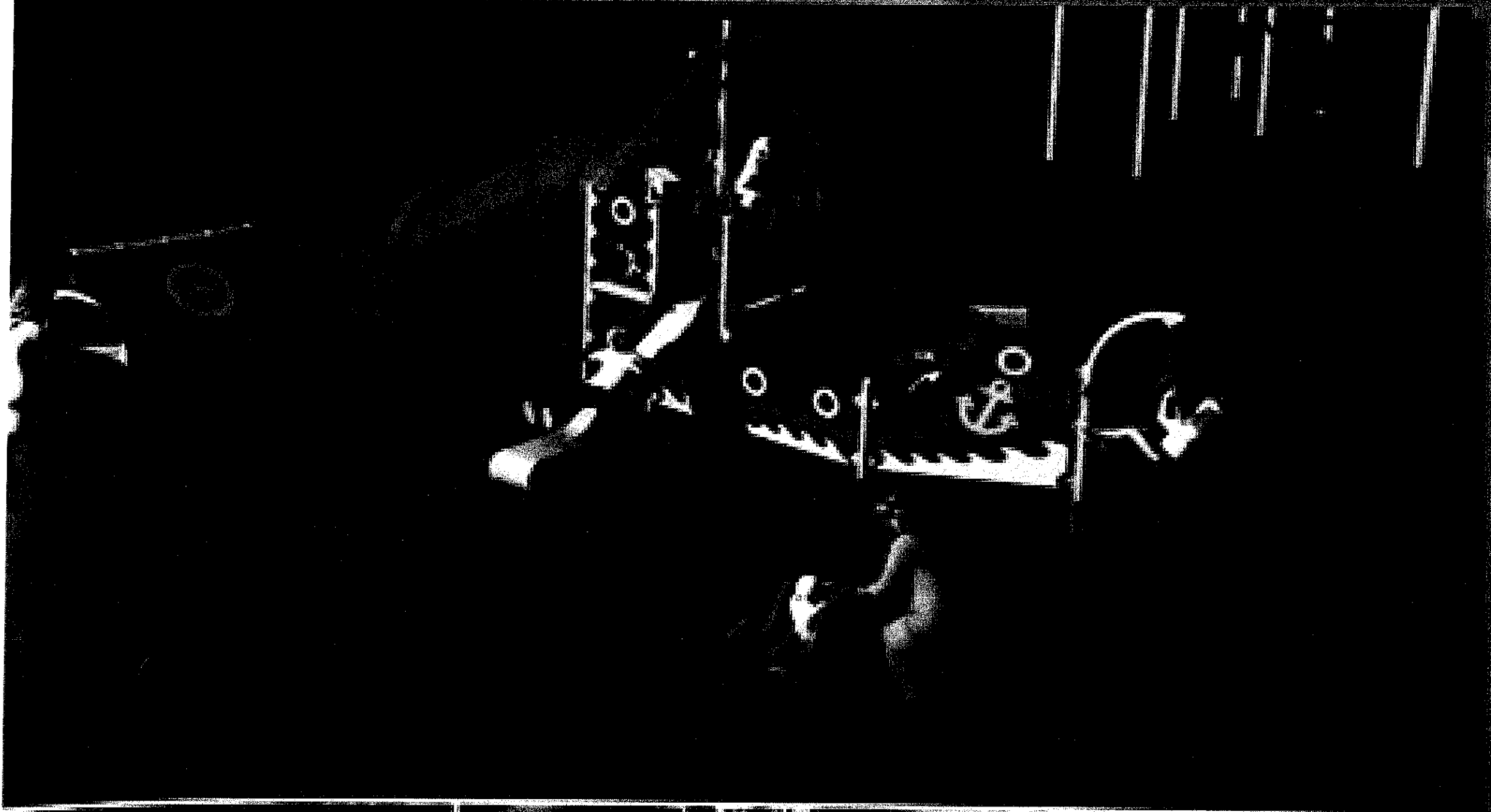
Ash Close



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Please note examples of services only

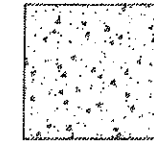




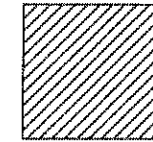
Motorbike & Side Car Springy



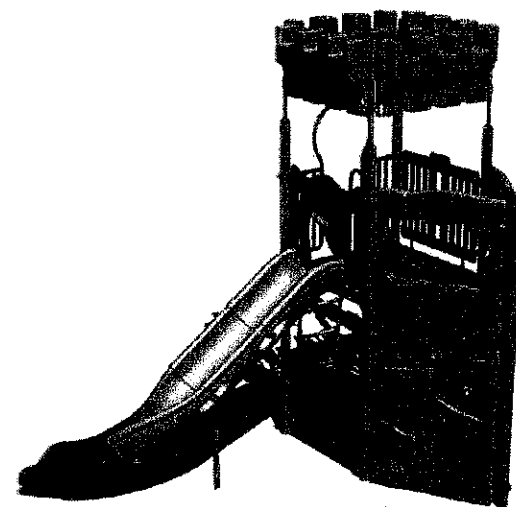
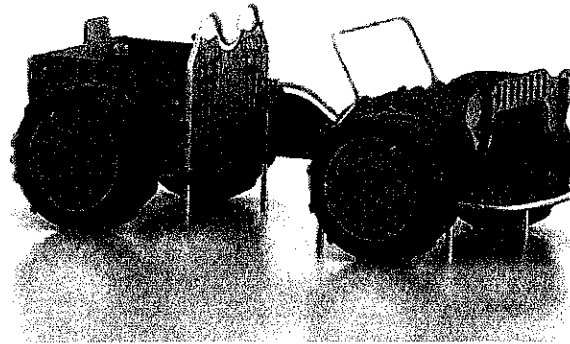
Rubber Mulch



Existing Base



Toddler Play Jeep



Cameleo Multi-play Unit in the Castle theme

Ash Close

CLIENT NAME
Shaftsbury Town Council
SITE NAME
Ash Close
DATE
25/11/15
SCALE
1:100
REVISION
ISSUE ONE
Drawing Number
QUK4360000
Notes & Amendments

Ash Close

Shaftesbury Town Council

0 1 2 3 4 5m
Scale: 1:100 @ A3

WICKSTEED
playgrounds

GARDEN

GARDEN

GRASS

TALKING
FLOWER

LITTLE
POPPLE

TALKING
FLOWER

GRASS

PLAYWELL



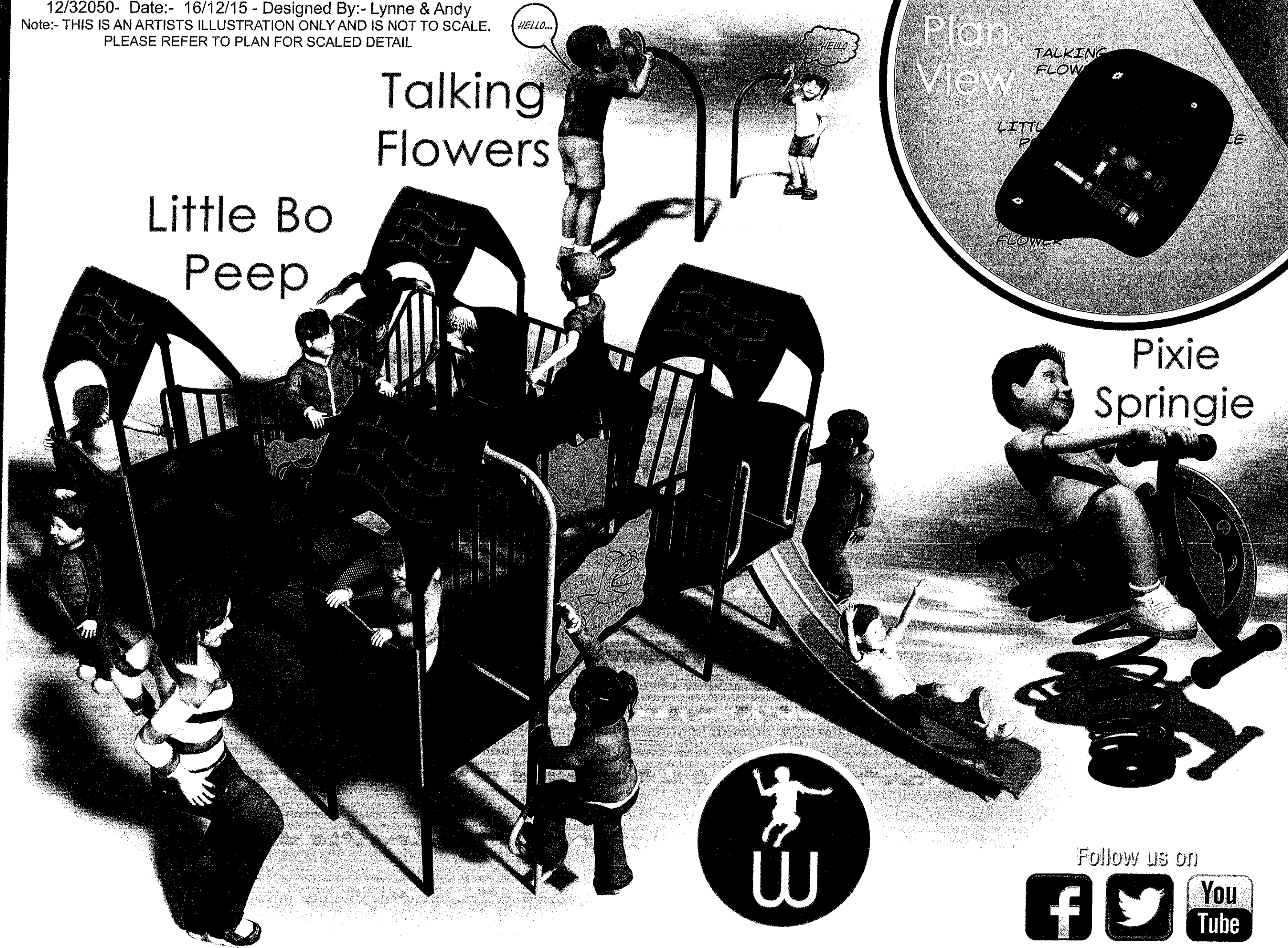
12/32050- Date:- 16/12/15 - Designed By:- Lynne & Andy
Note:- THIS IS AN ARTISTS ILLUSTRATION ONLY AND IS NOT TO SCALE.
PLEASE REFER TO PLAN FOR SCALED DETAIL

Talking Flowers

Little Bo Peep

Pixie Springie

Plan View



Follow us on



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in the Council Chamber, High Street, Shaftesbury**

BARTON HILL RECREATION GROUND

1. Purpose of Report

To consider the purchase of additional recreation equipment for Barton Hill Recreation Ground

2. Recommendation

That the Committee considers the information supplied and determines whether it wishes to place a contract or if it requires further estimates and designs to be provided.

