



CRANLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk Pauline Whitehead
Assistant Clerk Mrs A Scully
Chairman Cllr B Ellis

PRESS RELEASE - MONDAY JULY 23rd 2007

PLAYGROUND AT SNOXHALL FIELDS

Cranleigh Parish Council is planning long term improvements to the children's playground and working in partnership with Waverley Borough Council to secure funding to take the first steps in a project which will take several years and which will be a 'living' project for the community in Cranleigh.

Waverley Borough Council has worked on a strategy which sets out the priorities for play provision across the borough over the next five years and which has been put together with the involvement of voluntary organisations, the youth service, Waverley Borough Council, local play providers and children themselves. To complement this research, Cllr Mrs Rosemary Hurtley initiated a survey among local parents, the results of which will be borne in mind as the Parish Council develops its future plans for the playground. The Parish Council wishes to thank to all of those who participated in the survey.

The local findings are in line with Waverley Borough Council's strategy and vision for the borough which recognises the importance of play and encourages the provision of facilities which cater for children aged from 0-16, and which fosters children's respect for others and offers opportunities for social interaction for all abilities.

Cranleigh Parish Council has worked with Waverley Borough Council's Community Development Officer (Youth), in order to put in a bid for funding from the Big Lottery Fund which, if successful, will put down firm foundations for a phased scheme which will provide a strong financial basis on which to develop plans for the future. A phased approach will allow the Parish Council the ability to continue providing the community with the same level of play opportunities as in the past, whilst keeping the other excellent recreational facilities that Cranleigh enjoys.

It is disappointing that many of the facilities that the Parish Council seek to provide for young people are too often vandalised. Not only has the Youth Shelter, provided only a year ago, had to be removed but vandalism has resulted in the see-saw and some swings being decommissioned too. The Parish Council are seeking to replace the equipment at the earliest opportunity and makes every effort to repair vandalised equipment as soon as possible.

Pauline Whitehead
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