

Action for Children on Reeds Farm.

Minutes of meeting held on May 22nd 2008.

Present: Claire Edmeston, Georgina Lockett, Lisa Johnson, Karen Temple, Helen Fahey, Kristy Poulser, Louise Luscombe, Annette Cowling, Barbra Pell and children.

Apologies: Annette Walsh, Heather Gibson.

This meeting was held at the open space behind Reeds Farm. The idea was to walk around the space and envisage a suitable layout.

1. Play zones.

There was much discussion about where to site things. There was broad agreement on the following.

Seating should be as far from houses as possible. Very low bench close to houses should be removed.

Equipment for young children on land close to the current bench. It should be enclosed by a fence.

Equipment for older children should be on second piece of land as far from houses as possible.

Football goals should be placed so that youngsters are not kicking towards fences.

There was much discussion as to how to meet the needs of dog walkers and ensure that children are able to play without the risk of stepping in dog mess.

Possibly a small picket fence could be used to make it clear that dog walkers should not allow their dogs to foul the football area.

Dog walkers should still have access to paths. Equipment for older children would not be fenced in, but hopefully dog walkers would respect these play areas.

A trim trail might link the toddler's area to the older children's equipment. Seating could also be placed between the two areas.

All trees should be retained but it might be advantageous to thin out the hedgerow between the two areas of land so that parents could monitor children playing in both area

2. Other ideas.

In the course of discussing layout a number of other ideas were put forward by adults and children.

A boule pitch for adult community use.

A mound of earth could be created as a result of any landscaping work and used for a long slide.

Wooden equipment would be more in keeping with the area.

Actions.

Lisa Johnson will draw a map to illustrate the current thoughts about layout. Minutes will be circulated to members and residents with properties backing on the area of land. A map will be circulated after another meeting to review the idea that came out of this brainstorming session.

Next meeting Wednesday 11th June at St Mary's Hall at 8 o'clock. All welcome.