3. Background

- 3.1. At its meeting on 17th November 2015, the Recreation, Open Spaces and Environment Committee agreed to pursue investigating new equipment to be installed at Barton Hill Recreation Ground.
- 3.2. Site visits were held with four providers, two have since provided their design concepts and quotations, two are still awaited.
- 3.3. The old trim-trail equipment has been identified as in need of replacement. Those items identified as moderate risk have already been removed.
- 3.4. It is usual for quotations to be anonymised for the purposes of being considered by Committee however, in this instance, the providers were asked to provide their design concept and therefore the quotes are unable to be like-for-like and are bespoke to each supplier. Design concepts are attached at **Appendix A**

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1. Calloo 8 part gym including multi use goal module - £30,620
Wicksteed multi use goal module - £14,650
Wicksteed 4 part gym, skate piece and table tennis tables - £31,739
Wicksteed 8 part gym, skate piece and table tennis tables - £43,215
- 4.2. There is £22,900 in s.106 funding for outdoor sports identified for use only at Barton Hill, Shaftesbury School and Wincombe Recreation Ground.
- 4.3. £7,500 of the monies identified above are specifically identified for skate - parks

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1. The Council has the General Power of Competence

Report Author:
Claire Commons
Committee Services Officer

EXISTING
SKATE AREA

DRIVEWAY

ROAD

WICKSTEED
playgrounds

EXISTING FOOTPATH

GRASS

GRASS

CONCRETE
TABLE TENNIS
TABLES X 2

STEP BOX
BODY TWISTER

HAND AND
PEDAL CYCLE

SLURFER

HOPSCOTCH
RIDER

Barton Hill Rec
Shaftesbury Town Council

4 x Piece Option



EXISTING
SKATE AREA

DRIVEWAY

ROAD

WICKSTEED
playgrounds

EXISTING FOOTPATH

GRASS

GRASS

CONCRETE
TABLE TENNIS
TABLES X 2

CHEST PRESS/
SIT UP
BENCH

SKIER

DOUBLE
LEG PRESS

GURFER

STEP BOX
BODY TWISTER

HOCKEYBAG
RIDER
HAND AND
PEDAL CYCLE

Barton Hill Rec
Shaftesbury Town Council

8 x Piece Option

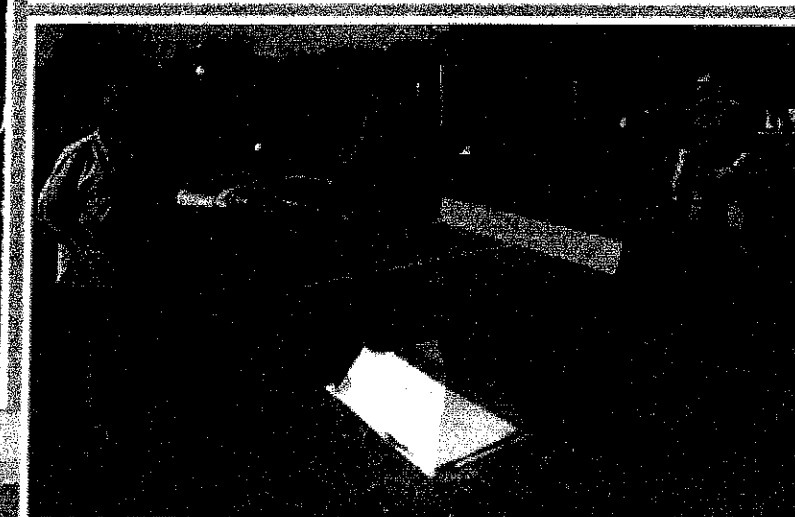
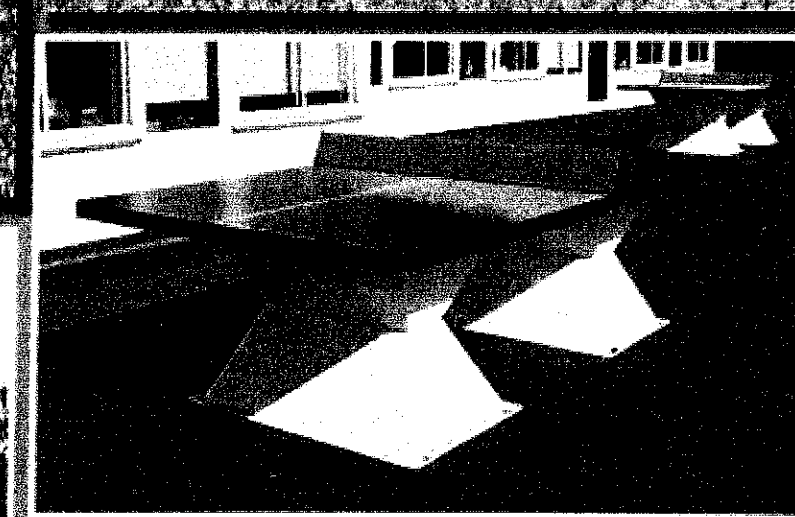
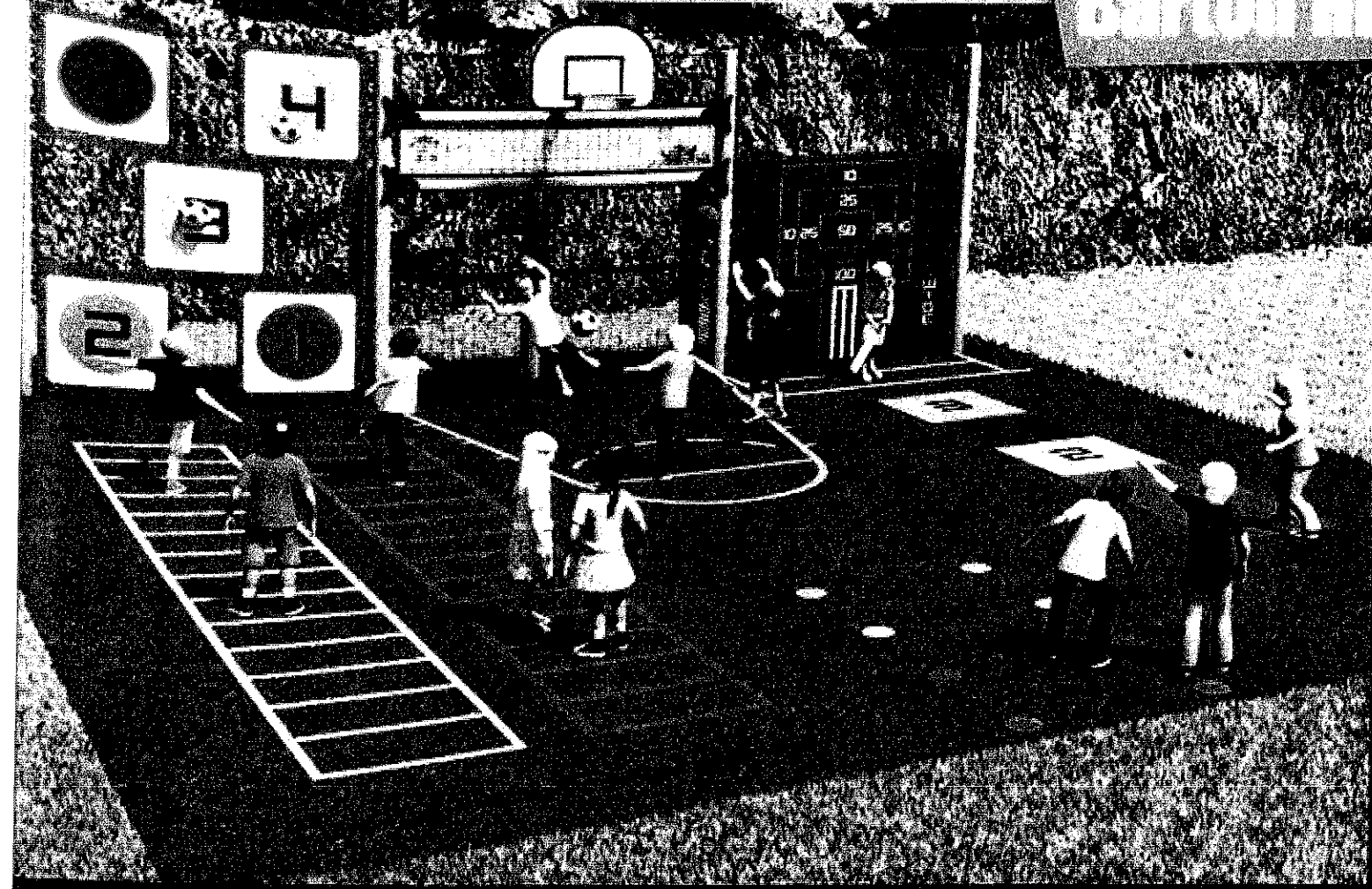


Shaftesbury Town Council

Barton Hill



Caloo
www.caloo.co.uk



Email us at
info@monsterplay.co.uk
Call us on
0845 056 3602

are for illustrative purposes only. Photos show examples of previous installations.

**Report to the Meeting of Shaftesbury Town Council's
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BARTON HILL SKATEPARK – INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To consider the principle of contracting for specialist inspection and maintenance.
- 1.2 To consider placing a contract for non-urgent repairs

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Committee considers the principle of placing a permanent contract for the procurement of specialist inspection and maintenance regime for the Barton Hill skatepark
- 2.2 That a contract be placed for non-urgent repairs.

3. Background

- 3.1 The first recommendation concerns the principle of procuring specialist input. If the Committee agrees to the principle three quotes will be sought for consideration at a later meeting.
- 3.2 The Chairman of this Committee noted that repairs were required to a number of pieces of equipment within the skatepark at Barton Hill Recreation Ground. Officers were requested to seek quotations for repair.
- 3.3 In response, Officers commissioned an inspection and immediate repairs from Radian Ramps, a national company specialising in skatepark repairs. The company is not connected with any supplier or manufacturer of skatepark equipment. The cost of these repairs (one day's labour - £325) is within the Clerk's delegated authority. In the interest of ensuring prompt repair for rider safety, only Radian Ramps were approached. They were able to undertake the repairs within three days of being contacted.
- 3.4 The Grounds Team has stated that repairs to the skatepark equipment are beyond their expertise. There is also a view that skateparks require their own specialist inspection and maintenance regime as 'standard' RoSPA-type inspections are focussed on public safety more suitable for childrens play equipment, whereas practising the gymnastic or athletic skills of skateboards, scooters and BMX bikes often results in injuries from 'normal' use. A minor fluctuation in riding surface, or variance in heights between the end of ramps and the ground might not in itself be a health and safety hazard, but for a rider doing an extreme trick it could cause an imbalance leading to a fall.
- 3.5 In view of the above, Officers recommend that the Committee considers whether to procure specialist skatepark inspection and maintenance. There is a flat charge of £325 inclusive for annual servicing. This includes a full inspection but doesn't replace the inspections carried out by the qualified inspection company (currently being reviewed for alternative providers), the inspections are based on ramp structure and

integrity and also anything that might affect the users, but may still pass the regular test, a matter of preventative maintenance.

- 3.6 The inspection by Raddi Ramps also resulted in a list of repairs without immediate safety implications (**Appendix A**). As these repairs are not urgent, Officers are seeking three quotes for the Committee to consider placing a contract and these will be presented either at the Committee meeting if received in time or at the February meeting.
- 3.7 Officers are satisfied that all three quotes have been provided by contractors specialising in skatepark maintenance

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 If the principle of contracting for the procurement of specialist inspection and maintenance is agreed Officers will strive to obtain three quotations for consideration at a later meeting.
- 4.2 Prices for non-urgent repairs are provided in paragraph 3.6 of this report.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Council has the General Power of Competence.
- 5.2 If the Council obtains and follows specialist advice it is more likely to be able to successfully defend against claims for liability.

End.

Report Author:
Stephen Holley
Town Clerk

Tracy Moxham

From: Ralii Ramps |
Sent: 22 December 2015 08:32
To: Tracy Moxham
Subject: Quotations for skatepark repairs

Hi Tracy

Nice to meet you yesterday, as discussed here's a couple of quotes for works to your skatepark.

1. Emergency/critical repairs.

To refix insecure lip on Pyramid Ramp. Replace missing rivets and add stitch welding as a secondary preventative measure. Resecure loose side cladding on half pipe to eliminate finger trap risk and add further fixings as a secondary measure to add integrity.

