

Enquiries to: Kelly Baxter
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Date: 24th January, 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

A meeting of the **CABINET** will be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Nuneaton, on **Wednesday, 1st February 2023** at **6.00 p.m.**

The public can follow the decision making online:-
www.nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk/virtual-meeting.

Please note that meetings are recorded for future broadcast.

Yours faithfully,

BRENT DAVIS

Chief Executive

To: Members of Cabinet

Councillor K. Wilson (Leader of the Council and Business and Regeneration)
Councillor C. Golby (Deputy Leader and Housing and Communities)
Councillor S. Croft (Finance and Corporate)
Councillor S. Markham (Public Services)
Councillor R. Smith (Planning and Regulation)
Councillor J. Gutteridge (Health and Environment)

Also invited:

Councillor C. Watkins (Leader of the Main Opposition Group and Observer)

AGENDA

PART I

PUBLIC BUSINESS

1. EVACUATION PROCEDURE

A fire drill is not expected, so if the alarm sounds, please evacuate the building quickly and calmly. Please use the stairs and do not use the lifts. Once out of the building, please gather outside the Lloyds Bank on the opposite side of the road.

Exit by the door by which you entered the room or by the fire exits which are clearly indicated by the standard green fire exit signs.

If you need any assistance in evacuating the building, please make yourself known to a member of staff.

Please also make sure all your mobile phones are turned off or set to silent.

I would also advise that all or part of the meeting will be live streamed and recorded for future broadcast.

2. APOLOGIES - To receive apologies for absence from the meeting.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct.

Declaring interests at meetings

If there is any item of business to be discussed at the meeting in which you have a disclosable pecuniary interest or non-pecuniary interest (Other Interests), you must declare the interest appropriately at the start of the meeting or as soon as you become aware that you have an interest.

Arrangements have been made for interests that are declared regularly by members to be appended to the agenda (**Page 5**). Any interest noted in the Schedule at the back of the agenda papers will be deemed to have been declared and will be minuted as such by the Committee Services Officer. As a general rule, there will, therefore, be no need for those Members to declare those interests as set out in the schedule.

There are, however, TWO EXCEPTIONS to the general rule:

1. When the interest amounts to a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest that is engaged in connection with any item on the agenda and the member feels that the interest is such that they must leave the room. Prior to leaving the room, the member must inform the meeting that they are doing so, to ensure that it is recorded in the minutes.

2. Where a dispensation has been granted to vote and/or speak on an item where there is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, but it is not referred to in the Schedule (where for example, the dispensation was granted by the Monitoring Officer immediately prior to the meeting). The existence and nature of the dispensation needs to be recorded in the minutes and will, therefore, have to be disclosed at an appropriate time to the meeting.

Note: Following the adoption of the new Code of Conduct, Members are reminded that they should declare the existence and nature of their personal interests at the commencement of the relevant item (or as soon as the interest becomes apparent). If that interest is a Disclosable Pecuniary or a Deemed Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, the Member must withdraw from the room.

Where a Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest but has received a dispensation from Audit and Standards Committee, that Member may vote and/or speak on the matter (as the case may be) and must disclose the existence of the dispensation and any restrictions placed on it at the time the interest is declared.

Where a Member has a Deemed Disclosable Interest as defined in the Code of Conduct, the Member may address the meeting as a member of the public as set out in the Code.

Note: Council Procedure Rules require Members with Disclosable Pecuniary Interests to withdraw from the meeting unless a dispensation allows them to remain to vote and/or speak on the business giving rise to the interest.

Where a Member has a Deemed Disclosable Interest, the Council's Code of Conduct permits public speaking on the item, after which the Member is required by Council Procedure Rules to withdraw from the meeting.

4. MINUTES - To confirm the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on the 11th January 2023 **(Page 8)**
5. PUBLIC CONSULTATION – Members of the Public will be given the opportunity to speak on specific agenda items if notice has been received.
6. IMPLEMENTATION TO THE ELECTION ACT 2022 AND VOTER ID FOR NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL – report of the Chief Executive attached **(Page 18)**
7. BUTTERMERE RECREATION GROUND REDEVELOPMENT – report of the Director – Public Services attached **(Page 27)**. **Appendix 1: The final design will be listed separately to the agenda due to its size and only available online.**
8. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANELS – None
9. ANY OTHER ITEMS - which in the opinion of the Chair of the meeting should be considered as a matter of urgency because of special circumstances (which must be specified).

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

Building A Better Borough

Nuneaton and Bedworth 2032: working in partnership, restoring pride in our borough

AIM 1: LIVE

We want to make our borough a place where our residents enjoy living and in which others choose to make their home.

Priority 1: Promote residents' health and wellbeing

Priority 2: Enable appropriate housing development

Priority 3: Sponsor a sustainable green approach

Priority 4: Prioritise community safety and empowerment

AIM 2: WORK

Using our prime location within the national road and rail networks and responding to the needs of private companies, we want to make our borough a place in which businesses choose to locate and where our residents enjoy a range of employment options.

Priority 1: Grow a strong and inclusive economy

Priority 2: Champion education and skills

Priority 3: Embrace new and emerging technology

Priority 4: Support local businesses

AIM 3: VISIT

Taking advantage of our open green spaces, our heritage, and our location within the West Midlands, we want our borough to be a vibrant destination for residents and visitors alike. A place where people and families want to spend time relaxing, socialising and taking part in leisure and cultural activities.

Priority 1: Create vibrant and diverse town centres

Priority 2: Stimulate regeneration

Priority 3: Celebrate and promote our heritage

Priority 4: Improve the physical environment

Cabinet - Schedule of Declarations of Interests – 2022/2023

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
	General dispensations granted to all members under s.33 of the Localism Act 2011			Granted to all members of the Council in the areas of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Housing matters - Statutory sick pay under Part XI of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 - An allowance, payment given to members - An indemnity given to members - Any ceremonial honour given to members - Setting council tax or a precept under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 - Planning and Licensing matters - Allotments - Local Enterprise Partnership
	S. Croft	Employed at Holland & Barrett Retail Ltd	Treasurer of the Conservative Association Member of the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Champion for Safeguarding (Children and Adults) • Local Government Superannuation Scheme Consultative Board West Midlands Employers	
	C. Golby		Member of Warwickshire County Council Membership of Other Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton and Bedworth Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership • Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd. • Nuneaton and Bedworth Home Improvement Agency • Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board • Warwickshire Housing and Support Partnership • Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel • George Eliot Hospital 	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			NHS Trust – Public/User Board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • George Eliot Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Governors • District Leaders (substitute) • Local Enterprise Partnership (substitute) • Coventry, Warwickshire and Hinckley and Bosworth Joint Committee (substitute) 	
	J. Gutteridge		Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Board • Age UK (Warwickshire Branch) • Committee of Management of Hartshill and Nuneaton Recreation Ground • West Midlands Combined Authority Wellbeing Board 	
	S. Markham	County Councillor – W.C.C.	Governor at Ash Green School Member of the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton and Bedworth Sports Forum • Warwickshire Direct Partnership • Warwickshire Waste Partnership • Sherbourne Asset Co Shareholder Committee 	
	R. Smith		Chairman of Volunteer Friends, Bulkington; Trustee of Bulkington Sports and Social Club; Member of the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A5 Member Partnership; • PATROL (Parking and Traffic Regulation Outside of London) Joint Committee; • Building Control Partnership Steering Group • Bulkington Village Community and Conference Centre • Representative on the Nuneaton and Bedworth 	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			Older Peoples Forum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Midlands Combined Authority and Land Delivery Board 	
	K.D. Wilson	Acting Delivery Manager, Nuneaton and Warwick County Courts, HMCTS, Warwickshire Justice Centre, Nuneaton	Deputy Chairman – Nuneaton Conservative Association Corporate Tenancies: properties are leased by NBBC to Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd, of which I am a Council appointed Director. Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director of Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd (NABCEL) • Coventry, Warwickshire and Hinckley & Bosworth Joint Committee • District Council Network • Local Government Association • Director of Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership Ltd (CWLEP) • West Midlands Combined Authority 	

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

11th January 2023

A meeting of Cabinet was held on Wednesday 11th January, 2023 in the Council Chamber which was recorded and live streamed.

Present

Councillor K. Wilson (Leader and Business and Regeneration (Chair))
Councillor C. Golby (Deputy Leader and Housing and Communities)
Councillor S. Croft (Finance and Corporate)
Councillor J. Gutteridge (Health and Environment)
Councillor S. Markham (Public Services)
Councillor R. Smith (Planning and Regulation)

CB86 Chairs Announcements

The Chair wished everyone a Happy New Year

CB87 Apologies

None

CB88 Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED that the Declarations of Interest for this meeting are as set out in the Schedule attached to these minutes.

CB89 Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 7th December 2022, be approved, and signed by the Chair.

CB90 Procurement of Electricity

A report by the Strategic Creditors and Procurement Manager was submitted to cabinet seeking approval to award a new service contract with the Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation [ESPO] as agents for the procurement of electricity from 1st October 2024 until 20th September 2028, and an electricity supply contract for the same period via its public sector framework for the supply of the electricity.

