

# **WING RECREATION GROUND - YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED AND OTHER INFORMATION**

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*Wing Parish Council has submitted plans to AVDC for approval to enhance the sports facilities on the Recreation Ground following the award of several grants, worth a total of £538,751, designed to support the current growth in the number of homes and people living in the village.*

*The current proposals for the Rec are based on the development plans identified in the Wing Neighbourhood Plan, which was approved in a referendum in March 2015.*

*The MUGA is positioned where it is to allow the lower part of the Recreation ground, near the car park, to be made into junior football pitches as at present the football club are paying for other facilities including travelling to Leighton Buzzard. The children should have access to local facilities.*

*All other possible sites were considered but none met all the criteria.*

*Jubilee Green could not be considered as a site as it has no services (electricity, drainage, parking) and a MUGA has to be a minimum of 30 metres from any residence.*

## **1. Funding applications / agreements**

- Four lots of funding were applied for, each for a specific aspect of the recreation ground ( see below)
- This money can only be used for the projects specified in the application.
- S106 funding has to be spent on Sport & Leisure
- If it is not used within a specified time, we will lose it.
- It is not "our" money ( *as in the money the council get via the precepts i.e. council tax* ), but developers money held by AVDC which we bid for - and - if we don't use it, it will all go back to the developers.

### Martin Grant (MG)

- Their S106 was agreed it could use it for all ground works ( drainage, sewage, etc ) associated with a sport and leisure project.
- Funding granted.

### Taylor Wimpey (TW)

- Their S106 can only be used for the MUGA with floodlights, extension of carpark and footpaths.
- Funding granted.

### New Homes Bonus (NHB)

- This grant can only be used for the football pitches, changing room upgrade and Parish offices.
- Funding granted

### London Marathon Funding (LMF)

- Tennis club floodlights, resurfacing and associated groundwork (etc).
- Funding refused.

## **2. S106 money / New Homes Bonus**

- Money from S106 can only be spent on sports and leisure projects.
- New Homes Bonus on projects that have been applied for.
- Individual councils have to submit a bid for a specific project and are constrained to that and only that.
- Our bids were based on information taken from the Neighbourhood Plan.
- If the money is not used for the project it has been granted for, the money will go back to the developers (" use it or lose it ")
- All of the funding for the recreation ground has been bids for, it is not part of the precept and is not given to parishes to use as they please - bids have to be made for very specific projects.

### **3. Trees**

- Wing Parish Council is seeking planning permission to remove four trees.
- The loss of these trees will be mitigated by an extensive planting scheme across the recreation ground
- The Environment Group is already working on new planting scheme across the Rec.

### **4. MUGA ( Multi Use Games Area)**

- The Parish Council is seeking planning permission to build a MUGA for the use of all villagers.
- This will be a free facility except for a token payment for electricity.
- The MUGA will not be open 24/7, but there will be a booking system for use of the MUGA
- The Wing Parish Council will oversee the bookings
- Wing Parish Council will be in charge of safety ( locking up/locking )
- It is recommended that there is a 30m boundary is between the MUGA and dwellings.
- The boundary between the MUGA and dwellings for the Recreation Ground is around 54m.

### **5. Carpark**

- The Parish Council is looking to extend the car park by 17 spaces. (nearly 50% increase).
- This car park is meant for use by people using the recreation ground.
- The Parish council do not stop residents parking there, nor will they.

### **6. MUGA Floodlights**

- The MUGA will have floodlights 8m high producing 100 lux at the playing surface.
- This will keep the levels down to minimise the effect on dwellings and impact on road safety.
- The floodlights will be token operated and therefore will be off when not in use.
- Tokens to use the floodlight will be obtained via Wing Parish Council

### **7. Tennis court floodlights.**

- This was recognised as a need by AVDC in 2011.
- The London Marathon funding (LMF) was applied for the Tennis court floodlights, resurfacing and associated groundwork. Unfortunately, this bid was unsuccessful.