Total including labour and all materials £ 325.00

2. Remedials.

To refit missing cladding to all ramps as appropriate. Add additional steel frame to rear of quarterpipe to add strength and provide addition fixing points to correctly secure cladding. Supply and install two new toe plates to pyramid ramp to cure trip hazard at the interface with the floor and improve the user experience.

Total including labour and all materials £ 495.00

We are not registered for VAT.

Please note the new steel toe plates would be painted with my black stone chip paint as standard. If you would prefer Gravitex on these plates for continuity this is no problem and I could supply you with a couple of litres for your own purposes if you'd like, just let me know.

We have public liability insurance in place to the value of £10m and can provide references on request.

I hope this all acceptable and I look forward to hearing from you.

Thanks and regards

Proprietor
Ralii Skatepark Repairs

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CASTLE HILL MANAGEMENT PLAN

1. Purpose of Report

To receive draft Castle Hill Management Plan from Dorset Rangers and consider for adoption.

2. Recommendation

That the plan be adopted.

3. Background

- 3.1. Castle Hill was transferred into the ownership of Shaftesbury Town Council in 2014. The land had previously been maintained by the Dorset Rangers and part of the transfer agreement was that the Rangers would continue to maintain the land for the next 2 ½ years.
- 3.2. The report at **Appendix A** is comprehensive in its history and proposal for future management. The Committee is asked to consider adoption of the report.

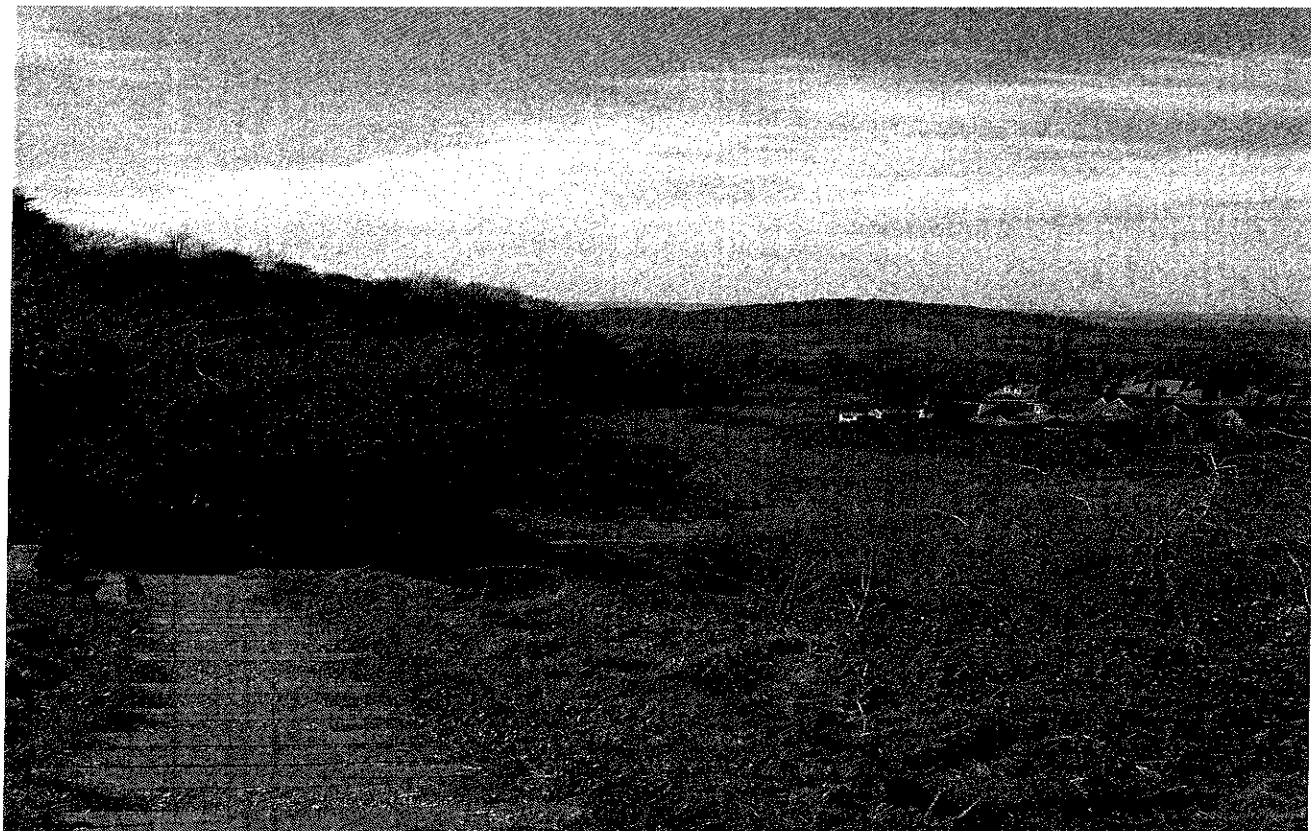
4. Financial Implications

None within the next two financial years.

5. Legal Implications

The Council has the General Power of Competence

Report Author:
Claire Commons
Committee Services Officer



Draft Castle Hill Management Plan 2016-2021

Compiled by Graham Stanley and Jen Newman
Dorset Coast and Countryside January 2016

DRAFT

Management Plan for Castle Hill

2016 – 2021

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Dorset Countryside

Dorset Countryside Background

Dorset Countryside is Dorset County Council's Ranger Service. We manage over 40 sites for public enjoyment and nature conservation which include award-winning Local and National Nature Reserves, Country Parks, woodlands and picnic sites. The Ranger Service also manages a number of long distance trails, including the South West Coast path, North Dorset and Castleman Trailways and the Wessex Ridgeway. We lead on a wide variety of projects which can range from the £6m restoration of Durlston Castle to a small scale, community tree planting schemes. This gives us a unique knowledge and experience of managing and enhancing Dorset's countryside. All of our work aims to combine, nature conservation, public amenity and landscape enhancement to provide the best solutions in Countryside management.

Historically North Dorset District Council (NDDC) Countryside sites have been managed by Dorset Countryside Service through a 5 year Service Level Agreement. The cost of this SLA has been studied by NDDC and found to be over 40 % cheaper than out sourcing the work to private contractors. This is because DCC shoulders some of the fixed costs of providing the Ranger Service and also because of the unique way that Dorset Countryside delivers its services, utilising, apprentices, students and volunteers and by seamlessly integrating management with delivery reducing bureaucracy to a minimum.

Dorset Countryside Service maximises the work achieved on site by carrying out countryside management tasks efficiently and effectively using its highly trained and experienced staff. This is further enhanced by working closely with the community, volunteers, students and Parish and Town Councils.

Dorset Countryside Service provides training opportunities and work placements for students from local colleges producing a much larger workforce than would be normally possible. In addition we have Modern Apprentices each year that we train and assess in a Work Based Diploma to maximise their professional qualifications and enhance their employment opportunities.

Dorset Countryside Service has strong links with community groups such as the Sturminster Newton Local Open Spaces Group and Town and Parish Councils. This mutually beneficial relationship provides a solid platform to manage and improve local areas of Countryside. The consultation with local communities helps inform the management and provide the essential public mandate. As well as carrying out practical work, the Rangers provide the technical and logistical support that helps communities deliver tangible improvements.

This unique way of working provides a "one stop shop" for all Countryside management issues, from advice, ecological surveying, management planning, capital projects, volunteer projects, grant finding, application forms to carrying out the essential day to day tasks as such as tree work, footpath improvements, mowing, furniture maintenance and litter picking.

Aims of Dorset Coast and Countryside are:

- Aim 1.** Provide and manage sites as safe and inviting recreational facilities for local people and visitors.
- Aim 2.** Link these sites to key recreational trails, Rights of Way and the wider environment to provide a high quality, recreational network.
- Aim 3.** Promote best environmental and conservation practice through effective management planning and operational management of these sites.
- Aim 4.** Develop the community focus and volunteering opportunities for the sites.
- Aim 5.** Develop and manage the provision of access and facilities for people with all disabilities on all sites where possible.
- Aim 6.** Educate, inform and inspire through a system of formal and informal education provision.
- Aim 7.** Influence others through examples of best practice in all areas on Dorset Coast and Countryside managed sites.

Management plan for Castle Hill 2016-2021

Executive summary

Castle Hill is located in Shaftesbury and is now owned by the Town Council. It has a diverse range of habitats including the steep herb rich grassland, wetland and deciduous woodland. The variety of habitats supports a wealth of wildlife including many invertebrates, birds and over 130 species of plants.

This document describes the value, vision, aspirations, objectives and practical management of this site. The Management plan has been written by Dorset County Council's Coast and Countryside service who will manage Castle Hill on behalf of Shaftesbury Town Council through a five year Service Level Agreement.

Castle Hill is very popular with the public. People use the site for enjoying the high quality landscape and for using many paths that access residential areas and the town itself.

The main objectives for the management plans are:

- To conserve and enhance the site's biodiversity
- To provide high quality public open space
- To encourage visitors and community involvement
- To improve and maintain access for a diverse range of users.

The management issues have been split into three main areas:

Nature conservation

The habitat management focuses on the management of the greensand flora present on the site and the deciduous woodland. The grassland slopes are considered important enough to be designated as a Site of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI). Trees and scrub need to be removed to maintain these valuable areas of grassland.

Deciduous woodland has developed on the site and this gives added landscape diversity. In places the trees will be thinned to provide a more diverse age structure and to prevent encroachment into the grassland areas.

The pond and wetland area should be managed to encourage wildlife and add to the landscape quality; surrounding Willows need to be coppiced and dredging of the pond is needed to maximise the wildlife and landscape opportunities.

The encroachment of the invasive species Himalayan Balsam and bracken need to be controlled to stop its spread onto the grassland area and slopes. The management techniques used will be as sensitive as possible, but for complete eradication the spraying of Herbicides on some areas will be necessary.

Access and Recreation

The networks of paths have recently been improved to enable access to the site by a wide range of users. The widening of current paths and the improvement of the surface finish has made it easier for walkers, people using mobility vehicles and pushchairs to get around the site. New steps and easier slope to walk up to the scheduled ancient monument have been installed in 2014.