RESOLVED that the Borough Council awards a new service contract with the Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation [ESPO] as agents for the procurement of electricity from 1 October 2024 until 30 September 2028 and a supply contract for the same period via its public sector Framework for the supply of the electricity.

Speakers:

Peter Smith
Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options

Accept the recommendations; or
Do not approve the recommendation and seek an alternative procurement agent for electricity or undertake our own procurement tendering exercise, both of which

presents risks of non-supply or financial uncertainty.

Reasons

To allow the Council to benefit from the economies of scale as part of a consortia purchasing arrangement, obtaining fixed rates for each 12-month period, a comprehensive bill validation service, industry updates including pricing, market risks, forthcoming challenges as well as opportunities for potential green tariff transition.

The Council currently does not have the optimal level of capacity or industry knowledge to procure electricity itself due to the complexities of the market. Furthermore, doing so would reduce economies of scale and present a risk of non-supply as the Council in isolation would not be attractive enough to attract sufficient competition in a tender exercise.

CB91 **Water Safety Policy**

The Director – Public Services submitted a report to Cabinet seeking approval for the adoption of the Councils Water Safety Policy.

RESOLVED that the Water Safety Policy be approved

Speakers:

Peter Smith

Sue Tonks

Ruth Kennedy submitted a written statement as she was unable to attend the meeting therefore her statement was circulated to Cabinet prior to the meeting and attached to the minutes at Appendix 1.

Councillor Keith Kondakor

Councillor Brian Hammersley

Options

Accept the recommendation

To not accept the recommendation

Reasons

This policy document provides clarity to management, officers and contractors when undertaking water safety inspections and associated activities.

CB92 **Arrangements for Short Notice Burials**

The Director – Public Services seeking approval to adopt the Arrangements for Short Notice Burials Policy.

RESOLVED that the Arrangements for Short Notice Burials Policy be adopted.

Speakers:

None

Options

Accept the recommendations in full; or

Do not accept the recommendations

Reasons

To provide clarity to the applicant, Cemetery's Officer and contractors when undertaking a Short Notice Burial.

CB93 Bedworth Physical Activity Hub

The Director – Public Services submitted a report to Cabinet providing a Leisure Development update in relation to the Bedworth Physical Activity Hub (BPAH). This was following a notification from the selected construction company, that the revised project cost to deliver the project would now be £34M. Due to the increased costs and the subsequent financial strain this will place the council under by extending prudential borrowing by a further £6/7M, it was recommended to Cabinet that the Borough Council delay any further work on the BPAH project at this time.

RESOLVED that

- a) any further work be delayed by the Borough Council on the BPAH project at this time, whilst additional funding streams are sought;
- b) Officers be instructed to formally consult with DLUHC as to options available for the £14.95M grant and changes to the agreement with them that would allow a staged approach to constructing the BPAH;
- c) Officers liaise with Sport England as to the confirmed capital funding approved and changes to the project delivery that would allow a staged approach to constructing the BPAH;
- d) Officers identify any other sources of external funding that could support in delivering the BPAH;
- e) delegated authority be given to the Director - Public Services, in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Public Services and the Cabinet Member - Finance and Corporate, to apply for any other appropriate sources of funding as soon as practicable; and
- f) a further update report be brought back to Cabinet to advise of outcomes of discussions with current and other potential external funding partners and if applicable any applications that may have been made for any other appropriate sources of funding.

Speakers:

Councillor Keith Kondakor

Options:

To accept the recommendation in full
Do not accept the recommendations

Reasons:

The Council at this time cannot afford any additional prudential borrowing to the value of £6/7M, to meet the shortfall in the project costs. Further borrowing will expose the Council to a significant risk given the current financial strain the

authority is under to provide a balance budget and its Medium-Term Financial Planning strategy (MTFP).

CB94 Recommendations from Civic Honours Sub-Committee

a) Street naming in Honour of Simon Valentine

A report on the above was submitted to the Civic Honours sub-committee held on 5th December 2022. At this meeting recommendations were made to Cabinet for consideration and approval.

RESOLVED that

- i) a section of Rye Piece Ringway between the traffic islands and Coventry Road be renamed in honour of Sergeant Simon Valentine
- ii) delegated authority be given to the Director – Planning & Regulation in consultation with the Chair to confirm the precise name of the road and implement the proposal.

Speakers:

Councillor Keith Kondakor

b) Nuneaton and Bedworth Award of Merit

A report on the above was submitted to the Civic Honours sub-committee held in 5th December 2022 on the arrangements for the Nuneaton and Bedworth Award of Merit. From this, recommendations to Cabinet were made for consideration and approval.

RESOLVED that

- i) the arrangements for the Nuneaton and Bedworth Award of Merit as set out in Appendix A of the report, with the amendments as set out in the minutes of the Civic Honours sub-Committee be approved; and
- ii) delegated authority be given to the Director – Customer & Corporate Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate to implement the approved arrangements.

c) Any Other Items

At the meeting of the Civic Honours sub-committee on 5th December a recommendation was made to Cabinet under Any Other Business for the Chief Executive to convene an Extraordinary Council to vote upon the nomination of Dave Leach for Freeman of the Borough for his service to the Council for over 27 years.

Speaker:

Councillor Keith Kondakor

RESOLVED that the Chief Executive be requested to convene an Extraordinary Council to vote upon the nomination of Dave Leach for Freeman of the Borough for his service to the Council for over 27 years.

CB95 Recommendations From Overview and Scrutiny Panels

a) Business, Regeneration and Planning OSP – 8th December 2022

At its meeting the panel considered a petition received by the Council 'Keep the Nuneaton Lilypad Fountain in its current location between Queens Road, Market Place and Coventry Street Station' and after debate the recommendation to Cabinet was proposed that the decision made by Cabinet to remove the fountain be supported.

Speaker:

Councillor Keith Kondakor

RESOLVED that the above recommendation be noted.

CB96 Any Other Items

None

Chair

PUBLICATION DATE: 20TH January, 2023

DECISIONS COME INTO FORCE: 30TH JANUARY 2023

Statement from R. Kennedy

To whom it may concern

I am writing to you regarding the Nuneaton and Bedworth BC meeting that I understand is due to take place tomorrow (Wednesday 11th January 2023). I have recently been made aware that a proposal is to be motioned banning people from entering any body of open water within the borough. I strongly oppose this and believe it to be the wrong decision.

I believe this ban is in response to the tragic events that happened recently at Babbs Mill Pool. What happened there is undeniably an absolute tragedy that no-one wants to see repeated anywhere if it can be avoided. However, I don't think banning those children from the water would've prevented it. For all we know the three boys who were family had already been banned from going down there anyway? Would a ban really prevent inquisitive children from exploring the ice? Would a ban have prevented an unrelated 12 year old boy out walking with his grandfather from entering the water in an attempt to save them? And in so doing also losing his own life? I think the way forward to this is education.

I am a child of the 1970s and 1980s. When I was growing up we saw infomercials that taught us not to climb pylons to retrieve frisbees or kites, not to play in dumped fridges or freezers, not to take sweets from strangers and not to play on ice. We seem to have lost that somewhere along the way and don't educate our young people in these dangers and instead when tragedy happens we look to someone to blame and think that by implementing a ban we are keeping people safe.

People die on our roads on a daily basis. The response to this is not to ban roads and to rarely ban drivers. Instead the police response is to educate. The Speed Awareness courses offered to drivers has been enormously successful in reducing road deaths and getting drivers to reevaluate their responsibility behind the wheel of a car.

Why can't we take this approach with Open Water? I'm sure the police have way better things to do with their time than respond to this ban. You only have to look on posts on Social Media to see people complaining about the police not responding to crimes they have reported. They are a vital resource that is already thinly stretched. A unnecessary ban like this only stretches them further.

I know that liability is also a factor so I'm not proposing encouraging people to enter bodies of water. However, nowhere in Europe (or the world) is more prohibitive than England. Scotland and Wales are both far more progressive with this regard and people are responsible for themselves. You can't turn on the television at the moment and avoid the popularity of Open Water Swimming. The health benefits are well documented and relieves the pressure on our NHS. People swim both for the mental health benefits as well as the physical ones. I know people who swim to self-medicate, not needing to

call upon the help of this already pushed to breaking point service. However, places where swimming is allowed is so restricted people end up breaking rules or worse still; swimming in rivers which are far more dangerous.

I avoid using buzz phrases like "Cold Water Shock Kills" as to the average person statements like this are meaningless. Instead I tell people "The shock of cold water can cause a heart attack. However, the bigger problem is the involuntary gasp you make when your body enters cold water. If you make that gasp when your face is submerged your lungs will fill with water and you'll sink. Always enter cold water slowly. Time how long you are in. Never swim alone and always have someone on land who knows where you are and how long you've been in for"

I swim in one of many quickly growing Open Water Swimming groups in the Midlands. We educate all of our members and would happily work with yourselves to come up with an educational alternative to a ban.