### **8. AVDC Planning department**

- AVDC Planning department will determine the times that the floodlights should be switched off.
- The council will be requesting 10pm.
- Residents can object to this, as they can with any other aspects of this application ( as they can with any planning application )

### **9. Hedgerows**

- The hedgerows at the entrance to the car park will be moved back.
- This is in line with recommendations by Highways, for a safer exit out of the car park.
- No other hedgerows will be removed along the A418, but in fact will be extended as part of the enhanced planting scheme.

### **10. Pathways**

- Present pathways will be improved and extended, including some low level lighting, in line with the Disability Discrimination Act, for safety.

### **11. Football pitch**

- The football pitch will be replanted to comply to basic FA standards ( i.e. it will be levelled to avoid injury to players )

## **12. The football club changing rooms**

- Will be upgraded to basic FA standards
- Storage facility for mowers, line markers etc will be added to the back of the current pavilion.

## **13. The new Parish Office**

- The parish office will be abutted to the football club changing rooms, to keep all building together for security, use of toilets, and other facilities. This was included in the NHB bid and cannot be altered.
- Use of the Parish Council meeting room by parishioners will not be offered to any organisation or business that charges a fee.
- There will only be a very limited number of chairs and tables available.

## **14. Previous Parish Council office**

- The parish council had an office until approx. 7-8 years ago
- The council at the time decided to close the office
- This has been a major problem as the clerk has to work from home
- Parish council documents are currently stored all over the village in councillors' houses, garages and a container, which is not recommended practice.
- The Parish Clerk is supposed to work 20 hours per week - when the previous office closed, the responsibilities of the PC were significantly less and the clerk only worked a few hours a week. Over the past few years this has increased significantly. We should be providing a safe and appropriate place for the Parish Clerk to work.

## **15. Portakabin (the company supplying the office building)**

- They will not produce detailed diagrams until an order has been securely placed.
- The council cannot place an order until planning permission has been granted and approval has been sought about S106 funding.
- We have looked at the most cost effective and sustainable building.
- The exterior will be chosen to blend in with the surrounding environment.
- There will be continental style shutters on the building for security.

## **16. The A418**

- This is a main trunk road, and it has not been included in the Aylesbury Vale Strategic Plan because it is part of the East –West network linking Cambridge and Oxford, which is a Government initiative.
- We have spoken to ADVC and Bucks Highways many times about the A418 to no avail.

## **17. Light controlled crossing**

- The light controlled crossing across at the end of Rothschild Road is a safe way to cross the A418.
- The setting is currently a 20 second delay from when the button is pushed.
- It has a person detector, which if no-one is detected then the red light will not come on.
- We have requested a change to shorter delay time with Highways but to no avail – we will continue to ask them to make it change quicker.

## **18. Consultations**

- Consultations were done extensively via the Neighbourhood Plan, which was adopted in March 2015.
- It has taken this length of time to secure the fundings.
- We then asked an expert to advise as to how to provide what the village wanted, whilst fulfilling planning requirements.
- The parish council has had a MUGA on its agenda for the last 10 years ( or more ), but there was never enough money from the precept.
- *The various consultations, questionnaire results etc for the Neighbourhood Plan are available in the Consultation document on <https://www.aylesburyvaldc.gov.uk/wing-neighbourhood-plan>*

## **19. Parish Council meetings ( location / dates & times )**

- Full council meetings and committee meetings will still take place at the Village Hall even if there is a parish office
- We meet on the last Tuesday of every month ( except in August and December ) at 8 pm in the Small Hall.
- Everybody has always been, and always will be, welcome to attend

## **20. Parish council meetings ( general information )**

- Agendas are posted on the notice boards and minutes are produced.
- These are always available from the clerk on request.
- It is the clerk's responsibility to post agendas and minutes.
- At the moment we have a temporary clerk and the post will be advertised in the new year.