Community Involvement

Being located on the outskirts of Shaftesbury, the site is close to a population centre. The site is well used by the community. The importance of the site to the community should be recognised and it is proposed to declare the site as a Local Nature Reserve and apply for a Green Flag Award. Green Flag awards are annual awards, which require a site to reach a nationally recognised high standard in many areas including access, sustainability and community involvement. <http://www.greenflagaward.org.uk/>

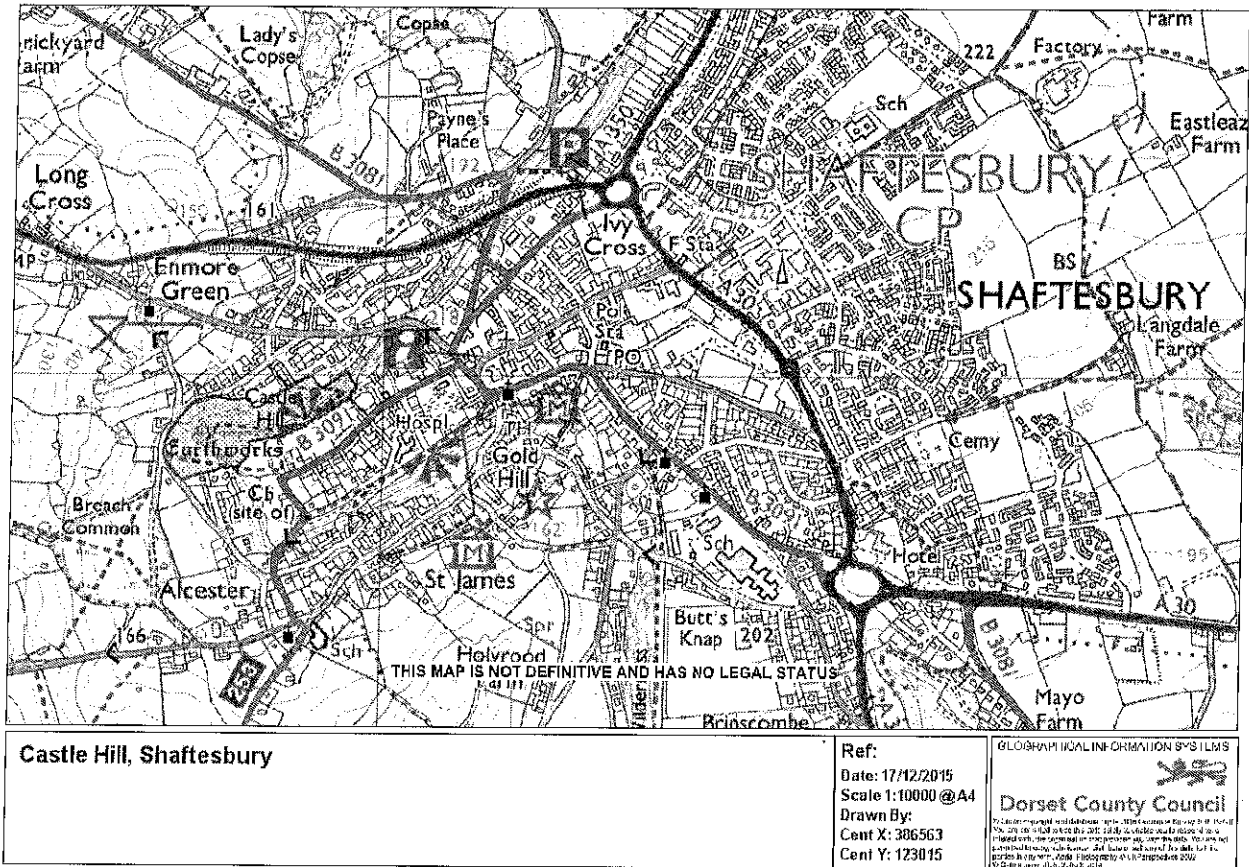
By far the biggest volunteer input to the site will come from the embedded local volunteer Rangers and students from the local College (Kingston Maurward) and Stepping Stones (an organisation that helps people back into work). They are part of the Team, wear uniform, and are externally trained in brushcutting, chainsaw, spraying, chipper use etc, so that they have recognised national qualifications to assist in their career progression. Most volunteers that leave the Ranger service go onto to get full time work in the countryside sector. On average we have five Volunteer Rangers a week in the team.

It is hoped to foster community engagement by engaging the local community and running volunteer tasks for the people of Shaftesbury on these open spaces. In addition, three Apprentices are based in the North Dorset Team and these are trained to a high standard. Two apprentices will receive a Level 2 and one apprentice will receive a Level 3 Work Based Diploma in Environmental Conservation.

The objectives for Dorset Coast and Countryside's site management are:

- To provide high quality, safe and accessible public open space
- To conserve and enhance the site's biodiversity
- To conserve and enhance the site's landscape quality
- To encourage visitors and community involvement
- To maximise opportunities for volunteers and student placements
- To provide high quality interpretation
- To improve and maintain access for a diverse range of users
- To implement efficient systems of work to minimise costs

Area covered by this management plan



Objectives for Castle Hill

- To provide a useful and pleasant countryside area for local people and visitors. Explore opportunities to increase the quality and diversity of recreational provision.
- To maintain the open grassland nature of the site that provides a safe and inviting environment for visitors to the castle and those visiting from the town centre.
- To provide excellent visual access from the Scheduled Ancient Monument by providing walks to the view point and maximising the inherent landscape value.
- To manage the parkland trees, shrub areas and invasive species.
- Link the site to the surrounding area, to provide a useful and high quality recreational network. Develop and manage the provision of access and facilities for walkers, push chair users and people with disabilities, where practicable.
- Promote good environmental and conservation practice through effective operational management of the site.
- Develop community links with groups, volunteers, schools, Rotary club, local people and Town Council.
- Educate, inform and inspire through informal education provision and interpretation.
- Influence others by demonstrating examples of best practice.
- Ensure there are good systems in place to minimise litter and dog fouling and maintain site security.
- Ensure the site remains clean and inviting.
- Explore opportunities for external funding and ensure operational systems maximise benefits to the public and minimise costs.

Associated site management objectives

Promotion.

This site will be promoted on Dorset for you pages - www.dorsetforyou.com and on the Shaftesbury Town Council website as well as in TIC's. The site is not currently heavily promoted, as while it is an excellent area of public open space it does not have the facilities to make it a genuine visitor destination and is used primarily by locals.

Dog / fouling litter management.

All bins on site are emptied by the Dorset Waste Partnership weekly. Anti litter / dog fouling posters will assist with minimising litter issues.

Maintenance of building, landscapes and equipment.

All furniture, bins etc are inspected regularly and repaired or replaced if necessary by the Ranger team. Surfaced paths, bridges, car parks, steps etc remain the responsibility of STC.

Security on site

The open grassland adds to the feeling of security of users and special effort is made to create clear sight lines across the meadow. Every part of the site is used by all sectors of society and in high numbers, this in itself reduces anti social behaviour.

Graffiti and vandalism are responded to promptly as a clean, graffiti and vandal free site tends to stay that way as well as increasing the feel of on site security by users. The Ranger office phone number will be available at every entrance so issues can be phoned directly to the Ranger team.

Environmental sustainability

All tree arisings are chipped and used either on site or used elsewhere by DCC/Shaftesbury.

Glyphosate will be used occasionally and minimally to maintain surfaced paths and control invasive species.

There is no peat use.

The ranger team is locally based to reduce journey time / fuel use to all North Dorset Sites. All wood preservative are water based with low VOC's.

Habitat management objectives –

- Scheduled Ancient Monument – To preserve the monument and remove encroaching scrub and trees
- Grassland meadow– maintain and improve floristic diversity
- Ponds – maintain and improve biodiversity
- Mature trees – Coppice Willows, ensure safety
- Invasive species – Control spread of Himalayan Balsam and Bracken
- Scrub and trees – reduce to maintain adjoining grassland habitats and monument.

Site details: Management of Castle Hill – Dorset Countryside**Site Details**

Name:	Castle Hill
Ownership:	Shaftesbury Town Council
Area:	5 ha
Grid Reference:	ST 855 227
Managed by:	Dorset Countryside
Local Planning Authority:	North Dorset District Council
District:	North Dorset
Parish:	Shaftesbury
Site Designations:	Public footpaths Site of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI) Scheduled Ancient Monument
Nature of Legal Interest:	All of Castle Hill is owned by Shaftesbury Town council, which has been recently transferred from North Dorset District Council.
Byelaws:	None
Access:	There is open access throughout the site as well as two public footpaths

Description

Castle Hill is an important site for wildlife and people within easy walking distance of Shaftesbury town centre. The site has variety of habitats, including grassy slopes, wetland areas, scrub and deciduous woodland. Over 130 types of plant occur here giving the area Site of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI) status and 40 bird species have been recorded. A range of dragonflies, damselflies and butterflies are also present.

Shaftesbury stands 700 feet above sea level on a high headland of greensand thrusting out into the eastern side of the Blackmore Vale. The slopes of Castle Hill drop steeply to the chalk vale.

The north facing slopes look out across Dorset to the Somerset and Wiltshire border, with views of King Alfred's Tower and the long wooded line of Penselwood Ridge. On a clear day Glastonbury Tor is visible in the west. Castle Hill was once part of Shaftesbury Abbey and gets its name from a Saxon fort, which is a Scheduled Ancient monument that is present on this site.

Castle Hill is very popular with the people of Shaftesbury and is the largest countryside greenspace within the town. Recent improvements to the footpaths have dramatically improved the access to the Scheduled Ancient Monument for many more user groups. The surfaced footpaths on the lower slopes are ideal for people with mobility vehicles and parents with pushchairs. The very steep slope up to the town is a demanding route recommended for walkers.

Value of Castle Hill and vision

Castle Hill is used by the public for the enjoyment of the spectacular landscape, countryside and for waking in the fresh air and getting to and from town by local residents.

The top of Castle Hill, is a fantastic viewpoint of classic English countryside, attracting lots of visitors who come to enjoy the views. The site is close to the town centre and surrounded by residential areas so attracts many walkers that are using the site recreationally as well as a sustainable transport route. A "viewpoint" panel is provided at the top of the hill by Shaftesbury Town Council to show the sights that can be seen from the top.

The recent footpath improvements has dramatically increased the usability of the site to many users that were previously excluded, particularly the less able and parents with pushchairs. The surfaced footpaths have also made the lower slopes useable in the winter months as these areas used to be very boggy. Sleeper steps were constructed in 1999 to improve access up the hill and would benefit from installing modern anti-slip strips.

The hilltop site of the Saxon Castle, (compartment 5) is a Scheduled Ancient Monument. (Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) No.149). It is described as promontory fort, with sides that fall steeply away from an artificially increased escarpment and the base line represented by a broad ditch.

An extract taken from the Ancient Monuments Record describes the castle:

"The interior is a depression and deep pit, but with no sign of a mote. Finds of 12th century pottery suggest a medieval origin for the castle, but parts could be earlier. Towards the side of the ditch, some 20 yards away, foundations of a small round tower of dry stone masonry and various domestic buildings have been found, all apparently 13th century. There is no clear indication that the castle's origin is earlier than medieval, and its small size suggests a stronghold rather than a defended habitation site."

Aspirations

Castle Hill has been managed by Dorset Coast and Countryside for some time and as such, is a relatively mature site. Much needed capital infrastructure has been completed. However the site needs constant management to maintain what has been achieved and to further improve the site. For example the grassland can be improved in terms of its aesthetics, structure and diversity with the associated benefits to wildlife. Rustic benches can be installed to allow visitors to rest and spend time simply observing the wildlife of the site. Access to the castle was once limited before the newly surfaced paths were constructed and improvements can be made in vegetation management to improve the view, which could become a larger draw for the public.

There are a variety of habitats on Castle Hill that each require specific management for Nature Conservation, the three main areas are Grassland, Wetland & Pond and Woodland & Scrub.

Historically Castle Hill was extensively grazed grassland (compartment 3), which gave the site a rich and diverse flora especially on the steep slopes. The lack of grazing over the last 20 years has allowed scrub and invasive species, such as Himalayan Balsam and Bracken to develop. This now threatens the Site of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI) status of the site, which has been highlighted by The Dorset Wildlife Trust.

Reintroducing grazing to the site has been considered, however the high public use, poor grazing and lack of adequate fencing makes this option unviable. In the absence of grazing, scrub and tree encroachment will be managed by rotational cutting and the invasive species will be controlled with Glyphosate. Scrub and tree growth at the top of the slope will also be removed to maintain the magnificent view north to the Quantock Hills.