Also, please consider local Scouting groups who sometimes have sessions on the canal with their canoes - where does this leave them? Paddle boarding is also booming in popularity, wouldn't it be nice to see people doing this on the river through Riversley Park on a sunny day? That would be a far more positive view of this town than anything that carries a danger being banned.

We wouldn't teach sex education through abstinence as it would be seen as irresponsible. The antisocial element is always going to exist whether or not there is a ban in place, so why should the antisocial few ruin it for the responsible many?

Many thanks for reading and I hope my points are considered in this decision.

Kindest regards
Ruth Kennedy

Cabinet - Schedule of Declarations of Interests – 2022/2023

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	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
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	K.D. Wilson	Acting Delivery Manager, Nuneaton and Warwick County Courts, HMCTS, Warwickshire Justice Centre, Nuneaton	Deputy Chairman – Nuneaton Conservative Association Corporate Tenancies: properties are leased by NBBC to Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd, of which I am a Council appointed Director. Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director of Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd (NABCEL) • Coventry, Warwickshire and Hinckley & Bosworth Joint Committee • District Council Network • Local Government Association • Director of Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership Ltd (CWLEP) • West Midlands Combined Authority 	

Cabinet/Individual Cabinet Member Decision

Report Summary Sheet

Date: 1 February 2023

Subject: Implementation to the Election Act 2022 and Voter ID for Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

Portfolio: Finance and Corporate (Cllr S. Croft)

From: Chief Executive

Summary: Report outlines key changes that will be brought into place as a result of the Election Act 2022 Legislation.

Recommendations:

That Cabinet notes the progress made by the Electoral Registration Officer, Electoral Services Team, and others to date on implementation of the Elections Act 2022

Options:

No direct human resource implication

Reasons: There is a statutory requirement to implement the changes being introduced by the Election Act 2022.

Consultation undertaken with Members/Officers/Stakeholders

Subject to call-in:

Yes

Ward relevance:

All Wards

Forward plan: Yes

Delivering Our Future Theme:

Collaboration – achieving more by working together

Delivering Our Future Priority:

Partners, Businesses and Suppliers -we will work with our partners, businesses, suppliers

Relevant statutes or policy:

Election Act 2022

Equalities Implications:

(Does this require an Equalities Impact Assessment? If so please append.)

To step up to the reasonable adjustments required to all polling stations as outlined within the report.

Human resources implications:

No direct human resource implication.

Financial implications:

To manage these changes within the existing budgets. However there may be financial

implications in the year 2024/2025 due to the increase in workload derived from the upcoming changes.

Health Inequalities Implications:

No direct health inequalities implications

Section 17 Crime & Disorder Implications:

No direct Section 17 Crime and Disorder implications

Risk management implications:

No direct risk management implications

Environmental implications:

No direct Environmental implications

Legal implications:

To comply with the Election Act 2022. The ERO and RO have a number of legal obligations that are placed upon them which are outlined within this report

Contact details:

Sabiha Shaikh – Electoral Services Assistant

Sabiha.shaikh@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet - 1 February 2023

From: Chief Executive

Subject: Implementation of the Elections Act 2022 and Voter ID for Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

Portfolio: Finance and Corporate (Cllr S. Croft)

1. Purpose of Report

To advise members of the upcoming changes to elections as a result of the Elections Act 2022. This report outlines the key information on the Election Act and Voter ID which will come into force May 2023.

2. Recommendations

That Cabinet notes the progress made by the Electoral Registration Officer, Electoral Services Team and others to date on implementation of the Elections Act 2022.

3. **Background: Context and Reasons for Recommendations and context**

3.1 The Elections Act 2022

3.1.1 The Act seeks to make a number of changes to the elections process at local, Parliamentary and Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) elections. The Act is intended to reduce the risk of election fraud, whilst making the voting process more accessible, both physically and through greater use of digital technology. The Act places a number of new and amended duties on the Returning Officer (RO) and Electoral Registration Officer (ERO). The main changes are summarised below:

3.2 Voter ID Requirement

3.2.1 Voters will be required to produce an approved form of photographic ID at the polling station before they can be issued with a ballot paper. The Council must provide either a Voter Authority Certificate (VAC) or Temporary Voter Authority Certificate (a photographic ID document) free of charge to voters who do not have one of the approved forms of photographic ID (listed at Appendix A to this report), such as a passport or driving licence. Officers will be required to deal with voter enquiries, determine voter card applications and then print and issue the same.

3.2.2 The Voter Authority Certificate will be an A4 paper document with “inherent security features”. Producing the cards will require sufficient trained staff both to see customers in

person to issue the ID and also staff to determine the applications and approve the production of the ID.

- 3.2.3 Applications for a voter card may be submitted up to 6 working days before polling day. Anyone whose ID is no longer available on polling day (e.g. lost or stolen) can apply for an emergency proxy up to 5.00pm on polling day.
- 3.2.4 There is considerable media interest in the implementation of Voter ID – both the online service to apply for a voter authority certificate and the impact on polling day. Due to Nuneaton and Bedworth not having elections in May 2023, there will be the opportunity to learn from the implementation at other authorities ahead of the next scheduled elections in May 2024.
- 3.2.5 Those authorities with elections in May 2023 will be undertaking considerable publicity and engagement with groups who are less likely to have the required photographic ID. Officers have started the engagement process with partners and community groups and will significantly increase the local publicity on Voter ID ahead of the May 2024 polls.

3.3 Three Yearly Postal Vote Refresh

- 3.3.1 The maximum “life” of an elector’s postal vote will be limited to 3 years (down from 5 at present) and thereafter electors will have to submit a fresh signature every 3 years, or their postal vote will be removed. It is anticipated that the ERO will be asked to write to all existing postal vote holders to advise them of the change and will also have to issue reminders to voters on an ongoing basis when their postal vote is about to expire.
- 3.3.2 The re-application and reminder process will be an additional administrative requirement, especially as we have approx. 10,500 postal vote holders currently. The implementation date for this new requirement is currently expected to be January 2024.

3.4 Accessibility

- 3.4.1 The Returning Officer will be required to improve support in polling stations for people with a wide range of disabilities and review the equipment provided to support disabled people to vote. There will likely be a cost to purchase new equipment and some polling station venues may no longer be deemed suitable if all polling stations are required to have disabled access including those based in porta cabins.
- 3.4.2 The implementation date for this new requirement is May 2023.

3.5 Change to voting system for PCC elections

- 3.5.1 The voting process for PCC elections will move to the “first past the post” system, where voters choose only one preferred candidate. This will reduce the length and complexity of the election count and the government states will reduce voter confusion in future.

3.6 Political campaigners banned from handling postal votes

- 3.6.1 Political campaigners will be banned from handling postal ballot papers (unless they are a family member or carer of the voter concerned) and a new criminal offence will be created.

3.6.2 The Returning Officer currently will take steps to make candidates and political parties aware of the new rules which create the potential for an increase in complaints and allegations of malpractice in the pre-election period. It is currently thought that these rules will be introduced in Autumn 2023.

3.7 Limit on handing in postal votes

3.7.1 There will be a limit (still to be set) on the number of postal votes a person (including candidates and party workers) can hand deliver to the Council. When a person hands in postal votes they will be required to fill in a form, giving their name and address and the number of electors whose postal votes, they are delivering to a polling station. If this information is not provided the postal votes will be rejected.

3.7.2 If a person insists on handing in more than the permitted number all the postal votes will be rejected. The RO then would have to notify those voters as their vote has been rejected.

3.7.3 Again, the ERO will take steps to make candidates and political parties aware of the new rules. Elections staff will be required to keep a running tally of the number of postal votes each person hand delivers to the Council in the pre-election period to ensure that the threshold is not exceeded. It is currently thought that these rules will be introduced in Autumn 2023.

3.8 Limit on proxies

3.8.1 A person will only be able to act as a proxy for up to 4 voters (including overseas and service electors), and for “resident” electors the limit will be 2 voters. Although not legally required to do so, that the elections team will monitor proxy appointments to ensure that the limit is not exceeded and will take steps to raise awareness with candidates and the political parties. The limit is expected to be in place from June 2023.

3.9 Online absent vote applications

3.9.1 Although paper applications will still be possible, electors will also be able to apply online for postal and proxy votes. There will be a new online process for verifying the identity of applicants. Details of the new arrangements are currently still to be finalised, but it is expected that this service will be live from June 2023.

3.10 Overseas electors

3.10.1 The 15-year limit on British citizens living overseas right to vote in Parliamentary elections will be removed and expatriates will be able to register in respect of their last UK address.

3.10.2 The ERO will be required to verify such applications, including the claimed connection to a previous UK address. It is anticipated that this will increase the size of the overseas electorate considerably across the UK, however the impact on Nuneaton and Bedworth is likely to be manageable within current resources. It is anticipated that these provisions will take effect from July 2023.

4. Conclusion

Cabinet is asked to note the report and provide feedback as appropriate to the RO and ERO on implementation of the Elections Act 2022.

5. **Appendices**

List of approved form of ID

6. **Background Papers**

None.

