

Kelston Road Park - Improvement Proposal



www.bathnes.gov.uk/kelstonroadpark

Bath & North East
Somerset Council

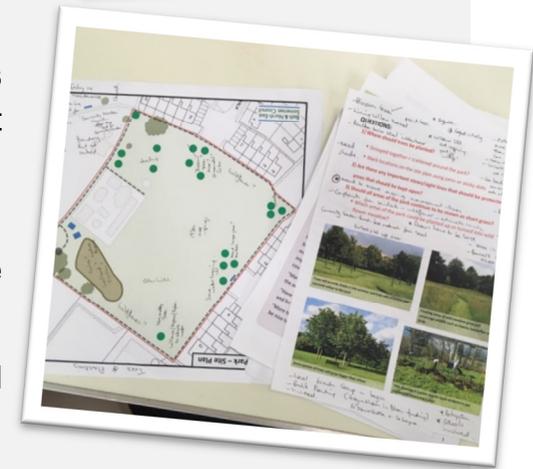


1. About the project

Bath and North East Somerset Council's Parks and Green Spaces Department and Keynsham Town Council are working with the community to develop a plan for how Kelston Road Park can be improved and maintained in the future. The aim is to make Kelston Road Park a safer and more pleasant place for people to spend time, socialise, play, be active and enjoy nature. We also want to ensure that the park is able to meet future demands – such as climate change and the growing population in Keynsham.

2. What has happened so far?

- A community survey gathered information on who uses the park, how it is used and what should be done to improve it. The results of the survey show that play improvements are a key priority along with better seating and signs, planting and better football facilities. The full survey findings have been published on the park's webpage at www.bathnes.gov.uk/kelstonroadpark
- Local residents, representatives of community groups, councillors and officers of the council came together for a stakeholder engagement event to look at the results of the consultation survey and use their knowledge of the area to consider how best to address the priorities that had been identified
- After reviewing the results of the consultation and considering a range of options for how to proceed, it was recommended that the project should be delivered in two phases; the first looking at general improvements at the park and a second phase focusing on a complete overhaul of the play facilities
- Those present at the stakeholder engagement event then spent time looking in more detail at the phase 1 improvements and used their local knowledge to suggest how best to address the priorities identified in the consultation survey
- Keynsham Town Council has carried out a separate consultation looking specifically at play - asking local children and families how play in the area can be improved



3. About this proposal

Using the results of the consultation and taking into account relevant local strategies a series of improvements are now being proposed.

The proposal focuses mainly on the central area of the park which is owned by Bath and North East Somerset Council as shown in red on the proposed site plan in section 6. This includes the fenced play area which is leased to and maintained by Keynsham Town Council. Under 'Future Enhancements and Other Considerations' the proposal also briefly considers other opportunities and developments which need to be taken into consideration.

The proposed improvements have been split into two phases.

Phase 1

Priority works focused on **general park improvements** identified as important through the consultation.

Subject to public feedback, it is expected that phase 1 works can be completed by the end of 2019.

Phase 1 is expected to cost in the region of:

£40,000

Phase 2

A **complete overhaul of play facilities**. This phase will require additional design, consultation and fundraising.

The intention is to complete the phase 2 play improvements by summer 2020.

Phase 2 is expected to cost in the region of:

£110,000

Future Enhancements & Other Considerations

These are potential park improvements which have been identified through the consultation but which are lower priority and would require additional fundraising.

It also highlights other developments going on in the local area which need to be taken into account.

These works have not been costed

4. How will the improvements be paid for?

Some funding has already been secured through section 106 contributions and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). These are payments which local developers agree to pay to the council as part of the planning process - to enhance public infrastructure such as parks and highways. It is expected that this funding will pay for phase 1 improvements and contribute to some of the phase 2 costs. Further fundraising will be required for phase 2.

5. Have your say

At this stage we would like to hear your views on the phase 1 proposal. More detailed designs for the play improvements in phase 2 will be consulted on separately once play designs have been produced.

Once you have reviewed the information on the following pages please take the time to feed back support or raise any concerns you might have in one of the following ways:

- Complete the online feedback form available at www.bathnes.gov.uk/kelstonroadpark
- Complete the hard copy feedback form at the end of this report and return it by email or post

