

Meeting	Parks & Open Spaces Committee
Date	Tuesday 4th March 2025
Report Title	Outdoor Gym
Agenda Reference	11
Author	Laura Cutter, Deputy Clerk/RFO, HR & Services Manager

Officer's Recommendations

1. To agree that the location of the Outdoor Gym will be at White Eagle Play Area (subject to SBC Permission).
2. To agree the public tender timeline as below and to consider month of project commencement.
3. To note the funds available for this project.

Background

During budget setting, an aspiration was put forward for an Outdoor Gym, which has been in negotiation for several years following a popular public consultation in Summer 2020.

The project has been stalled as the Council was focused on delivering the Grounds Maintenance Facility and awaiting updates on the proposed placement of the Outdoor Gym from the landowner / lease holder. Permission to extend the boundary of the play area will still need to be sought. As the equipment is classed as play area equipment, there is no need for a change of use or planning permission and the equipment will be maintained by the Council's in-house Parks & Projects Team.

The Play Area Working Party has met to discuss the project and received advice and experience from local play area companies both during the meetings and onsite visits.

Proposed Location

The proposed location is at White Eagle Play Area in Haydon End, reason for this is because there is already a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA), open space and a play area for all ages. There are two pieces of small equipment at Primrose Play Area about 200m down the road and the idea is to move these two pieces of equipment into White Eagle Play Area to create a 'family hub'.



Blue = Outdoor Gym
Green = Primrose Equipment
Orange = Could incorporate a run/ trim trail with graphics/ signage, extended route could be available



Types of Equipment

Upon meetings with the suppliers it is evident that there is a vast range of equipment mainly surrounding the resistance. Some equipment uses body weight, some have weights built in that can be adjusted/ modified dependant on the users and others do not have any resistance at all.

As with all play area designs, the Council will take advice from the suppliers who are putting the tender bids together, but the design needs to be accessible and inclusive, offering a diverse range of equipment.

The Council could consult with residents or run a poll from Thursday 6th March – Thursday 13th March asking for suggestions on equipment to include in the public tender on the 17th March (see proposed timeline below). Once the tenders are received, the Officers can receive advice from local accessible needs charities to ensure that the equipment is inclusive, as with all projects, the Council is reliant on the advice from the manufacturers and the products available.

Budget

Surfacing - £35,000.00 There is currently £21,000.00 in EMR 362 for surfacing and the budget has been topped up by £20,000.00 in 2025/2026. Ideally this will be within the £35,000.00 price bracket as the existing budget can be stretched to include some in-house wet pour repair kits at other sites.

Equipment – There is currently £22,000.00 in EMR 325 and budget of £10,000.00 in play area refurbishments giving us a total of £32,000.00 for equipment.

Some suppliers offer grant schemes, and this will be incorporated and applied to the proposal put forward at public tender. Others will be able to shop around different suppliers for the best equipment to have a tailor made package allowing the budget to be flexible. The cost of funding a community opening event will be included in the tender requirements.

Public Tender Timelines

1.8	Date ITT advertised	Date Issued – 17th March 2025
1.9	Date/time ITT clarification questions should be received by email to the Haydon Wick Parish Council Authorised Officer as identified in 1.6 above	Time: 12:00 Date: 25th April 2025
1.10	Date/time completed ITT response to be received by post and/or email to the Haydon Wick Parish Council Authorised Officer as identified in 1.6 above	Time: 10.00 Date: 2nd May 2025
1.11	Tender evaluation	7th – 8th May 2025
1.12	Clarification meetings with suppliers, if required	14th – 15th May 2025
1.13	Estimated Contract Award Date	27th May 2025 which is then subject to a ten (10) day Standstill Period.



1.13	Place Order	9 th June 2025.
1.14	Project Start Date	To be confirmed. Prior to Summer Hols – Jul? After Summer Hols - September? Early Spring 26 – Feb?