List of photographic identification that will be accepted in relevant GB elections

Identity Document	Notes
A United Kingdom passport	n/a
A passport issued by an EEA state or a Commonwealth country;	n/a
A licence to drive a motor vehicle granted under— 15(i) Part 3 of the Road Traffic Act 1988, or (ii) the Road Traffic (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 (SI 1981/154 (N.I. 1));	This includes provisional driving licences
A driving licence issued by any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or an EEA state;	n/a
A biometric immigration document issued in accordance with regulations under section 5 of the UK Borders Act 2007;	n/a
An identity card bearing the Proof of Age Standards Scheme hologram (a PASS card)	<p>A wide range of identity documents are PASS accredited including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CitizenCard ● Bracknell Forest Council e-card ● My ID Card ● Milton Keynes all in 1 MK Card ● NUS Totum ID Card ● Validate UK Card ● Young Scot Card ● Southwark Proof of Age London Card ● One ID 4 U Card
A Ministry of Defence Form 90 (Defence Identity Card);	Commonly known as a MOD90
<p>Any of the following concessionary travel passes: funded by the UK Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Older Person's Bus Pass - Disabled Person's Bus Pass - Oyster 60+ Card - Freedom Pass <p>Funded by the Scottish Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Entitlement Card <p>Funded by the Welsh Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 60 and over Welsh Concessionary Travel Card - Disabled Person's Welsh Concessionary Travel Card <p>Issued under the Northern Ireland Concessionary Fares Scheme</p>	<p>N.B. This list has been updated since the introduction of the Elections Bill. It now exhaustively sets out all concessionary travel cards that will be accepted, to avoid any confusion amongst electors.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A Senior SmartPass; - A Registered Blind SmartPass or Blind Person's SmartPass; - A War Disablement SmartPass or War Disabled SmartPass; - A 60+ SmartPass; - A Half Fare SmartPass 	
A badge of a form prescribed under section 21 of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970 or section 14 of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Northern Ireland) Act 1978 (blue badge scheme);	n/a
An electoral identity document issued under section 13BD (electoral identity document: Great Britain);	The Voter Authority Certificate, previously referred to as the Voter Card
An anonymous elector's document issued under section 513BE (anonymous elector's document: Great Britain) the holder of which has an anonymous entry at the time of the application for a ballot paper;	n/a
An electoral identity card issued under section 13C (electoral identity card: Northern Ireland);	n/a
A national identity card issued by an EEA state.	n/a

Cabinet/Individual Cabinet Member Decision

Report Summary Sheet

Date: 1st February 2023

Subject: Buttermere Recreation Ground Redevelopment

Portfolio: Health and Environment

From: Director – Public Services

Summary:

The report seeks to approve the release of the Consultation report and enable the next phases of the project to commence.

Recommendations:

1. Agree to publish the consultation report and final design for the park on the NBBC website (Appendix 1).
2. Delegated authority be given to the Director of Public Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health and Environment to enter into contracts for the delivery of the Buttermere Recreation Ground development, providing the value aligns with the overall project budget.

Options:

Accept the recommendations and continue with project: Utilising s106 planning obligation funding specifically for improving the park as per the legal agreements.

Do nothing: The park will stay as it currently is (the play area is 28 years old and has reached the end of its lifespan). With this option the s106 money will have to be returned to the developers.

Consultation undertaken with Members/Officers/Stakeholders

The Portfolio holder for Health and Environment has been consulted at every stage of the development, as have the ward councillors for St Nicolas. Residents surrounding

Subject to call-in: No

Ward relevance: St Nicolas

Forward plan: Yes

Building a Better Borough Aim:

Aim 1: Live

Aim 3: Visit

Building a Better Borough Priority:

Priority 1: promote residents health and wellbeing

Priority 4: improve the physical environment

Relevant statutes or policy:

Nuneaton and Bedworth Local Plan

Equalities Implications:

(Does this require an Equalities Impact Assessment? If so please append.)

N/A

Human resources implications:

N/A

Financial implications:

The entire project will be funded through s106 contributions and not NBBC capital or revenue. This will be reflected in the Capital Programme update report to Cabinet, on 8th Feb 2023.

Health Inequalities Implications:

Will contribute to improve the health and mental wellbeing of the area's children and young people.

Section 17 Crime & Disorder Implications:

None

Risk management implications:

None currently

Environmental implications:

The redevelopment of Buttermere seeks to improve the natural environment and biodiversity of the site and will plan wildflower areas as well as circa 45 new trees.

Legal implications:

Funding is via s106 planning obligations which are legal agreements between NBBC and developers. Money must be spent in accordance with these agreements.

Contact details:

Kevin Hollis – Director Public Services

Telephone 024 7637 6143

Email: kevin.hollis@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk

NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet - 1st February 2023

From: Director – Public Services

Subject: Buttermere Recreation Ground Redevelopment

Portfolio: Health and Environment - (Cllr J. Gutteridge)

Building a Better Borough Aim:

Aim 1: Live

Aim 3: Visit

Building a Better Borough Priority:

Priority 1: Promote resident's health and wellbeing

Priority 4: Improve the physical environment

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To seek approval for the next phase of the redevelopment of Buttermere recreation ground, Nuneaton.

2. Recommendations

2.1 Agree to publish the consultation report and final design for the park on the NBBC website (Appendix 1).

2.2 Delegated authority be given to the Director of Public Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health and Environment to enter into contracts for the delivery of the Buttermere Recreation Ground development, providing the value aligns with the overall project budget.

3. Background

3.1 Buttermere Recreation Ground, is a public open space to the north of Nuneaton, in St Nicolas Ward. Several housing allocations in the NBBC Local Plan have been built near to the park over the past few years and each has contributed money via s106 planning obligations, to improve the park and mitigate any extra pressure on the open space from increased use. NBBC are in receipt of this money and started the initial project scoping and consultation in 2022.

4. Body of Report

- 4.1 Buttermere park has a number of s106 contributions attributed to it from surrounding housing allocations. These legal contracts set out the funds that should be used by NBBC to improve the park facilities including play area, paths and biodiversity.
- 4.2 Public consultation was undertaken in June 2022 with an online questionnaire, concept plan and open morning on the park. Feedback was good, with 347 responses to the questionnaire submitted along with a good turnout of local people on the open morning.
- 4.3 Results from the consultation were used to shape the final design of the park. Both the consultation findings and the final design can be found in the consultation report in Appendix 1.
- 4.4 Funding for improvements to Buttermere park are entirely from s106 planning obligations. S106 agreements are legal contracts between NBBC and the developer and as such need to be carried out as per the contract and reported on via the Infrastructure Funding Statement, published by the council every year.
- 4.5 The s106 agreements for Buttermere park include improving footpaths and connections to new development to the north of the park, new play areas and biodiversity improvements, all of which are in the final park design.
- 4.6 The project will added to the Capital Programme for 2023/24, (Capital Programme Update Report due to be considered by Cabinet on 8th Feb 2023). If approved Officers will commence the procurement process for the practical onsite build of the park, with a view to commence works in September 2023.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 This report, and the consultation report clarify how the Council will progress the Buttermere redevelopment in 2023/24, if approved.

6. Appendices

Appendix 1: Buttermere consultation report and final park design

7. Background Papers (if none, state none)



Landscape Architecture
Ecology | Greenspace



Buttermere Recreation Ground

Consultation Results - Public Edition

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

September 2022

Cabinet - Wednesday 1st February, 2023



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Landscape Architecture
Ecology | Greenspace

Document and Quality Control

REPORT TITLE

Buttermere Recreation Ground -
Consultation Results - Public Edition

CLIENT NAME AND CONTACT

Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council

REPORT STATUS

Final
Revision D 2023.01.16 - incorporating
com-ments made by NBBC on 2023.01.12

RED KITE NAME AND REFERENCE

469.21 Buttermere Recreation Ground

PRINCIPAL REPORT AUTHOR(S)

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VERIFICATION AND REVIEW

Annie Millen, CMLI
Principal Landscape Architect

CLIENT ISSUE DATE

07/10/2022

1.0 Introduction

- 1.0.1 Red Kite Network Limited were appointed by Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC) in January 2022 for the ‘Development of a Landscape Masterplan and Administration of Delivery’ in relation to the proposed development and creation of a new community park at Buttermere Recreation Ground, which is located in St.Nicolas ward, north of Nuneaton. NBBC’s vision is to amalgamate the existing Recreation Ground with the new open space created by Bellway Homes who are building a large scale housing development to the north of the Site. Further to this is a much needed upgrade of the play provision to accommodate multi aged dynamic play; and realising the best routes for path infrastructure which assimilate the two open spaces together enabling fluidity between the communities of the existing and new housing. Through a variety of improvements and the meaningful union of the two public open spaces it is intended this will elevate Buttermere Recreation Ground to Community Park status.
- 1.0.2 This report sets out the findings and results of public consultation carried out to determine local residents’ and stakeholders’ views on the concept proposals developed to RIBA Plan of Work Stage 3 for Buttermere Recreation Ground. The report was produced by Red Kite Network Limited, a Shropshire-based landscape architecture, ecology and greenspace consultancy, and is for the consideration of the communities surrounding the Recreation Ground. In June 2022, public consultation was carried out to determine local residents’ and stakeholders’ views regarding the priorities for Buttermere Recreation Ground. This report sets out the methodology and findings discovered throughout the consultation process.
- 1.0.3 A full baseline assessment of social demographics, landscape, ecology and arboriculture was undertaken and the findings are presented in the ‘Landscape and Ecology baseline Report’ issued in April 2022. This informed the opportunities and constraints for the Recreation Ground and provided a baseline for Sketch Masterplans developed by Red Kite Network Limited. Through consultation with key NBBC officers a Concept Masterplan for Buttermere Recreation Ground (refer to Figure 2) was drafted in June 2022 for the purposes of discussion with the public facilitated through virtual and face to face opportunities.
- 1.0.4 The findings from consultation, contained in this report are publicly accessible on NBBC’s website; and as part of the iterative design process have further shaped the Concept Masterplan, the final version is illustrated in Section 6 of this report.