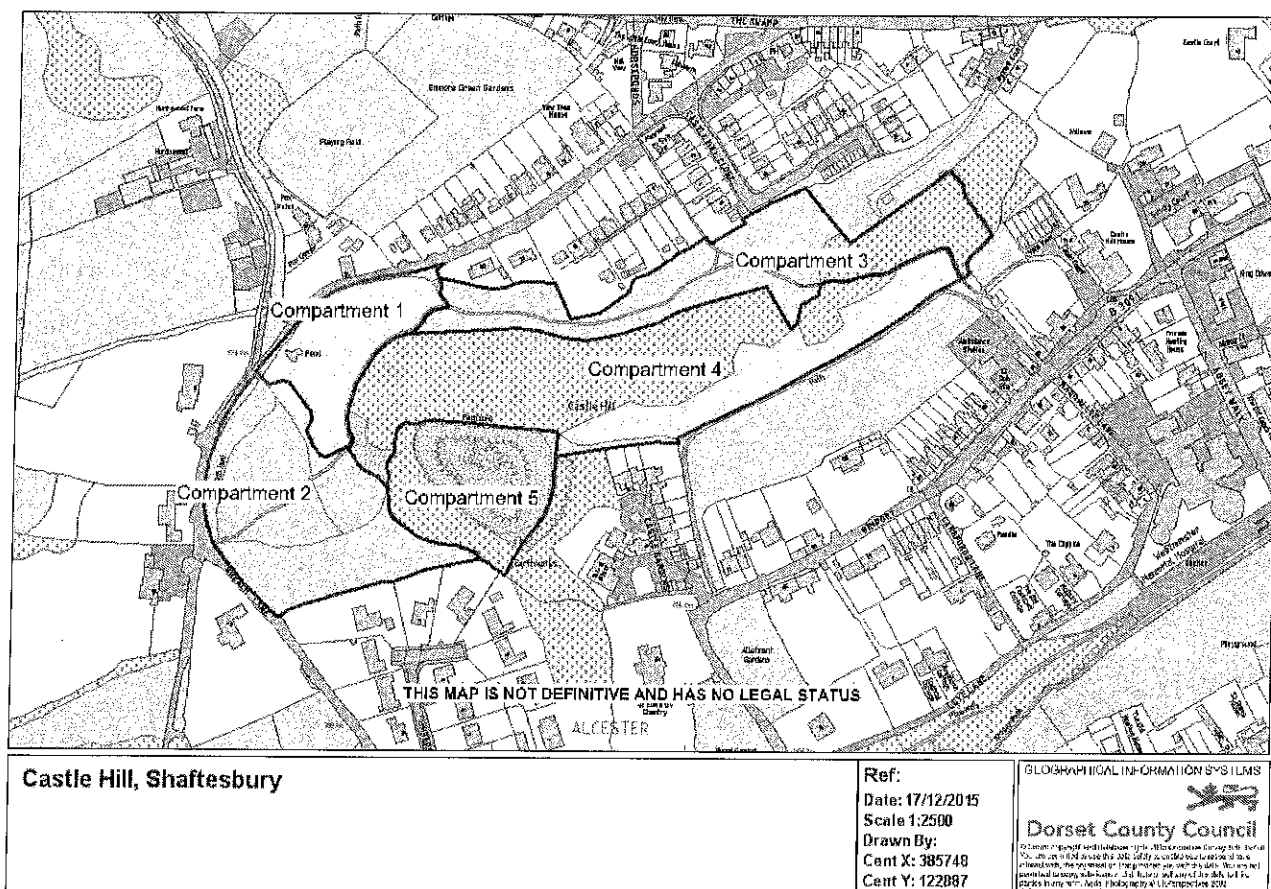
Castle Hill has an area of wet boggy ground and a pond (compartment 1). This wet area is spring fed so is wet most of the year. The pond will be cleared out and the surrounding Willow scrub to be coppiced to improve the water quality and allow more sunlight into the water. The wet area provides useful species diversity for both flora and fauna.

Deciduous woodland and scrub occur on the steep slopes of Castle Hill mainly in compartment 3. This area is to be maintained as a deciduous woodland, with occasional felling required for dangerous, dying and diseased trees. Establishment of trees and scrub will also be controlled towards the top of the slopes to maintain the magnificent views to the north.

The boundary hedge that runs alongside the road, Breach Lane, is predominately Hazel, which can easily encroach onto the road reducing visibility for road users if not maintained. Management would include to continue to lay the hedge using the traditional technique of hedgelaying, which will benefit wildlife whilst proving cost effective.

The main area that the site could improve is signing within and around the town. The site is well known by some locals but probably has not got the profile it deserves around town or to visitors from further afield. Signing from the town centre could improve this.

Castle Hill site and compartment map.



Compartment management objectives

Compartment 1

Main habitats – Wetland area, pond, hedgerow, scrub

Specific objectives

- Maintain and improve wetland area to increase wildlife diversity and landscape quality.
- Maintain and improve pond.
- Maintain boundary hedge alongside the road

Infrastructure

- Pond
- Surfaced paths
- Public right of way
- Post and Rail barrier fence
- Entrance field gate and pedestrian gate
- Site entrance sign

Management tasks (all tasks are annual unless otherwise stated)

- Remove self sown Willow and other trees/shrubs that are reducing the value of the wetland.
- Encourage wetland plant species
- Remove debris from pond
- Scrape back encroaching vegetation from surfaced paths to maintain full width.
- Manage and remove invasive vegetation, such as Bracken, Nettles and Brambles.
- Maintain boundary hedge by using the traditional technique of hedgelaying.
- Maintain Public right of way
- Monthly site check and litter pick

Compartment 2

Main habitat – Amenity grassland, mature trees, hedgerow, scrub

Specific objectives

- Maintain grassland area by topping once a year
- Manage and maintain mature parkland trees
- Maintain boundary hedge alongside the road
- Install rustic benches

Infrastructure

- Mown and surfaced paths
- Public rights of way
- Rustic benches (to be installed)
- Entrance gate

Management tasks (all tasks are annual unless otherwise stated)

- Maintain grassland area as a meadow, to be topped once a year.
- Grass paths mown 10x a year
- Remove and control invasive vegetation such as Bracken / Nettle / Bramble.
- Maintain boundary hedge by using the traditional technique of hedgelaying.
- Scrape back encroaching vegetation from surfaced paths to maintain full width when needed.
- Install/maintain 2x rustic benches
- Maintain Public rights of way
- Monthly site visit / litter pick

Compartment 3

Main habitat – short amenity grassland, scrub and mature trees

Specific objectives

- Maintain short, neat grassland for informal recreation area.
- Manage and maintain mature parkland trees.
- Control invasive species, such as Himalayan Balsam and Bracken, from lower slopes of monument.
- Manage scrub vegetation

Infrastructure

- Surfaced paths
- Public right of way
- Sleeper steps
- Rustic bench

Management tasks (all tasks are annual unless otherwise stated)

- Maintain short, neat grassland 10x a year
- Manage tree and scrub encroachment on lower slopes
- Remove and control invasive species, such as Himalayan Balsam/ Bracken/ Bramble.
- Scrape back encroaching vegetation from surfaced paths to maintain full width.
- Install / maintain rustic bench.
- Maintain sleeper steps and install anti-slip strips.
- Maintain Public rights of way
- Monthly site visits / litter pick.

Compartment 4

Main habitat – Mature trees, deciduous woodland and scrub

Specific objectives

- Manage and maintain mature parkland trees.
- Manage and maintain deciduous woodland.
- Control invasive species, such as Himalayan Balsam and Bracken, from lower slopes of monument.
- Manage scrub vegetation

Infrastructure

- Site sign (to be installed)
- Surfaced path
- Public right of way
- Metal kissing gate

Management tasks (all tasks are annual unless otherwise stated)

- Install site sign at entrance from STC managed park
- Refurbish the existing kissing gate and investigate options for replacement
- Manage tree and scrub encroachment on lower slopes
- Remove and control invasive species, such as Himalayan Balsam/ Bracken/ Bramble.
- Scrape back encroaching vegetation from surfaced paths to maintain full width.
- Selective felling of immature trees to maintain summit view points
- Manage and maintain deciduous woodland
- Maintain Public rights of way
- Monthly site visits / litter pick.

Compartment 5

Main habitat – Grassland, mature trees and scrub

Specific objectives

- Maintain grassland area by topping twice a year
- Manage and maintain mature parkland trees
- Manage scrub vegetation
- Maintain view points

Infrastructure

- Scheduled Ancient Monument

Management tasks (all tasks are annual unless otherwise stated)

- Maintain vegetation by topping annually.
- Selective felling of immature trees to maintain summit view points
- Manage tree and scrub encroachment on monument
- Monthly site visits / litter pick

Costs**Annual works**

Topping of long grass to manage meadow	£750
Maintain formal grass areas 10 x year	£2950
Maintain access to Scheduled Monument	£450
Scraping / spraying RoW edges	£120
Site inspections and litter picking (site visit by DC staff)	£480
Non reactive Tree surgery to enhance biodiversity/landscape	£450
Installing, repairing/maintaining new benches and site furniture	£200
Coppice willow in rotation and maintain pond / wetland area	£370
Manage boundary hedges, by hedge laying	£400
Maintain sleeper steps and install anti-slip strips	£110
Management of contract work	£200
Involvement with external organisation and complaint management incl. Shaftesbury Town Council (STC)	£250
Support with external funding applications	£120
Removal and control of invasive species	£460
2 x Site entrance sign and interpretation board	£590
Preparation of Site Management Plan	£60
Preparation of Site Risk Assessment	£50

Annual Total £8,010

Subject to agreed annual rpi increases

Excludes Capital infrastructure replacement i.e. path surfaces, major tree works through storm damage/ disease/ aerial tree surgery

Excludes Green Flag Award application of £312 of FY 16/17

Appendix 1: Site Information and Health and Safety

Site	Castle Hill
Grid Reference	ST 855 227
Postal Address	Dorset Coast and Countryside – North Dorset Team St Leonards Chapel Chapel Gardens Blandford Forum Dorset DT11 7UY
Telephone number	Office 01258 456970
Location of first aid facilities	All DCC vehicles
Nearest Hospital Details	Shaftesbury, Westminster Memorial – Tel: 01747 851835 Salisbury District Hospital – Tel: 01722 336262 Yeovil District Hospital – Tel: 01935 475122 Blandford Community Hospital (minor injuries) Tel: 01258 456541
Nearest A and E	Poole – Longfleet Rd, BH15 2JB 01202665511 Dorchester – Williams Av, DT1 2JY 01305 25150
Nearest police station	Gillingham 01747 822615
Dorset Countryside contact details will be displayed on site signs.	
Access keys supplied to emergency services	
Staff trained as First Aiders at work	
Site Risk Assessment	
Hazards	Uneven ground, slippery surfaces, sleeper steps, pond, vegetation, people, pets and animals. See Table 1
Operations by Staff	Refer to individual assessments

Risk Assessment for staff: DCC Index 1 to 28
 Health and Safety welfare at work manual
 Lone working policy – DCC staffnet
 Event risk assessments
 Chainsaw /Chemical use and method statement

In an Emergency Ring 999

Site Hazards: Table 1

Hazards	Risks	Safety Measures
Paths - Uneven ground, slippery surfaces, steps	Slips/trips/falls,	Regular site surveys, insure well maintained
Site furniture - Bins, benches and gates	Slips, falls, cuts, abrasions, bruises	Regular site surveys, insure well maintained
Dog fouling /Litter /broken glass	Cuts, damage, injury	Regular litter picking, bin maintenance, signs
Vegetation	Cuts, abrasions, bruises	Regular site surveys, cut back as required from high use public areas
Pond	Drowning	Maintain clear pond edges

Appendix 2: Policy Documents

The following Dorset County Council (DCC) policies are outlined on the following pages and relevant to this management plan:

- DCC Environmental Policy
- DCC Transport Policy
- DCC Energy & Water Policy
- DCC Waste Management Policy
- DCC Sustainable Procurement Policy

The following DCC Health & Safety policies govern the work of Dorset Countryside and are available on the DCC Staffnet. Copies can be supplied on request.

- Accident Reporting Policy
- Lone working Policy
- Manual Handling Policy
- Risk Assessment Policy
- Violence at Work Policy.

Dorset County Council Environment Policy

Dorset County Council is committed to taking forward the principles of sustainable development and this is reflected in our corporate plan. Safeguarding our unique environment is a fundamental part of the County Council's role and at the heart of sustainable development.