Feedback must be received by Monday 8th July 2019

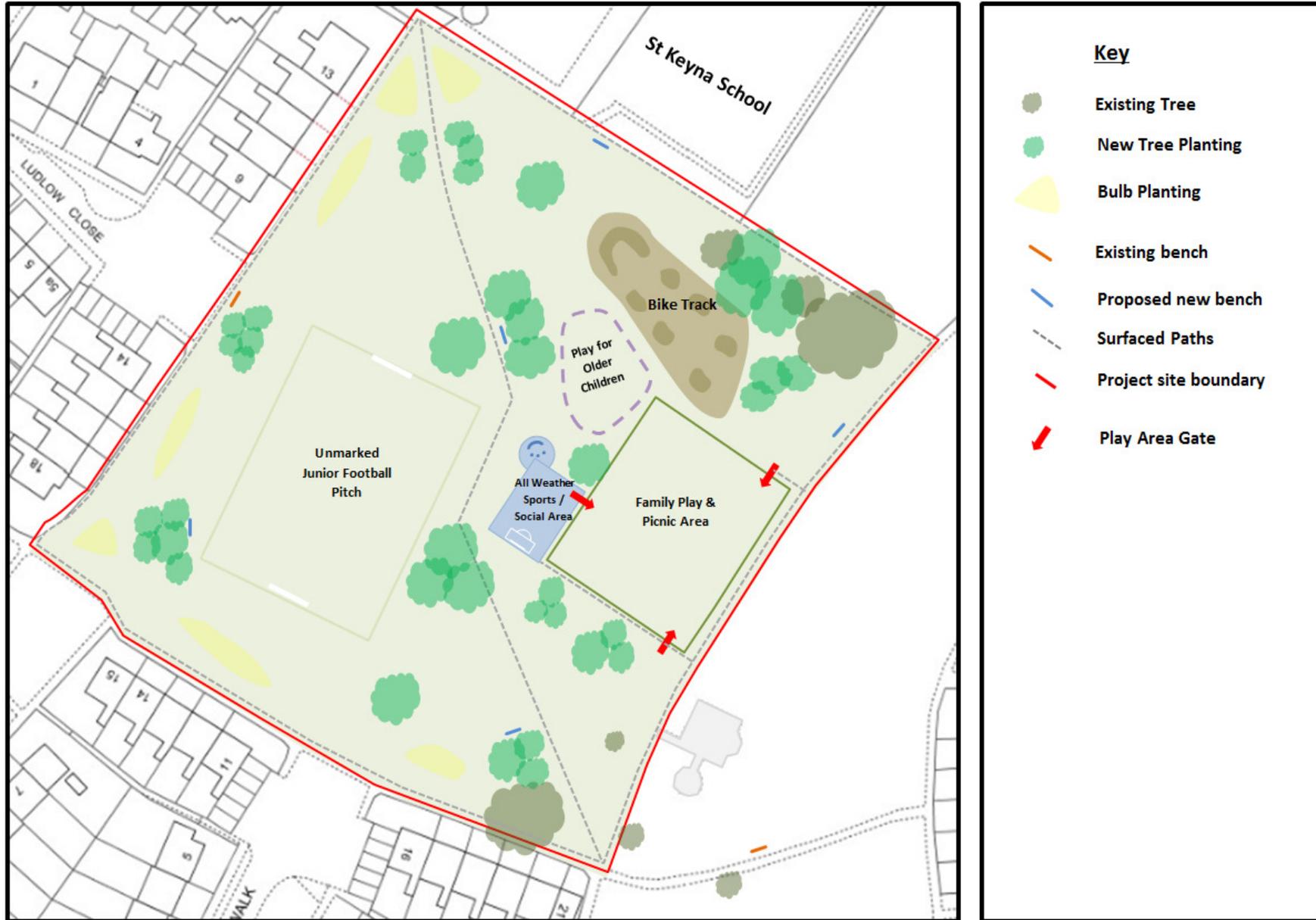
Keep in Touch

To receive email updates on this project please visit the park's web page and click 'SUBSCRIBE FOR UPDATES' at the bottom of the page.

Alternatively you can email parks@bathnes.gov.uk and request to be added.

Occasional update posters will also be displayed at the park and updates will be posted on the park's web page

6. Proposed site plan



7.1 Proposed improvements – Phase 1 General Park Improvements

ALL-WEATHER SPORTS AND SOCIAL AREA



A multi-sport goal end for football and basketball



An area of hardstanding measuring approximately 15metres by 10 metres for use all year round, in all weathers

A flexible space that can be used for small events, a place where children can scoot or learn to ride a bike

A seating/social area with contemporary, vandal-resistant seating



NEW BENCHES

- Install 4 new benches at intervals around the perimeter of the park to give visitors an opportunity to sit and enjoy the park. This is particularly important for visitors who are unable to walk long distances without having a break
- The bench locations take account of neighbouring houses and are located in places which limit the potential for noise disturbance or invasion of privacy.



TREE PLANTING

- Work with the community to plant trees to provide shade, improve local air quality, reduce local flooding and attract wildlife
- Species such as Oak, Horse Chestnut, Acer for autumn colour and Ornamental Cherry to attract bird life
- Tree planting locations have been chosen to limit the impact on neighbouring properties
- Trees will be protected with stakes and cages until they become established



BULB AND MEADOW AREAS

- Plant long season perennial bulb mixes and meadow areas to add colour and interest to the park
- Retain a large area of short grass but reduce mowing in other areas and encourage meadow grassland species. Longer grass will support more wildlife such as butterflies and provide a source of food for birds
- Work with local groups to design and organise the planting through community planting events



SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

- Repair/reinstate existing paths where required
- Work with adjacent landowners to coordinate installation of bollards to prevent cars driving onto and parking on the park
- Include a lockable vehicle access point for maintenance, emergencies and events



PARK SIGNS

- Welcome signs at main entrance points will help give the park an identity and reinforce messages around littering and dog fouling
- A noticeboard will provide a central place for park information and community notices