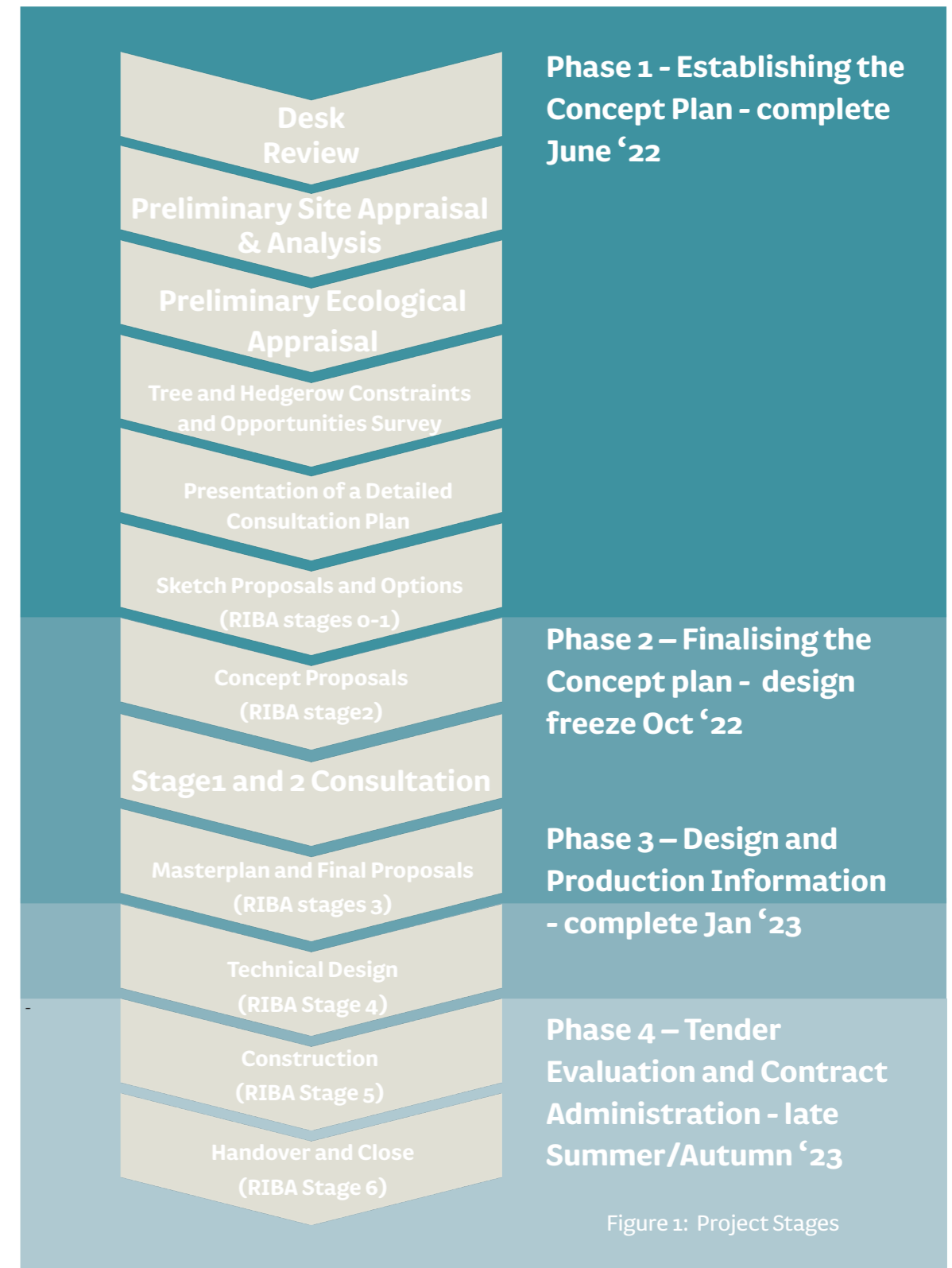


Figure 1: Project Stages

2.0 Methodology

2.0.1 A range of consultation approaches were adopted as part of the public consultation organised for Buttermere Recreation Ground to ensure a wide an audience as possible was reached. This involved virtual and face to face opportunities to talk and review the Concept Masterplan proposals as Figure 2, and enable people of all ages, health and with busy lives to participate. The online consultation survey was open from the 6th to the 30th June 2022, with a Public Drop-In Event held at Buttermere Recreation Ground on 18th June 2022 staged approximately mid-way through the survey process. All public consultation was publicised via a variety of media channels by NBBC prior to and during the consultation period, including:

- Door to door paper survey drop to local residents.
- Posters were printed off and displayed around St.Nicolas Park.
- Social media, including Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook.

2.0.2 Further to this local stakeholders were directly called and emailed by Red Kite Network Limited including local schools and establishments.

2.1 Online survey

2.1.1 An online survey (refer to Figure 2) was launched on the 6th June 2022 and ran until the 30th June via the Survey Monkey surveying platform. Questions asked were in the form of multiple choice or to obtain comment which generated qualitative and quantitative data. A total of 347 responses were received over the online consultation period.

2.2 Public Drop-In Event

2.2.1 A Public Drop-in Event promoted online, and via leaflets and posters as Figure 3 was held at Buttermere Recreation Ground on Saturday 18th June 2022 between 10am and 1pm, to enable members of the local community an opportunity to view and discuss the Concept Masterplan proposals with Red Kite Network Limited and officers from NBBC. Attendees were invited to complete a survey at the event if they had not done so already online, in order to capture ideas and issues raised during discussion. Attendance was continuous by members of the public despite the weather being poor and constructive conversations were held. Many had already filled in the online survey prior to the event but a further 21 responses were received on the day and additional comments were generated.

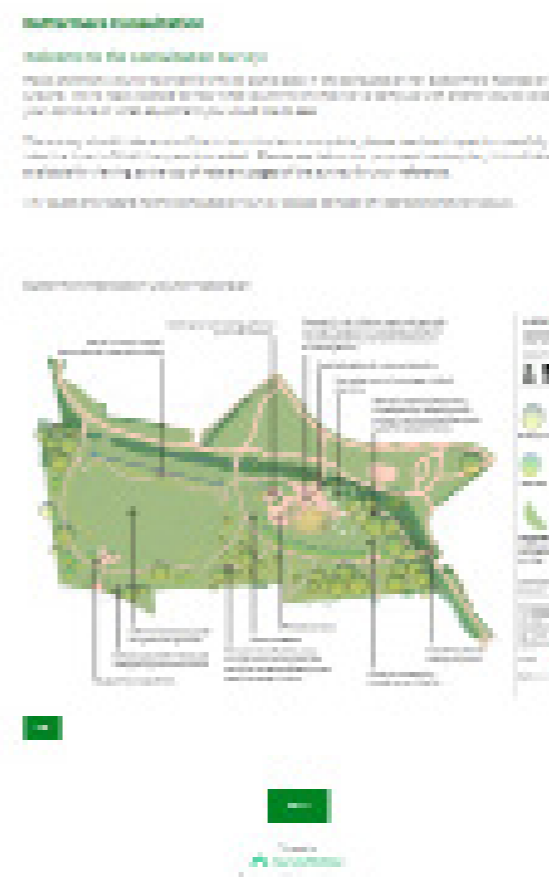


Figure 2. Screenshot taken from the online survey.