We provide a wide range of services and recognise that how we undertake our work impacts on the environment. We are therefore committed to good environmental management and recognise that this is a vital part of being a well managed Council.

In response to this the County Council shall:

Seek continuous improvement in our efficient use of natural resources, protection of wildlife and reduction of pollution in all our activities

We have set the following objectives:

- To use energy and water resources efficiently
- To reduce waste to a minimum and to reuse and recycle materials to the maximum
- To avoid and reduce air, land, water, noise and light pollution
- To protect and enhance wildlife and the natural environment
- To reduce the impacts from our provision and use of transport
- To avoid and reduce our overall carbon emissions
- To ensure the best possible environmental practices in the way we buy goods and services and encourage our suppliers to do the same
- To comply with all relevant environmental legislation now and in the future

To achieve these objectives we will:

- Develop policies, targets and action plans for our key environmental impacts – energy, water, waste, transport, wildlife, purchasing and pollution
- Implement those policies, targets and plans as actively as we can, consistent with the effective management of the Council's resources
- Review and report on progress each year as part of our corporate performance management
- Develop and implement a programme to reduce our carbon emissions
- Use the principles of recognised environmental management systems within appropriate services
- Publicise this policy to members, staff and the public
- Ensure that members and staff are aware of their roles in taking this policy forward.

Dorset County Council Transport Policy

We recognise that our use of vehicles, both in business travel and commuter journeys, can have a range of effects on the environment. This includes air pollution (contributing to issues such as acid rain and global warming), as well as the depletion of the earth's limited natural stocks of fossil fuels.

In particular we recognise the positive health benefits of reducing our dependency on vehicles and reducing the pollution they cause.

In response to this the County Council aims to:

Reduce the pollution caused by our use of vehicles for work related travel

We have set the following objectives (for all our operations):

- To reduce mileage travelled by staff on business and getting to/from work
- To support alternative travel methods to single occupancy car use
- To utilise technology to remove the need to travel
- To maximise the use of less polluting technologies and fuels
- To ensure the efficient use of vehicles

To achieve these objectives we will:

- Produce an annual action plan to show what actions we will take to achieve our objectives and report on progress
- Implement the policy and action plan as actively as we can, consistent with the effective management of the Council's resources
- Ensure all staff are aware of their roles in implementing this policy
- Ensure our purchasing policies support this policy
- Ensure others are made aware of our successes and encouraged to do the same.

In order to evaluate the success of this policy, we will monitor and report on:

- Annual business mileage travelled by staff (miles per employee)
- Annual use of fuel by our vehicle fleet (Litres) and the proportion of alternative fuels used.
- Annual amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) generated as a result of using vehicles for work related travel (tonnes/employee)
- % of employees using an alternative to single person car use, to commute to work (by annual survey).

Dorset County Council Energy and Water Policy

We recognise that our use of energy and water results in the release of pollution to the air and the use of finite natural resources. In particular, we are concerned about the impact of carbon dioxide (CO₂), one of the primary greenhouse gases and a major contributor to climate change.

In response to this the County Council aims to:

Minimise the environmental impact of our energy and water use, in particular our emissions of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂)**We have set the following objectives (for all our operations):**

- To use energy and water efficiently
- To minimise the use of energy and water, by investing in energy & water saving measures
- To explore opportunities for the application of renewable energy technologies
- To explore opportunities for the use of green energy in line with our utility procurement strategy

To achieve these objectives we will:

- Produce an annual action plan to show what actions we will take to achieve our objectives and report on progress
- Implement the policy and action plan as actively as we can, consistent with the effective management of the Council's resources
- Ensure all staff are aware of their roles in implementing this policy
- Ensure our purchasing policies support this policy
- Ensure others are made aware of our successes and encouraged to do the same

In order to evaluate the success of this policy, we will monitor and report on:

- The overall amount of electricity used by Dorset County Council (kWh)
- The overall amount of fuel used within County Council Buildings (kWh)
- Overall amount of water usage in County Council Buildings (Litres)
- The overall emissions of CO₂, from the use of energy and water by the Council.(Tonnes)

Dorset County Council Waste Management Policy

We recognise that our day to day activities generate a wide range of waste materials, from office paper to road construction, and that the way we manage this waste can have significant impacts on the environment. In particular we are concerned about the overall amount of waste we produce and dispose of to landfill and how much of this could have been reduced, re-used or recycled.

In response to this the County Council aims to:

Reduce the amount of waste we produce and the proportion we dispose of to landfill

We have set the following objectives (for all of our operations):

- To decrease the amount of waste produced
- To increase the amount of waste re-used
- To increase the proportion of waste materials recycled
- To ensure we understand and meet all relevant environmental legislation

To achieve these objectives we will:

- Produce an annual action plan to show the actions we will take to achieve our objectives, and report on progress
- Implement the policy and action plan as actively as we can, consistent with the effective management of the Council's resources
- Ensure all staff are aware of their roles in implementing this policy
- Ensure our purchasing policies support this policy
- Ensure others are made aware of our successes and encouraged to do the same

In order to evaluate the success of this policy, we will monitor and report on:

- The overall amount of waste generated from Council buildings (Tonnes/yr)
- The amount of waste disposed of to landfill from Council buildings (Tonnes/yr)
- The percentage of waste that is recycled from Council buildings
- Individual targets for specialist waste types, to include:- fluorescent tubes, oils, batteries, construction and road waste and green waste.

Dorset County Council Sustainable Management Policy

We buy a wide range of goods and services to support our day to day activities. These will have a range of impacts on the environment, economy and people. This depends on how products are made, distributed, used and disposed of, and how contracted services are designed and delivered.

We recognise the significant contribution our procurement activities can have in reducing these impacts and maximising the opportunities for sustainable development.

In response to this the County Council aims to:-

Increase our contribution to sustainable development through the procurement of goods and services

We have set the following objectives for purchasing goods and services, across all our operations:-

Minimise environmental impacts, including

- Minimise waste, pollution, energy and water use and the impacts from transport,
- Maximise re-use and recycling and the use of efficient & clean technologies
- Protect and enhance the natural and built environment

Maximise benefits to the local economy, including

- Maximise the use of local goods, skills, materials and services
- Encourage supply chains to adopt good environmental practices
Take a long term view,
- account for the impacts and benefits of products and services through their whole life
- consider the implications of long term issues such as Climate Change
- consider the needs of future generations

To ensure the achievement of the above we will:

- Produce an annual action plan to show the actions we will take to achieve our objectives, and
- report on progress
- Implement the policy and action plan as actively as we can, consistent with the effective
- management of the Council's resources
- Ensure all staff are aware of their roles in implementing this policy
- Ensure others are made aware of our successes and encouraged to do the same

This policy forms a central part of the County Council's overall procurement strategy.

Appendix 3: Species list for Castle Hill

Historic species list

Latin Name

Tree and Shrubs

Acer pseudoplatanus
Aesculus hippocastanum
Betula pendula
Buddleja davidii
Castanea sativa
Corylus avellana
Crataegus monogyna
Fagus sylvatica
Fraxinus excelsior
Ilex aquifolium
Prunus avium
Prunus spinosa
Quercus robur
Salix cinerea
Sambucus nigra
Sorbus aucuparia
Ulex europaeus
Ulmus procera

Common Name

Sycamore
Horse Chestnut
Silver Birch
Buddleja
Sweet Chestnut
Hazel
Hawthorn
Beech
Ash
Common Holly
Wild Cherry
Blackthorn
English Oak
Grey Willow
Elder
Rowan
Gorse
English Elm

Vascular Plants

Achillea millefolium
Agrostis capillaris
Agrostis stolonifera
Allium ursinum
Alopecurus geniculatus
Alopecurus pratensis
Angelica sylvestris
Anisantha sterilis
Anthoxanthum odoratum
Anthriscus sylvestris
Apium nodiflorum
Arrhenatherum elatius
Arum maculatum
Callitriche sp.
Calystegia sepium
Campanula rotundifolia
Capsella bursa-pastoris
Cardamine pratensis
Carex hirta
Centaurea sp.
Cerastium fontanum
Chamerion angustifolium
Cirsium arvense
Cirsium palustre
Cirsium vulgare
Conopodium majus
Crepis vesicaria

Yarrow
Common Bent
Creeping Bent
Wild Garlic
Marsh Foxtail
Meadow Foxtail
Wild Angelica
Barren Brome
Sweet Vernal Grass
Cow Parsley
Fools Watercress
False Oat Grass
Lords And Ladies
Water-starwort
Hedge Bindweed
Harebell
Shepherd's Purse
Lady's Smock
Hairy Sedge
Star Thistle
Common Mouse Ear
Rosebay Willowherb
Creeping Thistle
Marsh Thistle
Spear Thistle
Pignut
Beaked Hawk's-beard

Vascular Plants**Latin Name**

Cynosurus cristatus
 Dactylis glomerata
 Dactylorhiza fuchsii
 Deschampsia cespitosa
 Digitalis purpurea
 Dryopteris dilatata
 Dryopteris filix-mas
 Epilobium adenocaulon
 Epilobium hirsutum
 Latin Name
 Equisetum arvense
 Festuca rubra
 Galeopsis tetrahit agg.
 Galium aparine
 Galium palustre
 Galium uliginosum
 Galium verum
 Geum urbanum
 Glechoma hederacea
 Glyceria fluitans
 Hedera helix
 Heracleum sphondylium
 Holcus lanatus
 Hyacinthoides non-scripta
 Hypericum pulchrum
 Hypochaeris radicata
 Impatiens glandulifera
 Juncus articulatus
 Juncus effusus
 Lamium album
 Lapsana communis
 Lathyrus pratensis
 Lemna minor
 Leontodon autumnalis
 Leontodon hispidus
 Lolium perenne
 Lonicera periclymenum
 Lotus corniculatus
 Lotus pedunculatus
 Luzula campestris
 Lychnis flos-cuculi
 Mentha aquatica
 Moehringia trinervia
 Myosotis laxa
 Phleum pratense
 Plantago lanceolata
 Plantago major
 Poa annua
 Poa pratensis
 Poa trivialis
 Potentilla erecta

Common Name

Crested Dog's-tail
 Cocksfoot Grass
 Common Spotted Orchid
 Tufted Hair Grass
 Common Foxglove
 Broad Buckler-fern
 Male Fern
 American Willowherb
 Great Willowherb
 Common Name
 Horsetail
 Red Fescue
 Common Hemp Nettle
 Common Cleavers
 Common Marsh-bedstraw
 Fen Bedstraw
 Lady's Bedstraw
 Wood Avens
 Ground Ivy
 Flote-grass
 Ivy
 Hogweed
 Yorkshire Fog
 Bluebell
 St John's Wort
 Cat's Ear
 Himalayan Balsam
 Jointed Rush
 Soft Rush
 White Deadnettle
 Nipplewort
 Meadow Vetchling
 Common Duckweed
 Autumn Hawkbit
 Rough Hawkbit
 Perennial Ryegrass
 Honeysuckle
 Common Bird's-foot Trefoil
 Greater Bird's-foot Trefoil
 Field Woodrush
 Ragged Robin
 Water Mint
 Three-nerved Sandwort
 Tufted Forget-me-not
 Timothy Grass
 Ribwort Plantain
 Greater Plantain
 Annual Bluegrass
 Smooth Meadow-grass
 Rough Meadow-grass
 Tormentil