## **21. Website / Social media**

- Our website has recently been revamped and councillors are awaiting training so they can take on its upkeep..

## **22. Long Spinney**

- Long Spinney is being increased in size by 5 acres.
- This is due to the council negotiating with Martin Grant Homes.
- A significant amount of money has been spent on Long Spinney, and this will continue in the future.
- Money is not the issue at Long Spinney , it is the lack of volunteers.

## **24. Jubilee Green**

- Jubilee Green is not suitable for a MUGA because it has to be at least 30 metres from any dwelling.
- There is no car parking, and it is a children's play area and park, not a recreation ground.

## **25. Jubilee Green ( refurbished / maintenance )**

- Jubilee Green was completely refurbished in November 2010 and reopened early 2011.
- Since then it is regularly inspected by Wicksteed four times/year.
- It took 2 years for the Parish Council and Jubilee Green Management Committee to work on this project from initial ideas to completion.
- The project cost in region of £75.000
- We secured various grants from AVDC, Wing Parish, as well as £50,000 from WREN
- All the wooden stepping posts (etc) are due to be replaced.

## About Parish Councils / About Wing Parish Councillors

- Parish councils are funded by levying a "precept" collected with the council tax paid by the residents of the parish.
- Grants can be obtained from various sources for larger projects where the council do not have enough money from their precept
- All Parish councillors are unpaid volunteers and many of us in Wing Parish Council also work full time, as well as having other commitments
- Wing Parish Council can have a maximum of 11 councillors, including the chair and vice chair.
- All Wing Parish Councillors must be part of the council's sub-committees or working groups that specifically work on areas such as; *Finance, Budget & Precept, Speedwatch, Environment, Wing in Bloom, GetMapping & Asset register, Website & Social Media, Dog Poo Fighting, Byelaws, Long Spinney* ( etc )
- All councillors are elected to serve for four years, unless a casual vacancy arises which may be filled by a by-election or by co-option.
- The administration of the Council is managed by the Parish Clerk, who is a paid employee acting in a combined statutory role as secretary and treasurer of the council. The Clerk may not be a member of the Council
- Parish councils have powers to provide some facilities themselves, or they can contribute towards their provision by others.
- There are large variations in the services provided by parishes, but they can include the following:
  - \* *Lighting of footpaths*
  - \* *Off-street car parks*
  - \* *Creation of a neighbourhood plan*
  - \* *Provision and maintenance of recreation grounds, parks, children's play areas, playing fields (etc)*

### NOTE:

- Wing Parish has today an estimated population of approx 3000 people
- This will increase as we have 108 new homes being built - all family homes ranging from 2 to 5 bedrooms.
- Our two local schools have received lots of requests for places.
- Wing is a large village, which was in the past very vulnerable to unfettered development, until the Neighbourhood Plan was put in place.
- Wing's facilities are extensive, such as; 2 doctors surgeries, 1 Fish'n'Chips TakeAway, 2 Indian Restaurants/TakeAways, 2 car garages, 1 barbers, 1 hairdressers/beauty salon, 1 pharmacy, 1 estate agent, 1 pub, 1 post office / mini-supermarket, 1 primary school, 1 secondary school
- The Sports and Leisure profile of 2011 states that Wing Parish have poor facilities for the youth of the village and it highlights the Recreation Ground as a suitable site for developing these.
- Under the 2011 guidance a NEAP was recommended on the Recreation Ground.
- Two new LEAPS are included on the new housing developments, but only cater for the 4-8 years age range.

*The main difference between the LEAP and NEAP play zones is that even though both are designed for children to play on, the NEAP park playzone area is also designed to include a MUGA to provide a variety of different sports, such as netball, basketball, volleyball, badminton and mini-football*

**Wing Parish Council's website and social media locations:**

**Website:**

<https://wingparish.org>

**Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/winglatestnews/>

**Twitter:**

Wing News ( @WingNewsDesk )