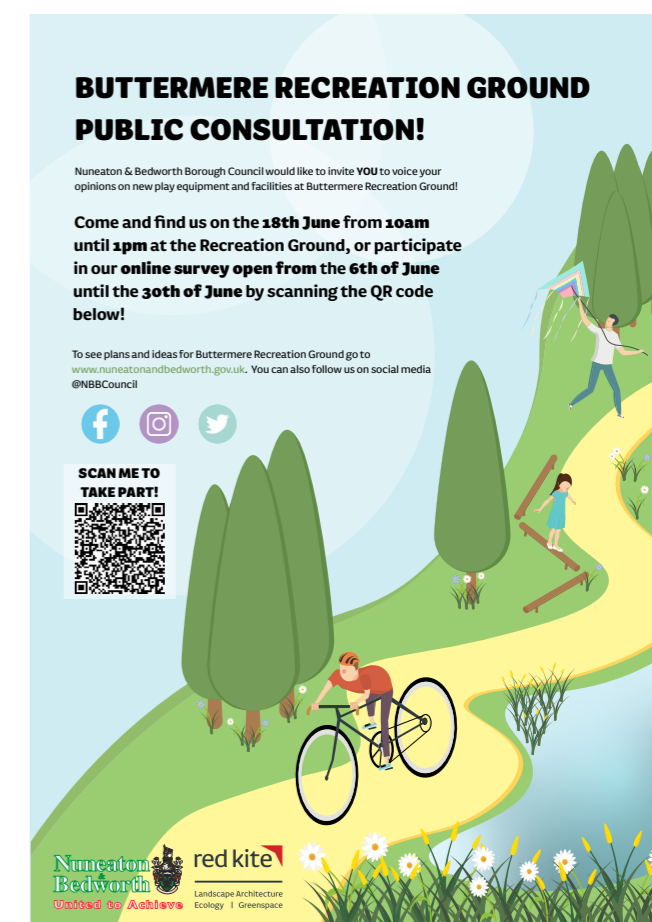


Figure 3. Poster used to publicise the Public Drop-In Event.

2.3 Written responses

2.3.1 Written responses were also received by NBBC from members of the local community. These were forwarded to Red Kite Network Limited and have been included within the collation of consultation material.

3.0 Results

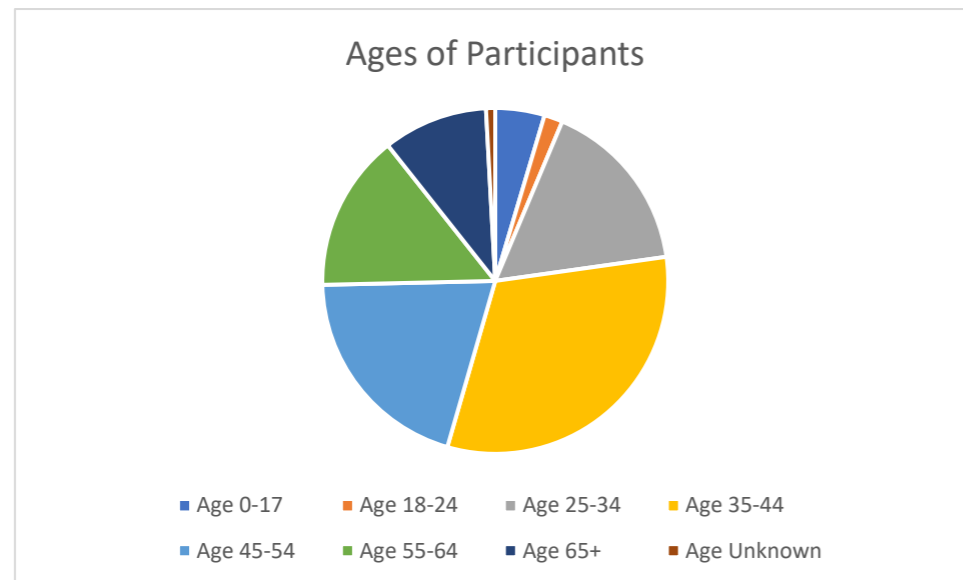
3.1 Survey Monkey Results

3.1.1 The results below are from the online consultation (6th to 30th June 2022) and the paper surveys taken on the day of the Public Drop-in Event. Results were analysed to provide clear and conclusive data to inform the further stages of the design process. The raw Survey Monkey Data can be found in Appendix A of the full Consultation Report.

Q1. To help us make sure we have got a representative view from all residents and users, please tell us a little bit about yourself

This question was set out to gather information on participants age, gender and postcode to provide a general indication to the common demographics that have an interest in Buttermere Recreation Ground. A total of 347 participants responded to the question providing the following insights.

Figure 4. Ages of Survey Participants



- The majority of people who participated in the Buttermere Recreation Ground consultation were female (61.96%) in comparison to males (37.18%).
- Some participants also identified as non-binary (0.58%).

Figure 5. Gender of Survey Participants

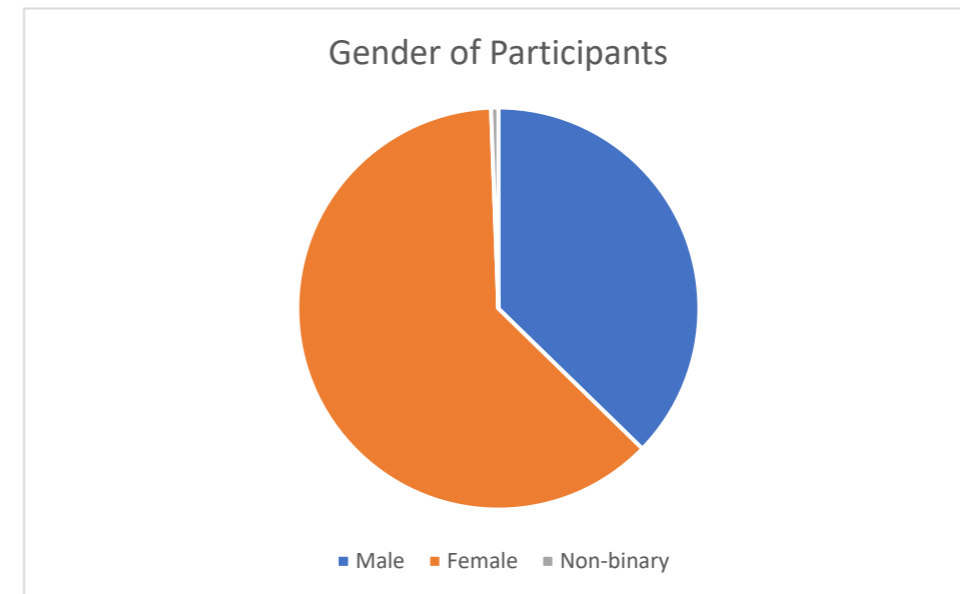
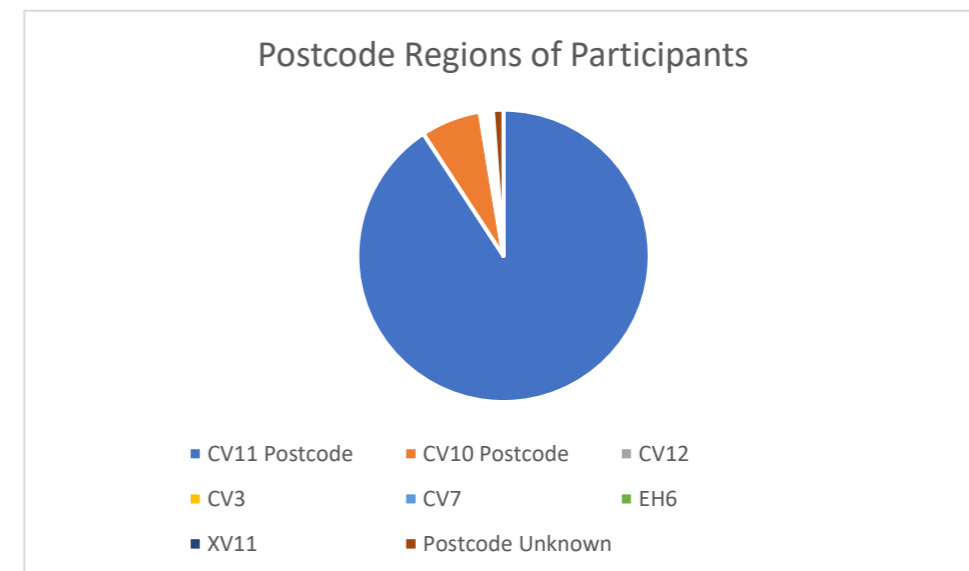
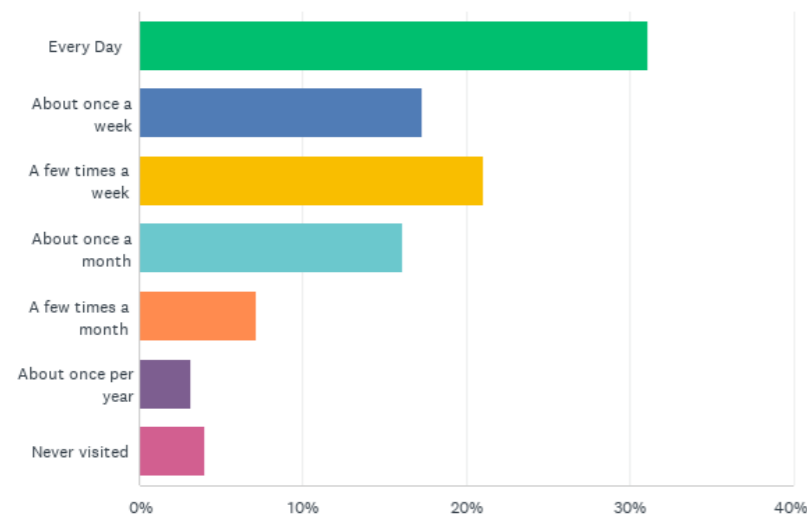


