

24th February 2026

Dear Residents of Pembroke Park,

We are delighted to update you on the progress of your successful *Community Choices* 2025–26 project – Thyme Close Play Area Improvements. Thank you once again for taking part in the consultation and for sharing your ideas on how we can enhance the play area and strengthen community activities. Your feedback continues to guide the work we are delivering now and planning into 2027.

What We've Achieved Together So Far

Over the past year, we've delivered a range of activities and improvements inspired by your feedback:

Community Events

- **Community Consultation & Volunteer Clean Up Day**

Residents joined us for a tidyup session, repainting equipment and helping shape future priorities.

- **Summer Family Fun Afternoon**

A relaxed outdoor event with fence weaving, crafts, and children's activities.

Site Improvements

- New **wood-carved animal sculptures** installed to complement the natural play theme.
- **Rejuvenation of existing wooden sculptures and seating.**
- A further **volunteer painting morning** to complete enhancements across the playground.

What's Next: New Benches

One of the most frequent requests from residents was for more seating and picnic space. We are responding by installing **chunky, purpose-built sleeper picnic benches**—durable, attractive, and ideal for families.

These will be completed **in time for Easter**, ready for:



Family Bear Hunt Picnic – Thursday 9 April

A fun, family-friendly event to celebrate the new benches and welcome spring.

Plans for the Coming Months

Summer Family Fun Afternoon – Natural Crafts & Storytelling

An additional seasonal session encouraging imaginative play through natural crafts and popup storytelling in the open space.

Willow Den – Winter 2026

With strong support from the consultation, the Willow Den will be created this winter, allowing it to root and establish in time for **spring/summer 2027**.

Play Area Development – 2026–27

We will continue exploring options for:

- Refurbishing the **climbing net**
- Improving **safety matting**
- Adding equipment that complements the natural wooden play space

Summary of Most Requested Features

Residents identified several enhancements they would love to see. The most common were:

- More **swings**, including toddler swings
- Additional **climbing equipment** (nets, frames, stepping stones)
- Better **seating and picnic areas**
- A **zip line**
- Improved **fencing and safety surfacing**

While we would love to deliver everything on your wish list, we must prioritise projects that fit within the current *Community Choices* budget.

Larger or more complex improvements will be explored as part of our **long-term maintenance and development planning**, ensuring the play area continues to evolve sustainably.

Updated Timeline

Date / Period	Activity
Summer 2025	Community consultation & cleanup day (<i>completed</i>)
Summer 2025	Family Fun Afternoon with crafts and fence weaving (<i>completed</i>)
Autumn–Winter 2025	Wood carving installation and seating rejuvenation (<i>completed</i>)



Early 2026	Additional repainting morning (<i>completed</i>)
Easter 2026	Installation of new sleeper picnic benches
9 April 2026	<i>Family Bear Hunt Picnic</i>
Summer 2026	Family Fun Afternoon – Natural Crafts & PopUp Storytelling Sessions (<i>upcoming</i>)
Winter 2026	Willow Den construction
Spring–Summer 2027	Willow Den ready for play
2026–27	Ongoing assessment of surfacing, safety, and options for additional equipment

Thank you for your continued enthusiasm and involvement. Together, we're creating a welcoming, imaginative, and family friendly space for everyone in Pembroke Park.

If you have further ideas or would like to support future activities, we'd be delighted to hear from you.

Kind regards,

Georgina Morgan-Denn

Georgina Morgan–Denn BA Hons, FSLCC
Chief Officer/Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer