

# Malmesbury Town Council

Town Hall  
Malmesbury  
Wiltshire  
SN16 9BZ

18<sup>th</sup> February 2009

You are summoned to a meeting of the Leisure and Youth Committee to be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> February 2009 in the Malting Room, Malmesbury Town Hall at 7pm

Jeff Penfold  
Town Clerk

---

To all members of the Leisure and Youth Committee

Cllr A Carnegie  
Cllr S Killane  
Cllr A Stamp

Cllr S Cox  
Cllr J Lawton  
Cllr M Thomas

Cllr P Dove  
Cllr R Sanderson

## **A G E N D A**

### **Public participation**

1. Apologies.
2. To receive declarations of interest in accordance with the Local Council's (Model Code of conduct) Order 2007.
3. To receive and consider the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2008.
4. All inclusive equipment St Aldhelm's Mead, press release attached as report No.1.
5. Grant Application to NWDC for Improvements to St Aldhelm's Mead. The grant application was refused. (For information only).
6. To receive an information update on the proposed music events to be held in Cloister Gardens. (For information only).
7. To receive an update on the Malmesbury YMCA Project. (For information only).
8. To receive an update on Reeds Farm play equipment, press release attached as report No.2. (For information only).

9. To receive an update on the Youth Club project. It is proposed that the group will meet Monthly with the aim of promoting better links between community leaders and young people. The group will eventually nominate two youth councillors to participate on the Area Boards. (For information only).
10. To receive a progress report on the installation of equipment at White Lion Park. (For information only).
11. Correspondence



**Leisure & Youth Committee 26<sup>th</sup> February 2009**

**Report No.2.**

**New Play Equipment provides better facilities for all at St Aldhelm's Mead, Malmesbury**

Youngsters in Malmesbury will be able to play on two new pieces of play equipment that have been provided at the St. Aldhelm's Mead play area.

The equipment has been funded by both North Wiltshire District Council and Malmesbury Town Council with the aim of enhancing playing opportunities for children with disabilities.

North Wiltshire District Council awarded an £8,000 grant to Malmesbury Town Council to help purchase the new equipment and Malmesbury Town Council has added £2,500 from their Leisure & Youth budget.

The new equipment includes an "Inclusive Orbit" roundabout, with lots of space for a wheel chair, or simply allows any child to sit, stand or lie down on the revolving surface. It has strong and durable rotating platforms that provide the fun of traditional roundabouts in a versatile innovative way. The unique rotating mechanism allows the platform to sit flush to the ground ensuring that there are no trip points or potential traps.

The new "Birds Nest" swing encourages swinging, rocking, sensory stimulation, risk taking and learning about weight and gravity. It also provides a safe secure nest for physically impaired users.

It is hoped that both pieces of equipment will encourage group and team play, helping to create friendship and to provide for more fun activities within the community.

Cllr Simon Killane, from Malmesbury Town Council, says, "Both North Wiltshire District Council and Malmesbury Town Council have worked together to provide our community with two fantastic pieces of play equipment. Each play unit is sturdy, innovative and most importantly will keep lots of active children amused for hours each day. I would encourage everyone to come and try the new play equipment to see for themselves".

Cllr Viv Vines, Lead Member for Leisure & Economy at North Wiltshire District Council, says, "St. Aldhem's Mead is a well used play area and this new play equipment will ensure that the equipment is even more accessible for children with disabilities and should offer everyone the opportunity to enjoy a more balanced, varied and fun play time".

Report No.2

**Press Release  
February 16<sup>th</sup> 2009**

**Reeds Farm Play Area.**

**The current situation.**

A final decision on the play area design has now been taken and fully approved by Malmesbury Town Council. Persimmon has strongly supported this venture by leasing the land for the play area. The equipment has been ordered and it is hoped to start construction early to mid March, weather permitting. The successful design will be installed by Playdale. It takes into account all the key issues raised by residents in the public consultation and incorporates the features and equipment requested by the community. This wonderful opportunity to create a high quality play area would not have been possible without lottery money and the funding from North Wiltshire District Council and Malmesbury Town Council. The budget for the project is £65,000.

**The successful design.**

The play area will be suitable for a range of ages. There will be three zones ; zone 1 age 2-8, zone 2 age 8-13, zone 3 age 12+. The community felt strongly that there should be provision for different age groups, including very young children and their carers. Care has been taken to make some provision for less able children and those with special needs. The key pieces of equipment requested in resident surveys and the public consultation, such as the five aside football goals and a basket swing, have been included. The design uses a mixture of timber and wood and there will be no other surfaces other than grass. It is hoped that the play area will be in keeping with the aesthetics of this pleasant landscaped area. The whole play area will be fenced to ensure that it is dog free, but all the paths currently popular with dog walkers will still be accessible. The residents group Action for Children on Reeds Farm has been closely involved with all aspects of the design process. It was recognised from the start that community involvement was crucial.

Everyone is agreed that safe outdoor play is extremely beneficial for youngsters. The habit of taking regular exercise needs to start young. Despite living in a rural area, without proper planning and provision suitable areas for outdoor play are limited. Persimmon, North Wiltshire District Council and Malmesbury Town Council have worked together to make sure that there will soon be good play provision for the many young families living in this part of Malmesbury. It is hoped that this new play area will be well used and well loved.

**A brief history of the project.**

There is currently no play area in easy walking distance for residents of Reeds Farm and the surrounding residential area. Malmesbury Town Council felt that there was a real need for play equipment and so bid in 2007 for a share of the lottery funding made available to North Wiltshire District Council for the improvement of play provision across North Wiltshire. When this bid was successful it was match funded by North Wiltshire District Council.

Thanks to the lottery and the efforts of North Wiltshire District Council and Malmesbury Town Council a total of £65, 000 was secured for a play area on the area of land behind Reeds Farm. Over the past year the residents group Action for Children on Reeds Farm has been working with Malmesbury Town Council and North Wiltshire District Council to establish what play equipment would best suit the community needs. It was recognised right from the start that community involvement was essential.