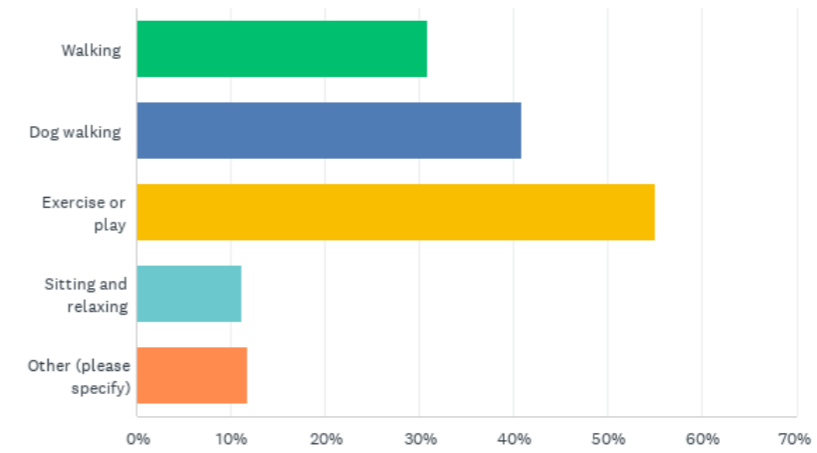
Figure 6. Location of Survey Participants



Q2. Please tell us how frequently you use or visit Buttermere Recreation Ground?



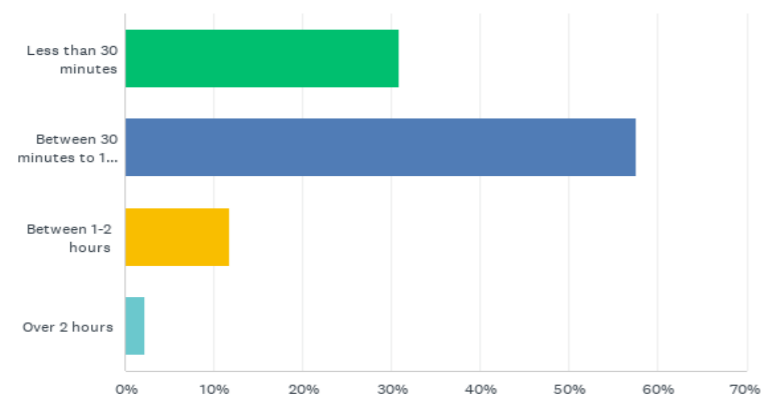
Q4. Please tell us the main reason for your visit.



Q5. Do you belong to any groups or organisations that use or have an interest in Buttermere Recreation ground?

Almost all participants claimed they are not part of any organisation related to Buttermere Recreation Ground (96.90%). Those who were, stated that they were part of the following groups:

Q3. If you visit Buttermere Recreation Ground, please tell us how long your visit lasts?

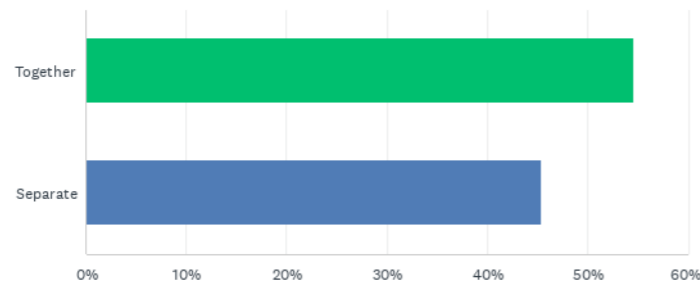


Dog Walking Group	1.24%	4
Neighbourhood Watch	0.31%	1
No	96.90%	313
No Specification	0.62%	2
Royal Park	0.62%	2
Warwickshire Wildlife Tru	0.31%	1
Untagged	0%	0

3.1.2 From this point on in the survey due to a combination of technical issues and participant human error the number of participants for the following questions reduced to 271. The percentages from the following questions are calculated from this reduced number of participants.

Q6. Please tell us if you would prefer the toddler and children's play together or separate?

Survey responses were close, with the majority of users wanting the play areas together (54.58%) in comparison to them being separate (45.42%). Best practice is to separate younger and older children's play, whilst remaining in sight with one another for supervision purposes.



Q7. What do you think of the plan overall?

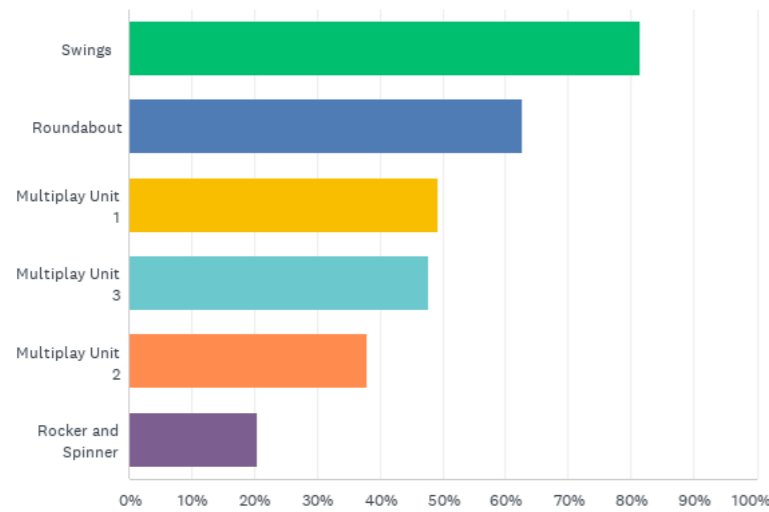
The majority of participants felt that enhancements need to be made to Buttermere Recreation Ground (87.18%), whilst other participants disagree with any and all enhancement works to the Site (12.82%). Various comments were made, requesting revisions to the design or reasons to abandon the project altogether.

Most participants were excited by the proposal overall, however comments in general were that it could be improved further with some amendments.

Response	Percentage	Count
Against Skatepark	3.66%	10
Against the Project	12.82%	35
Approve of Footpaths	6.96%	19
Approve of the project	87.18%	238
ASB	6.23%	17
Border Fencing	0.37%	1
Cover the brook	1.10%	3
DDA Play	1.47%	4
Dog Area Fencing	6.96%	19
For Skatepark	2.93%	8
Less Paths	5.49%	15
More Bins	1.83%	5
More Greenspace	9.89%	27
More Seating	7.69%	21
Move play areas	3.66%	10
Need Motor Barriers	1.83%	5
Picnic Area	1.83%	5
Picnic Area Layout	2.20%	6
Play Area Fencing	1.47%	4
Untagged	0%	0

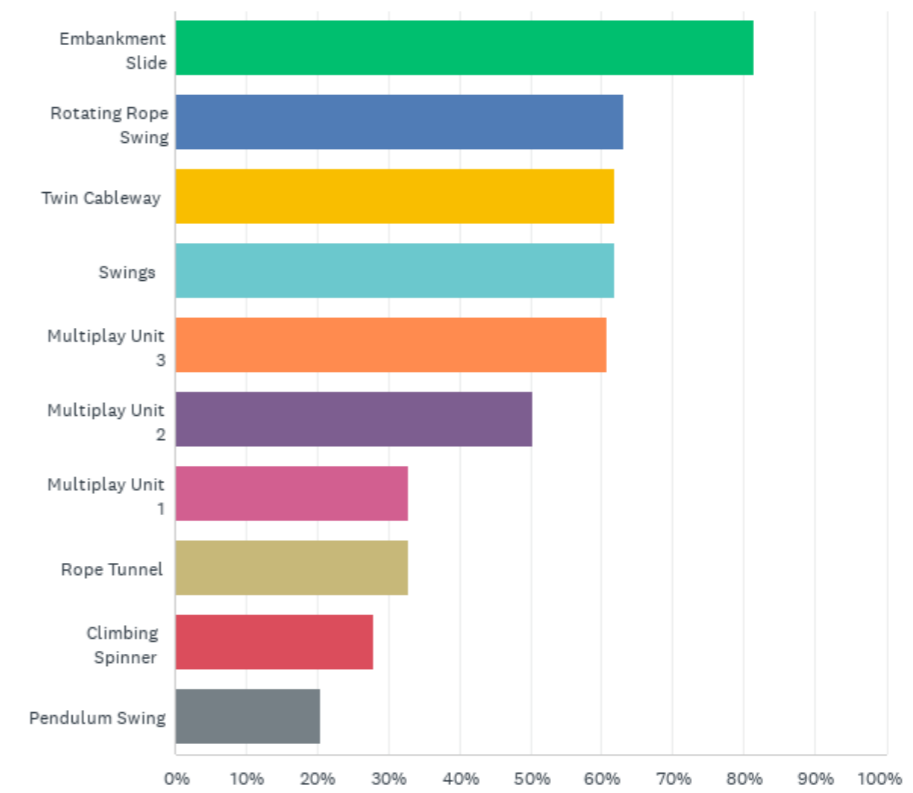
Q8. Please select your top three pieces of toddler equipment.

