

Lanercost Play Area – Modified Report and Proposals

Last year we consulted on major improvements and extensions to Lanercost Play Area in Monkston.

We got some enthusiasm for specific pieces of equipment, particularly those that were new to the area, but little for the run-of-the-mill extra items proposed.

Feedback:

- Can we have an ordinary swing as well as the baby swing?
- I like the idea of the firemans pole and the climbing net, but can we keep the monkeybars too
- The pipe tunnel sounds great but won't it get muddy in wet weather?
- The table tennis table sounds good, but is there space where it's proposed (by the existing bench) and won't it get leaves on it?

There was no enthusiasm for the trampette, or for the roundabout.

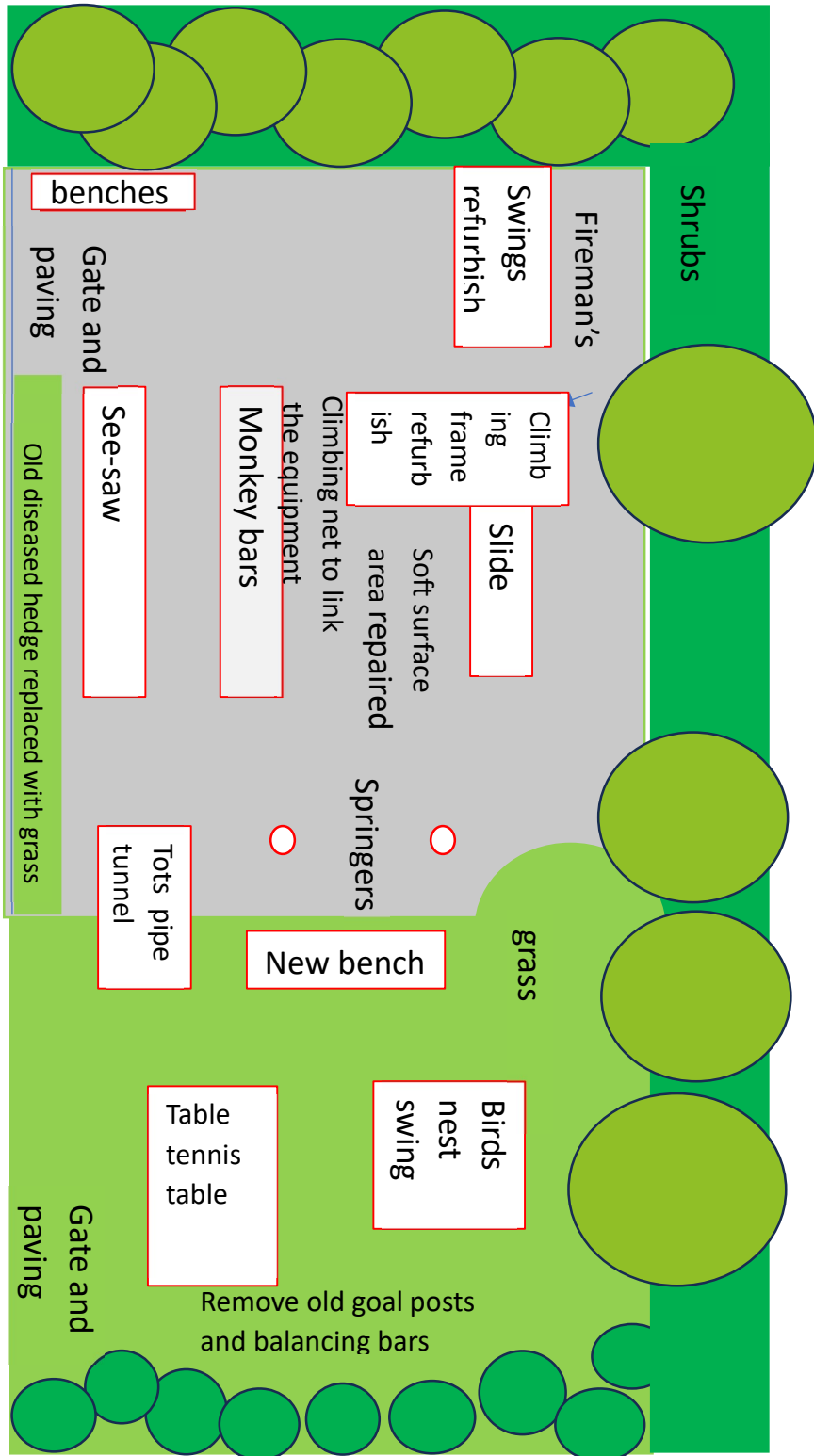
There was a request for additional lighting. We are concerned about that as this play area is already on an anti-social behaviour route back from Kingston, and lighting tends to attract teenage ASB. We do not propose that at this time.

We are therefore proposing a modified set of equipment.

That leaves some money but costs have risen in the meantime and Phil Snell has not had time to update his estimates. We have agreed to propose a £2,000 contingency for price rises. We will be billed 50% of what they spend, with an itemised statement. Any remaining money will be used to repaint equipment at Kents Hill, and a little replacement/repair as listed.

So proposal now is as below.

Refurbishment: wooden multiplay, rub down and repaint - install play panel-net and firemans pole – put filials on posts	£3000
Seesaw (Paint and replace seats))	£500
Cradle swings: Paint frame, replace one with mother and baby swing and swap the other with a standard swing from elsewhere in Monkston and replace seat.	£750
Patch of wet pour with feature splash where required (done but as part of this)	£1,000
Remove odd wooden items on grass	£100
Remove last bits of planting - rotovate and reseed	£300
New bin ? could do with a double bin but can't get them at present	£850
Install play tunnel and overbridge and artificial surface strengthener	£5000
Table tennis on grass near the birds nest swing with hard surface	£2,800
Refurbish benches – and add a bench near the toddlers area	£1,000
Paint gates	£250
Make good firm surface around side gate	£250
Contingency for price rises	£2,000
Total	£17,800



Indicative layout only. Safe distances, best use of surfaces, etc. to be assessed.

That would leave £2,200 spare. That will be used for as much as possible of:

- Repaint wooden items at Pipston Green
- Repair damaged wetpour on the top of Pipston Green whirly tower
- Add filials on top of all wooden posts in all Kents Hill play areas to slow down rotting
- Replace the item (possibly a rope bridge) lost from the trim trail near the playing fields

Phil will also consider what sort of equipment can be fitted into the blank spaces in Eridge Green and Pipston Green where equipment has been removed and come back to us with options.

The Parish may also wish to consider replacing some of the rotted equipment at the Trim Trail though no demand for this has been expressed.

The Parish has another 7.5k from the 2023-24 budget and more budget in 2024-25.

So proposal:

- To award a grant of up to 10,000 to Milton Keynes Council representing 50% funding, for the procurement and installation of the play area improvements listed overleaf, to be invoiced via an itemised statement of the full costs on completion
- To ring-fence the money from this year's budget as an earmarked reserve to carry forward to next year as the invoice will come in 2024-25.
- To ring fence the remainder of this year's budget for further replacement items in Kents Hill play areas
- To put an item in the next Parish Newsletter and on the website and on social media asking for ideas for the items once Phil has reported on the practical possibilities