Potentilla sterilis
Primula vulgaris

Barren Strawberry
Wild Primrose

Latin Name

Vascular Plants

Pteridium aquilinum
Ranunculus acris
Ranunculus ficaria
Ranunculus flammula
Ranunculus hederaceus
Ranunculus repens
Rosa canina
Rubus fruticosus agg.
Rubus ideaus
Rumex acetosa
Rumex obtusifolius
Scrophularia auriculata
Scrophularia nodosa
Senecio jacobaea
Silene dioica
Stachys officinalis
Stachys sylvatica
Stellaria graminea
Stellaria holostea
Stellaria media
Stellaria uliginosa
Succisa pratensis
Taraxacum officinale
Trifolium medium
Trifolium pratense
Trifolium repens
Trisetum flavescens
Typha latifolia
Urtica dioica
Veronica anagallis-aquatica
Veronica beccabunga
Veronica chamaedrys
Vicia sativa
Vicia sepium
Viola riviniana
Viola sp. (cultivar)

Common Name

Bracken
Meadow Buttercup
Lesser Calendine
Lesser Spearwort
Ivy-leaved Crowfoot
Creeping Buttercup
Dog Rose
Bramble
Wild Raspberries
Common Sorrel
Broad Leaved Dock
Water Figwort
Figwort
Common Ragwort
Red Campion
Betony
Hedge Woundwort
Lesser Stichwort
Greater Stichwort
Common Chickweed
Bog Stichwort
Devilsbit Scabious
Common Dandelion
Zigzag Clover
Red Cloveer
White clover
Yellow Oat-grass
Great Reedmace
Common Nettle
Water-speedwell
Brooklime
Germander Speedwell
Common Vetch
Bush Vetch
Common Dog-violet
Violet

Orthoptera

Pholidoptera griseoaptera

Bush Cricket

Odonata

Anax imperator
Coenagrion puella
Ceriagrion tenellum
Libellula quadrimaculata
Pyrrhosoma nymphula

Emperor Dragonfly
Common Coenagrion
Small Red Damselfly
Four-spotted Chaser
Large Red Damselfly

Hemiptera

Coreus marginatus

Squashbug

Latin Name**Common Name****Butterflies**

Aglais urticae
Anthocharis cardamines
Celastrina argiolus
Inachis io
Maniola jurtina
Melanargia galathea
Lycaena phlaeas
Parage aegeria
Pieris brassicae
Pieris napi
Pieris rapae
Vanessa atalanta

Small Tortoiseshell
Orange Tip
Holly Blue
Peacock
Meadow Brown
Marbled White
Small Copper
Speckled Wood
Large White
Green-veined White
Small White
Red Admiral

Moths

Autographa gamma
Autographa pulchrina
Rivula sericealis
Xanthorhoe montanata

Silver Y
Beautiful Golden Y
Straw Dot
Silver-ground Carpet

Diptera

Episyrphus balteatus
Merodon equestris
Volucella bombylans

Marmalade Hoverfly
Hoverfly
Syrphid Fly

Hymenoptera

Andrena chrysosceles
Apis mellifera
Bombus campestris
Bombus hortorum
Bombus pascuorum
Bombus pratorum
Bombus sylvestris
Osmia rufa

Honey Bee
Red Tailed Bumble Bee
Small Garden Bumble Bee
Common Carder Bumble Bee
Early Bumble Bee
Cuckoo Bee
Red Mason Bee

Coleoptera

Coccinella septempunctata
Pyrrhocroa serraticornis
Rhagonycha fulva

Seven Spotted Ladybird
Common Red Soldier Beetle

Amphibians

Rana temporaria

Common Frog

Birds

Acanthis cannabina
Aegithalos caudatus
Carduelis carduelis
Carduelis chloris
Certhia familiaris
Columba palumbus

Linnet
Long-tailed Tit
Goldfinch
Greenfinch
Common Treecreeper
Wood Pigeon

Corvus corone
Corvus monedula
Corvus frugilegus
Cuculus canorus
Dendrocopos major

Carion Crow
Jackdaw
Rook
Cuckoo
Great Spotted Woodpecker

Latin Name**Birds**

Erithacus rubecula
Fringilla coelebs
Hirundo rustica
Muscicapa striata
Parus ater
Parus caeruleus
Parus major
Passer domesticus
Phylloscopus collybita
Phylloscopus trochilus
Pica pica
Prunella modularis
Pyrrhula pyrrhula
Regulus regulus
Sitta europaea
Streptopelia decaocto
Sturnus vulgaris
Sylvia atricapilla
Sylvia communis
Sylvia curruca
Troglodytes troglodytes
Turdus merula
Turdus philomenos

Common Name

Robin
Chaffinch
Swallow
Spotted Flycatcher
Coal Tit
Blue Tit
Great Tit
House Sparrow
Chiffchaff
Willow Warbler
Magpie
Dunnock
Bull Finch
Goldcrest
Nuthatch
Collared Dove
Starling
Blackcap
Common Whitethroat
Lesser Whitethroat
Wren
Blackbird
Song Thrush

Mammals

Meles meles
Sorex araneus
Talpa europaea
Vulpes vulpes

Eurasian Badger
Common Shrew
Mole
Red Fox

**Report to the Meeting of Shaftesbury Town Council's
Recreation, Open Spaces and Environment Committee
to be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 5th January 2016
in the Council Chamber, High Street, Shaftesbury**

SWIMMING POOL

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. To consider recommending to the General Management Committee that the Council takes on the direct operation of the Swimming Pool in Barton Hill.
- 1.2. To consider placing a contract for the supply of a giant inflatable to facilitate party bookings.
- 1.3. To receive an update report on other activities relating to the Pool.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That the Committee recommends to the General Management Committee that the Council take on the direct operation of the Swimming Pool, with effect from the 2016 season, and that appropriate provision be made in the Budget for 2016/17;
- 2.2. That a contract be awarded for the purchase of a giant inflatable;
- 2.3. That the update report be noted.

3. Background

3.1 Direct Operation of the Swimming Pool

- 3.1.1 To facilitate the opening of the Pool in 2015, the Council outsourced its operation to Shaftesbury Community Swimming Pool Ltd (SCSP Ltd). All reports are that the operation was a success, assessed both in terms of the public response and the minimal expenditure. However, the Directors of SCSP Ltd only intended to allow for the Pool to re-open and would like to step down for the 2016 season.
- 3.1.2 The Committee is therefore requested to consider recommending to the General Management Committee, and to the Council, that the operation of the Pool be undertaken directly with effect from 2016.
- 3.1.3 A Business Plan based on the experiences of 2015, extrapolating figures provided by SCSP Ltd, is in preparation. A draft should be ready for consideration by the General Management Committee on 19th January 2016.
- 3.1.4 A decision on the operation of the Pool is essential to ensure suitable allowance in the Budget 2016/17

3.2 Purchase of a Giant Inflatable

- 3.2.1 At the last meeting of this Committee it was noted that Officers were investigating the provision of a giant inflatable for party bookings at the Pool.

- 3.2.2 The specification was drawn up in consultation with the Pool Manager and provided to a number of potential suppliers. The following quotations have been received:

Size of inflatable	Size of inflatable	Lowest price	Highest price	Average
Supplier A	12m	£2,686.00	£3,148.00	£2,917.00
	15m	£3,554.00	£4,011.00	£3,782.50
	15.5m	£3,757.00	£4,144.00	£3,950.50
Supplier B	12.5m	£2,700.00	£3,500.00	£3,100.00
	15.5m	£3,300.00	£4,400.00	£3,850.00
Supplier C	Quote to follow			

3.3 Update Report on Other Activities Relating to the Pool

- 3.3.1 Pool Cover – Officers are working with Taskforce on grant funding for a replacement pool cover and roller system. At the last meeting of this Committee it was thought that the Council would be seeking just to replace the pool cover, but the possibility of grant funding has led to a wish to replace the entire system. The extended scope of this project has increased the likely cost from £6,200 for a cover only to £9,000 - £11,000 for a pool and roller system. The Committee might wish to consider whether what course to take if the Council is unsuccessful with the grant application – i.e., should the Council make Budget provision for the 'larger' scheme, or for the replacement cover only?
- 3.3.2 Solar Panels – Solar panels were fitted in December, in time to be eligible for the Government-backed 'Feed in Tariff'. A Press Release marking the installation was released, the Press Release covered a number of other energy efficiency measures either in place or in hand.
- 3.3.3 Conversion of the Showers to Electric – Following the installation of the solar panels, Officers will investigate the conversion of the poolside showers to electric, as a further energy efficiency measure. This project will be the subject of future reports.

4 Financial Implications

As detailed throughout the report.

5 Legal Implications

The Council has the General Power of Competence.

End.

Report Author:
Stephen Holley
Town Clerk

**Report to the Meeting of Shaftesbury Town Council's
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HISTORIC ENGLAND – CASTLE MOUND AND ST JOHN'S CHURCHYARD

1. Purpose of Report

To note recommendations from the Open Spaces Group, and to consider inviting an Inspector from Historic England to a site visit in preparation for an action plan for Castle Mound and St John's Churchyard from the 'At Risk' register.

2. Recommendations

That the report be noted and the site visit agreed.

3. Background

3.1 Site Histories

3.1.1 Castle Mound is the site of the ancient Shaftesbury Castle. It is a Scheduled Ancient Monument and its maintenance was transferred to the Town Council in 2014, from North Dorset District Council.

3.1.2 St John's Churchyard is a 'closed' churchyard (i.e. one that is no longer in active use). In accordance with the relevant legislation, its maintenance was transferred to the Town Council many years ago. It too is a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

3.2 Recommendations from the Open Spaces Group and the Tree Group

3.2.1 The Open Spaces Group has recommended that the Council contact Historic England's local Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Mr. Keith Miller, in order to get a better dialogue going with him about all of the Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs) maintained by the Town Council and, particularly, Castle Hill Mound and St John's churchyard which are both on Historic England's 'At Risk' register. The Open Spaces group feels it would be useful to arrange a meeting with Mr. Miller to discuss the future maintenance of these SAMs.

3.2.2 The Tree Group has recommended the felling of a large twin-stemmed Ash tree in St John's Churchyard. It is now unstable and could possibly fall or be uprooted in a storm. The Ash tree was identified by NDDC's Tree Officer on 12th October this year as being unsafe and she too recommend felling. NDDC has offered a grant of up to £500 towards the cost of cutting the tree down to a 1-2m stump. The grant funds have to be spent by the end of March 2016. The advice is that a stump should be left as a wild life habitat with the top being cross sawn open (coronet cuts) that will discourage regrowth and enhance its habitat value. This operation will avoid any disturbance to the ground floor and – with the agreement of the Town Clerk – the Chairman of the Open Spaces Group has already written to Historic England for agreement to carry out the works. The Committee will be advised of Historic England's response.

3.3 Officer Response

The Council relies on the informed advice of the Opens Spaces Group in many areas. Its recommendations for safety work, such as to the Ash tree in St John's Churchyard, should be given appropriate weight; especially if they are subsequently approved by Historic England. The proposal to improve Castle Mound ties in with another item on the Agenda for this meeting, to discuss improvement work to be undertaken by the Dorset Rangers.

4 Financial Implications

None arising directly from this report. In due course, the Council will seek quotations for a specification of work agreed by Historic England.

5 Legal Implications

None arising directly from this report.

End.

Report Author:

Stephen Holley

Town Clerk

**Report to the Meeting of Shaftesbury Town Council's
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ALLOTMENT POLYTUNNEL REQUEST

1. Purpose of Report

To consider granting permission for a polytunnel at St James' Allotments.

2. Recommendation

That the Committee grants permission for erection of a polytunnel on plot B8B at St James' Allotments subject to no objections being received from neighbouring tenants.

3. Background

- 3.1. The current allotment holder agreement requires that any erection in excess of 6 x 4 feet be referred to the Committee for permission to be granted prior to installation.
- 3.2. Allotment tenants are deterred from erecting greenhouses due to the hazard of units which fall into disrepair. Consequently, polytunnels are an increasingly popular and less expensive option to extend the growing period for tenants.
- 3.3. The tenant at St James' Allotments has requested permission to erect a polytunnel measuring 4m x 2m x 2m.