- The swings (81.34%) and roundabout (62.69%) were the two highly selected pieces of equipment by a fair margin.
- The third most selected piece of equipment was close between the multiplay unit 1 and 3, with the multiplay unit 1 gaining 49.25% of the votes and the multiplay unit 3 gaining 47.76%.
- This was then followed by the multiplay unit 2 (38.06%) and the rocker and spinner (20.52%).



Q9. Please select your top five children and teen play items.

- The majority of participants selected the embankment slide as their preferred piece of kit (81.34%).
- Rotating rope swing (63.06%).
- Twin cableway (61.96%).
- Swings (61.94%).
- Multiplay unit 3 (60.82%).



Q10. Please tell us what do you like the most about your selected options?

A large percentage of responses were general comments made and not relating directly to the question asked. These made up 32.71% of the responses and were more statements of how participants were generally looking forward to using the enhanced park and less about the actual play equipment itself. It can be concluded:

- The largest direct response regarding the play equipment was in relation to variety that was on offer (37.59%).
- Other comments that were made about the play equipment were they appealed to a wide range of ages (7.14%).
- Participants liked the inclusion of cooperative equipment (3.76%).
- Durability of the equipment specified was also mentioned (1.88%).

ASB	1.50%	4
Climbing	3.01%	8
Cooperative	3.76%	10
Durability	1.88%	5
Inclusive	0.75%	2
Need Supervision	0.38%	1
No Slide	0.38%	1
Non-productive Comments	32.71%	87
Provides Variety	37.59%	100
Seem Vandalproof	0.75%	2
Slide	1.50%	4
Space	1.13%	3
Swings	4.51%	12
Too Much Climbing	0.75%	2
Wide Age Range	7.14%	19
Zip Wire	6.02%	16
Untagged	0%	0

Q11. Please tell us what do you like the least about your selected options?

From the responses, 57.36% were general comments made that did not directly relate to the question asked. Relevant comments were assessed and have been highlighted below:

- The largest number of comments were made regarding concerns that enhancements could encourage antisocial behaviour (11.32%).
- The variety of equipment on offer wasn't varied enough (4.91%).
- Safety and complexity of equipment was also highlighted with 3.40% of participants raising it as a concern.
- Equipment being too large and taking over too much greenspace (3.02%).

Q12. Please tell us how you think your selected options could be improved?

From the responses 42.31% of responses could not think of a way that their selections could be improved and generally approved of the options provided. Relevant recommendations for improvements to the play equipment presented are highlighted below:

- 10.38% felt a wider variety of play equipment that covered a wider age audience and also activities such as football should be looked into.
- 7.31% would like durable equipment to be a priority along with regular maintenance.
- 5.77% wanted to see equipment to be inclusive for all ages and ability.
- 3.85% feel that the proposed play area is taking up too much space and needs to remain more naturalistic.
- 3.46% prefer more natural play elements to be used within the play area.
- 2.69% of participants felt that the play surfacing could be improved within the play areas by using impact absorbing flooring, instead of the sand and other play surfacing indicated by the images selected for participants to select equipment within the survey.
- 2.69% had concerns over antisocial behaviour and recommended enhancing security features.

Q13. Please use the box below to make any other comments about the Site.

This question invited participants to voice any other opinions or concerns about the project not picked up in previous questions within the survey. 16.83% made generally positive comments about the scheme whilst 11.54% were generally negative; and 13.94% of participants didn't have anything further to add.

3.2 Public Drop-in Event

3.2.1 From the public drop-in hosted by Red Kite Network Limited and NBBC at Buttermere Recreation Ground on the 18th June 2022, the following comments were raised. Around 30 participants attended.

- Too many paths have been proposed which will detract from the natural landscape currently at Buttermere Recreation Ground.
- The path currently proposed at the base of the culvert should be moved to the top of the embankment out of reach from flood water. The route along the top of the embankment is currently a well-used desire line by Buttermere Recreation Ground users.
- The wheeled sports area was highly contested; a reoccurring reason why participants didn't like the idea is because they felt it would attract antisocial behaviour, influencing the perception of security.
- Design works within the flood basin were also criticised. Participants informed Red Kite Network Limited that the detention basin floods annually so elements such as the proposed footpath would not last.
- Play features being located north of the mound were felt to be a bad idea, particularly in the case of older children's play due to potentially encouraging antisocial behaviour and safety concerns for younger children.
- Participants felt the proposal eroded the existing greenspace too much and that this would negatively impact the character and use of the Site.
- Participants do not want seating and benches in too many places.

3.2.2 Comments were also made by local residents that they would like to be better informed of the consultation findings and results to gain further understanding of the rationale behind the revised Concept Masterplan proposals for Buttermere Recreation Ground. It was discussed that this could potentially be achieved by publishing another poster around the Recreation Ground with an embedded QR code, linked to this report.

3.3 Written Responses

3.3.1 As part of the consultation process, two emails in response to the Concept Masterplan proposals were received by NBBC. These were forwarded to Red Kite Network Limited to be included within this report. The key points extracted are:

- Reduction in the number of paths to maximise the greenspace and save on material and construction costs.
- Plant more trees within Buttermere Recreation Ground.
- In addition to the play equipment, install more complimentary features such as natural play equipment, rocks, fallen trees, etc.
- Noise resonates from the existing MUGA through to the gardens of houses along Buttermere Avenue, driving residents inside their homes. Concern these enhancements will increase noise levels.
- Antisocial behaviour is currently an issue. By providing spaces for people to meet will this worsen?
- Proposed picnic table area is concerning due to its proximity near to housing. Litter is also an existing issue that could result.
- The extent of work that's being proposed will diminish the natural character and charm of Buttermere Recreation Ground.

Photo 1. Public Drop-In Event



4.0 Conclusions

4.0.1 After analysing all the findings from the consultation process, Red Kite Network Limited has drawn the following conclusions to steer the way forward for Buttermere Recreation Ground:

- The extent of work being considered for enhancement could have an impact on current use by local residents and stakeholders by eroding too much natural greenspace.
- The skatepark is a highly contested feature.
- Footpath quantity needs to be reconsidered although a circular route is welcomed. Potentially reduce footpaths leading to the cut-throughs from Buttermere Avenue.
- Residents and members of the local community would like to have easy access to the consultation results to make the process more transparent.
- Facilitating dog walking as a dominant function of the Recreation Ground should be accommodated better.
- Anti social behaviour is perceived as a current issue at Buttermere Recreation Ground. Measures to enhance security and surveillance should be considered.
- Most wanted play items for toddlers were the swings, roundabout, and multiplay units 1 & 2.
- Most wanted play items for older children were the embankment slide, rotating rope swing, twin cableway, swings, and multiplay unit 3.
- Fencing around Buttermere Recreation Ground should be kept as the existing wooden knee rail as the public believe if this is replaced with fencing noise would be generated from balls being kicked against metal panels.
- Relocate play to enhance surveillance and expand and extend the Toddler area.
- Plant more trees to enable succession of mature individuals.
- Encourage proposals that nurture biodiversity.

5.0 Changes to the Concept Masterplan in Response to Consultation

5.0.1 Having listened to residents at the Drop-In Event, collated consultation responses and taken on board further concerns by residents via ward Councillors; we have revised and formalised the Concept Masterplan presented in June with the following main changes:

- Removal of formal paths from jitties between the houses at Keswick Close and Loweswater Close.
- Expansion of toddler play area at Buttermere Avenue.
- Toddler play area fenced off.
- Junior play area reduced in size and moved to west of mound, in direct sight line of toddler play area.
- Skate plaza removed.
- Meeting place removed.
- Picnic bench area removed.
- Anti-motorbike security features at every entrance include which will still allow access for wheelchairs, mobility scooters and pushchairs etc.
- Number of trees planted reduced slightly to allow them to grow to maturity.
- One surfaced path circuit for all-weather access.
- New goal posts installed.
- Path removed adjacent to culvert.
- Culvert sides softened with coir matting and wetland planting to increase biodiversity.
- Most wildflower areas retained; those removed would have restricted line of sight between toddler and junior play areas.

5.0.2 This Concept Masterplan is illustrated in Section 6.0 .

6.0 Revised Concept Masterplan



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Key

-  Existing tree
-  New areas of wild flower/naturalistic planting
-  New tree

CLIENT:
 Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

PROJECT:
 Buttermere Recreation Ground

DRAWING: Final Masterplan

NUMBER: 691.21.10

DATE: 21 October 2022

STATUS: Concept

SCALE: 1:500@A1

DRAWN BY: Jacqueline Bayliss

CHECKED BY: Annie Millen

REVISION: A - 2022.10.25 Goal posts
 B - 2023.01.16 annotation "enhanced safety measures"



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