

THE OLD SHOWFIELD

Summary of the Main Points to come from the Public Meeting on Saturday 30 January 2016

What you said...

- No great surprise - everyone would like the footpaths round the site improved. The prospect of a 1 mile walking & running route round the site went down well too – and a number of people felt that using Tarmac all the way round would be best
 - A few more benches & bins wouldn't go amiss
 - Plus another community noticeboard – it's a big space after all, and not everyone passes the current one
 - Tree planting proved popular...
 - ...as did the idea of a combined community orchard & picnic area. *There was some concern that newly-planted trees might be vandalised though – something to be mindful of*
 - Fencing round the play area divided opinion – some people felt it was unnecessary; others saw why it might be needed, but were worried about how it might look and how much it would cost; and others saw it as an absolute essential to prevent dogs running in and around children playing
 - Wildflower meadows & margins sound great – but should be introduced over time and in such a way that dog walkers still have plenty of space to let their dogs run off-lead
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What we're doing...

- ✓ We're updating the plan that was discussed at the meeting, and an updated plan will be presented for discussion at our Council meeting in March
- ✓ Assuming the plan is approved at that meeting – in part or in full - we'll get started on the changes & improvements that have funding in place already
- ✓ Where we don't have funding in place at the moment, we'll start looking at funding options

Changes to the plan that was presented in January...

By and large the plan is staying the same – so there are already new benches and bins being suggested; plus spots for the outdoor fitness equipment; plus things like tree planting.

There are a few tweaks & changes taking shape, though...

- Rather than sowing wildflowers in both of the far fields at the same time, we're thinking about Field B first. Assuming it all works well and people like it then we can look at Field A separately in the future (hopefully using seed from Field B!)
- We're still looking at other areas for wildflowers too, including Field H and alongside the hedgerow margins of the orchard and picnic area
- We're looking to plant a mixed native hedge around the play area – backed up by low-key fencing while the hedge establishes. This will be instead of traditional play fencing
- We're looking at hard-surfaced paths all the way round the outside of the site now
- We've indicated space for some more tree planting on the rise by the football pitch

Miscellaneous...

- We're also looking into bench sponsorship
- And potential involvement from the nearby schools and the College
- And how we can improve the drainage on site