4. Financial Implications

None

5. Legal Implications

None

Report Author:
Claire Commons
Committee Services Officer

**Report to the Meeting of Shaftesbury Town Council's
Recreation, Open Spaces and Environment Committee
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BENCHES

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To consider standardising the range of benches for each of the Council's parks and play areas.
- 1.2 To consider a request received for a memorial bench on Park Walk.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Committee identifies standard designs of bench for future installation in its open spaces.
- 2.2 That the Committee considers the request received for a memorial bench on Park Walk.

3. Background

3.1. Standard Designs

- 3.1.1 At present the Council does not have a formalised standard design for its benches. A significant number have been installed across the Town, and they are a prominent and attractive feature along Park Walk and other areas of the Town. Requests to install memorial benches can result in an assortment of designs in places where uniformity might be preferable.
- 3.1.2 The Committee is requested to consider standard designs for future bench installation; consideration to be given to formal gardens and locations such as Park Walk, as well as other locations such as play areas. See **Appendix A** for the main current styles in the town.
- 3.1.3 Consideration should be given to either adjusting the existing seat donations policy (**Appendix B**) or creating an additional policy document to allow for delegated authority to Officers where the request falls within the agreed remit of the policy.

3.2 Request for Memorial Bench in Park Walk

The Council has received a request for the installation of a memorial bench in Park Walk (**Appendix C**). The Committee is asked to consider this request and make any recommendations for alternative design or location it may feel necessary.

4 Financial Implications

None

5 Legal Implications

None

End.

Report Author:

Claire Commons

Committee Services Officer

Appendix A

1. Wooden slatted bench (as currently found on Park Walk)



2. Made from re-cycled materials (as currently found in the Queen Mother's Garden and Barton Hill Recreation Ground)



SEAT DONATIONS POLICY**POLICY FOR SEAT DONATIONS IN SHAFTESBURY**

Shaftesbury Town Council welcomes applications for seat donations on its land and provides the following guidance for applicants:

- Seats must be in a location agreed with the Town Council and must be in a style in keeping with the area.
- The location and style of the seat must be agreed with officers of the Council and authorised by the Recreation, Open Spaces and Environment Committee.
- A record of the donation will be kept in a Memorial Book at the Town Hall offices.
- The full cost of the seat must be borne by the applicant and the Town Council will bear the cost of installation, insurance and maintenance.
- Any seats donated to the Town Council will be considered to be the property of the Town Council and will be added to the authority's Asset Register for insurance and audit purposes.
- Applicants are permitted to fit a plaque to the donated seat at their own cost and the wording must be authorised by the Town Clerk before installation.
- A donated seat will remain allocated to the applicant for the period of ten years. At the end of that time period, when seat is due for replacement, applicants will be offered first refusal on renewal and by accepting will agree to bear the associated replacement costs.
- The Town Council reserves the right to relocate the bench at the end of the ten year period if not renewed by the benefactor.

Risk Management*Financial and Procurement Implications*

- Replacement cost will be borne by the Town Council if required within the ten year period, this will be in the region of £500 - £700
- General maintenance of benches will be significantly below the purchase price;
- The purchase price is borne by the benefactor
- Any further financial implications will be reported.

Links to Corporate Plan

- There are currently no specific links to the Corporate Plan
- Shaftesbury Town Council is committed to increasing its involvement in managing and delivering local government services within the parish.

DEAR SIR/MADAM

I am writing to ask if it's possible for me to have a bench put up over Park Walk.

I have enclosed information on size & design of bench for you to look at.

IF YOU AGREE TO MY PROPOSAL, I wondered if it's possible for you to fix it to the ground for me & a idea on how much this would cost me.

kind regards

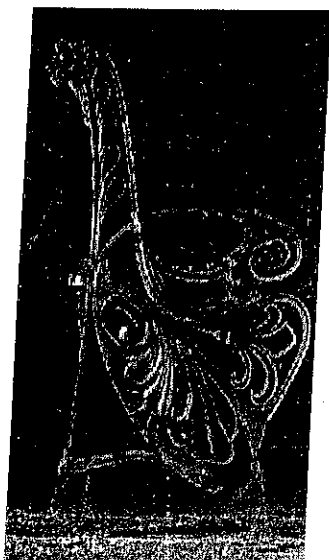
16 NOV 2015

Please call me after you have considered the design if there is anything that yo

Kind regards

Enc: Initial design for commemorative bench seat

Paul C Allen LWCB FWCB LCGI
Designer Blacksmith
Specialist in pure forgework techniques



Motcombe Forge The Street Motcombe
Dorset SP7 9PE

Telephone 01747 850458

Mobile 07890 098992

E-mail pureforgework@waitrose.com

www.artinmetal.co.uk

4th November 2015

Dear

Thank you for calling in to see me last week and considering me for making the commemorative bench seat for your late husband.

As you can see I have enclosed an initial drawing for you to consider. With regards to the name plate I think this would look nice if it was riveted centrally to the back of the seat on one of the rungs, either in stainless steel or brass. I have incorporated the shamrock and harp motive which we discussed with regard to your husband's Irish connection, in the decorative features of the end frames.

For your information the seat dimensions are length: 1,530 mm, depth: 550 mm and height: 800 mm. Finish: shot blast and hot thermal zinc spayed painted with Dulux Weather Shield pale olive, or colour of your own choice. Excluding fitting. £ 2, 989.00

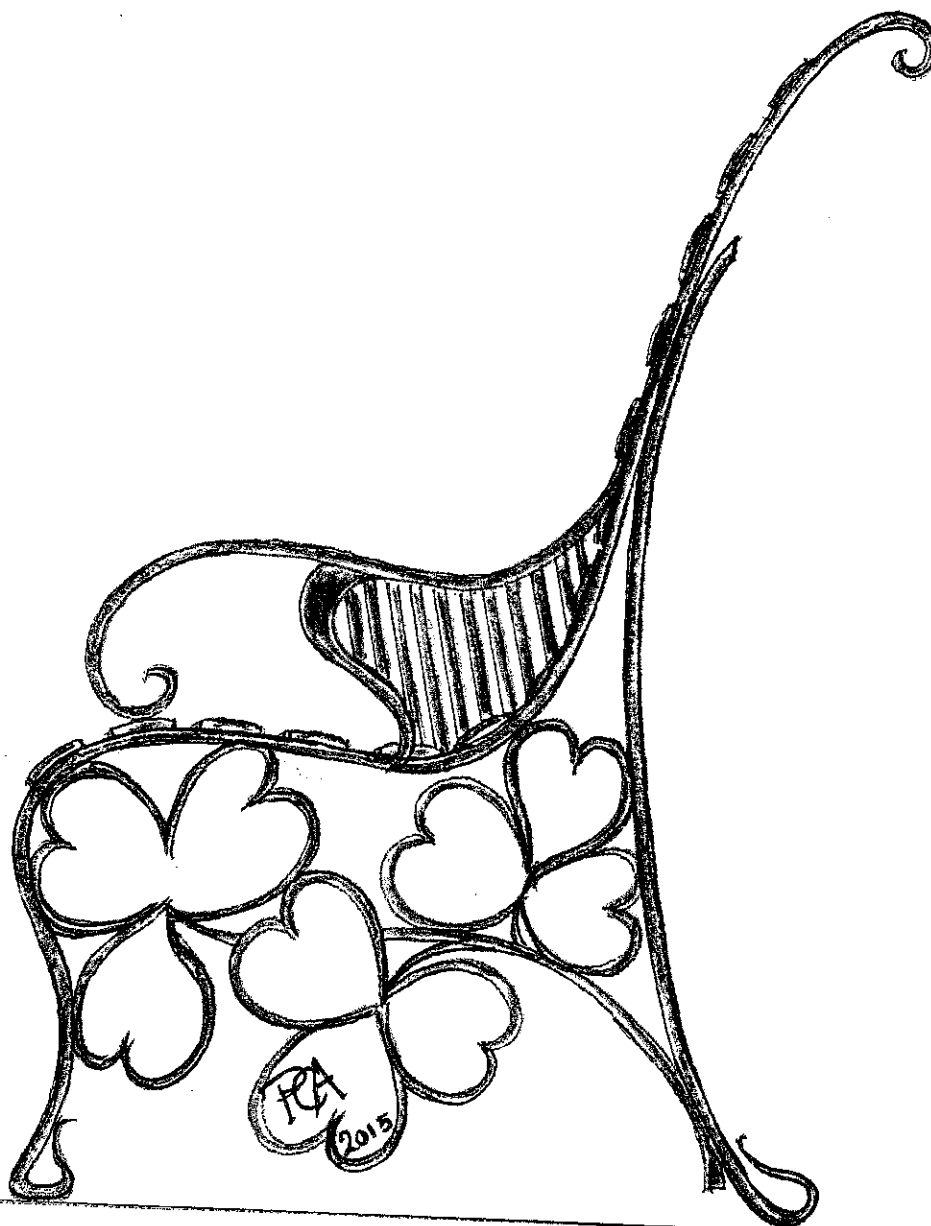
Please call me after you have considered the design if there is anything that you wish to discuss.

Kind regards

Enc: Initial design for commemorative bench seat

Paul C Allen LWCB FWCB LCGI
Designer Blacksmith
Specialist in pure forgework techniques

16 NOV 2015



6 NOV 2015



DESIGN PROPOSAL FOR
COMMEMORATIVE BENCH SEAT
ABBAY WALK
SHAFTESBURY

DRAWN BY EMINENT MASTER SMITH
PAUL COLLEN ALLEN FWCB LWCB 5:11:15

**Report to the Meeting of Shaftesbury Town Council's
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OFFICER REPORT

1. Purpose of Report

To update the Committee on matters within its remit.

2. Recommendation

That the report be received and noted:

3. Background

- 3.1. Coppice Street fence – Installation has been delayed because the contractor has been off work for a month. However, the contractor has informed the Office that he has placed an order for the parts and installation is now expected at the end of January or early in February.
- 3.2. Water Bowser - The Head Groundsman has been considering various designs and arrangements for transportation. A design initially thought preferable was found to present a risk to safe manual handling, an alternative has been identified and prices are awaited to ensure it is within budget.
- 3.3. Flower Boxes - New flower boxes were manufactured, installed under the first floor windows on the front of the Town Hall and planted up in time for the Christmas season.
- 3.4. Tree Planting - An order based on recommendations from the Open Spaces Group and the Tree Group has been prepared. The order has been held back so the young trees were not left out over the Christmas and New Year period.
- 3.5. Recruitment of Groundsman - The Committee is reminded that this post is seasonal, being 37 hours per week for six months (covering the tourist season) and 30 hours per week for the other six months. The Head Groundsman recommended that this post be held open over winter, as he felt that the team had sufficient capacity and, if additional resource was necessary, overtime could be used. However, the advertisement will be re-issued in January and February with a view to restoring the Grounds Team to full strength in time for the 2016 tourist season.
- 3.6. Recruitment of Apprentice – The College is able to start apprentice training after the Easter and Summer holidays therefore the advertisement for an apprentice can be included with the advertisement for the Groundsperson as detailed above.
- 3.7. Swimming Pool Solar Panels – The panels installed by Dorset Energy Solutions of Gillingham will benefit from the government-legislated 'feed-in tariff' that will pay the Council for generating its own electricity. The panels, which cost £13,260, are expected to pay for themselves within 8-9 years. They have an expected lifespan of up to 25 years. A Press Release is being drafted.

4. Financial Implications

None arising directly from this report.

5. Legal Implications

The Council has the General Power of Competence

End.

Report Author:
Stephen Holley
Town Clerk