

The Clerk advised that the sub-committee cannot make decisions on behalf of the Parish Council and any recommendations made by the sub-committee will be subject to approval by the Grounds and Environment Committee or the Parish Clerk as appropriate. If the Chairman is unable to attend a sub-committee meeting, then the Vice Chair will chair the meeting. Voting will normally be undertaken by a show of hands and the Chairman of the sub-committee has a casting vote if there is an equality of vote.

Objective

The responsibility of the Hassocks Skatepark (HSP) sub-committee will be to look at the following objectives:

To agree to refurbish or replace the existing skate park in Adastra Park.

To agree the location.

To look at funding opportunities.

Explore planning application requirements.

To agree a consultation exercise.

To agree a timescale of delivery.

Location

Following discussion the general consensus of opinion from the group was to strive to enlarge and replace the current Skatepark in its current location.

16/222 RECOMMEND to the Grounds and Environment committee that the current location is the best site for the Skatepark.

Refurbish, Increase in Size or Re-new

Discussion centred around planning permission requirements and in particular what materials could be used, e.g. spray concrete was favoured. Ideally would like to achieve the same size as the Henfield Skatepark. Since its construction Henfield has had very few maintenance issues as it was built using spray concrete. It is difficult to tell the difference between the skating experience at Henfield and at The Level in Brighton even though they were built at different times. This is because spray concrete was used at both parks. Ian Tovey felt it was important to include BMX usage and other skater's preferences and that there should be areas designated for smaller children. If you increase size and add more variety it could 'self-Police'! There is a 'Skaters Creed' and certain etiquette is adopted by users and hopefully this would prevent any possible anti-social behaviour issues.

A discussion ensued between all of the sub-committee members about various designs that could be used. Cllr Ian Weir asked the younger members of the group for clarification on the names of certain equipment. Photos of the Henfield Skatepark taken by Cllr Peter Gibbons and Cllr Leslie Campbell were circulated to aid the discussion. Cam also explained the concept of his original design submitted to Hassocks Parish Council (HPC) previously. The Bowl element of the design was discussed and

Cam advised that it was unlikely that a Bowl would be part of an ongoing design as would take up a lot of room and a substantial part of the budget. Bowls are resource thirsty as leaves and water need regular clearing out. All the young people were asked if they supported Cam's comments which they did as Cam had canvassed a lot of users during his initial design stage. It was also felt important that correct signage was taken in to consideration.

The issue of the Climbing Rock was discussed and the group asked whether this could be moved? Ideally it should stay where it is currently sited as moving it would eat into any available budget going forwards. However the swings could be moved as a decision on where they will go has been deferred until this initiative was progressed.

Action

Cam, Nick and Rob would come up with another concept design to be presented to the next sub-committee meeting. Councillors asked for as much detail as possible and to give an overview of the whole area as well as individual units for inclusion. If photos and sizes could be incorporated that would be beneficial in order to give Members of the Grounds and Environment committee as much information as possible. They were asked to include different areas for different age groups.

Action

Georgia would borrow a measuring wheel and measure the available area and let the group have the details.

Funding implications

The following possible sources of funding were identified. A capital contribution from Hassocks Parish Council, 106 Contributions, Active Lifestyle funding, East Sussex County Council/West Sussex County Council (WSCC) grants, WSCC Big Society Fund, Lions/Rotary grants, Lottery grant, WSCC County Local Committee grant, Police and Crime Commissioner grant, Mid Sussex District Council Sports funding and the Co-op Community Fund.

Action

The Clerk to explore possible avenues of funding.

TO CONSIDER VISITS TO OTHER SKATEPARKS

It was **AGREED** a visit to The Level would be beneficial. Councillors Ian Weir, Peter Gibbons and Leslie Campbell would endeavour to visit there before the next meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

March 21 2016 at 19.30 hours in the Hassocks Parish Council Chamber.

Chairman.....

Date