



Rhubarb Farm's statement on the need for a play area on the Hardwick Street Rec ground, Langwith

There is a real need for a children's play area on the Hardwick Street Rec ground. It has been a long-neglected area and we have witnessed that children come to the Rec ground to play, but could have a good experience if there was interesting and stimulating equipment to play on.

We think that there should be a variety of equipment to suit all ages up to 14 years, and that there should be at least 4 benches around the play area for family members to sit on while the children play. It should also be fenced, with a self-closing gate to avoid dog-fouling within the play area.

We also stress the importance of consulting with Langwith residents about the play area - types of equipment, location, seating, access etc - through both formal, informal and social media channels, and that visits to other play areas should be organised for interested residents to go and see what has been done recently elsewhere and could be replicated in Langwith - e.g. in Calow, and in Hornscroft Park, Bolsover. Social media should be used to reach the most people.

From Rhubarb Farm's point of view, the location of the play area would be best placed along the side of the Rec ground adjacent to the path from Langwith to Langwith Junction, where the old sports changing rooms used to be and furthest away from the gate. This would make it easier for the movement of lorries, trucks and other vehicles when the Langwith Show takes place every first Saturday of September. The play equipment in its present location creates problems for the free flow of vehicles on site because it is close to the entrance gate.

Rhubarb Farm will support Langwith Parish Council with suggestions for accessing funds and submitting funding applications because of our long experience of successfully gaining funds - a 'hit' rate of 20% of applications submitted is considered good, so it may need a lot of applications before a sufficient amount is raised and could be a long slow process to get sufficient funding. We hope that some Langwith residents will help on the sub-group to plan the play area, as the voice of local users, in the same way that Langwith people sat on the Rhubarb Farm Advisory Group to help establish the Farm.

Jennie Street

Managing Director

June 2017