FOOTBALL PITCH IMPROVEMENTS

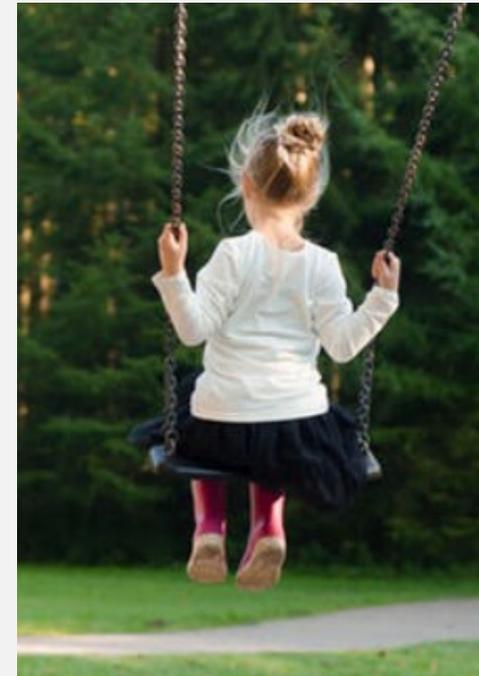
- Retain amenity grass open space for sport, play and events
- Install mini goals for an unmarked 5-a-side pitch



7.2 Proposed improvements – Phase 2 Play Improvements

PLAY IMPROVEMENTS

- The existing play equipment and safety surfacing is reaching the end of its serviceable life. A recent inspection has shown that replacement parts are becoming obsolete and the equipment needs replacing.
- Replace the play equipment with a range of modern play facilities aimed at encouraging active play.
- Retain the fencing but replace the gates. Within the fencing create two distinct play zones: one for younger children up to 6 years old and another area with more challenging equipment for children up to the age of 12. Include new seats and allow open space for picnics and free play within this fenced, dog-free area.
- Install two pieces of adventurous play equipment for older children outside of the fenced play area.
- Accessible play equipment should feature in the design to provide play opportunities for visitors with physical and sensory needs.
- Take on-board the results of Keynsham Town Councils Children's survey.



7.3 Future enhancements and other considerations

REPURPOSE THE BIKE TRACK

- Feedback from the consultation suggests that the bike track is underutilised although it is still used to some extent and has other uses such as for remote controlled cars
- Suggestions for how it might be improved in the future included using the mounds to create a more natural area with planting, and possibly incorporating some natural play features such as balance logs a tunnel and play boulders

LINK TO COMMUNITY GARDEN

- Keynsham Methodist Church may be willing to consider making land at the rear of its premises available for the creation of a Community Garden subject to approval from the Methodist Church Trustees who own it and commitment from the local community to share responsibility for on-going management of such a project
- If this project goes ahead effort should be made to link this community garden into the park with directional signs and potentially the creation of a path linking the community garden to the park's existing path network

CREATE A NEW PATH THROUGH THE PARK

- Paths running through the park are already very well used by pedestrians and cyclists travelling through the area.
- A path crossing the park diagonally from north to south would improve all-weather walking and cycling routes – particularly for those traveling to and from St Keyna School and the local shops on Queens Road

FUTURE SHARED PATH

- A proposal to construct a shared cycle/pedestrian route through the park is being considered by Bath and North East Somerset Council. The route was opposed, alternative routes are being considered but no final decision has been taken
- The proposed park layout has taken account of the possibility that this cycle/pedestrian route may go ahead in the future

DRAINAGE

- Some parts of the park become waterlogged following rain. If these areas become used more frequently (particularly in the winter months) drainage improvements should be considered

8. What happens next?

Phase 1

By mid-July 2019

- Feedback/comments on the improvement proposal to be received

By the end of September 2019

- Significant issues/concerns to be addressed through design
- Phase 1 works tendered and scheduled

October – December 2019

- Phase 1 works completed
- Parts of the park may be unavailable for periods of time during this period but advance notice will be given

Phase 2

By the end of August 2019

- Initial play designs created and shared for feedback

By the end December 2019

- Final play designs agreed
- Additional fundraising completed
- Phase 2 works tendered and scheduled

January - June 2020

- Play improvements completed
- Parts of the park may be unavailable for periods of time during this period but advance notice will be given

Feedback Form

Once you have reviewed the information please use this form to feedback your support for the proposed phase 1 improvements or raise any concerns.

Alternatively you can complete this form online by visiting the park's webpage at www.bathnes.gov.uk/kelstonroadpark

Feedback on phase 1 must be received by Monday 8th July 2019

Q1) Do you support the proposed scheme? (Please choose one)

- I fully support the phase 1 improvements
- I support the phase 1 improvements but I've got some concerns
- I do not support the phase 1 improvements

Q2) The best thing about the proposed improvements is:

Q3) The thing I like least about the proposed improvements is:

Q4) The proposed scheme could be made better if:

Q5) Any other comments

For monitoring purposes only,
please tell us your postcode:

If you would like to be kept up
to date on this project please
provide your email address:

Return your completed form to parks@bathnes.gov.uk or post to Keynsham Town Council, 15-17 Temple Street, Keynsham, BS31 1HF