
Report To: Full Council

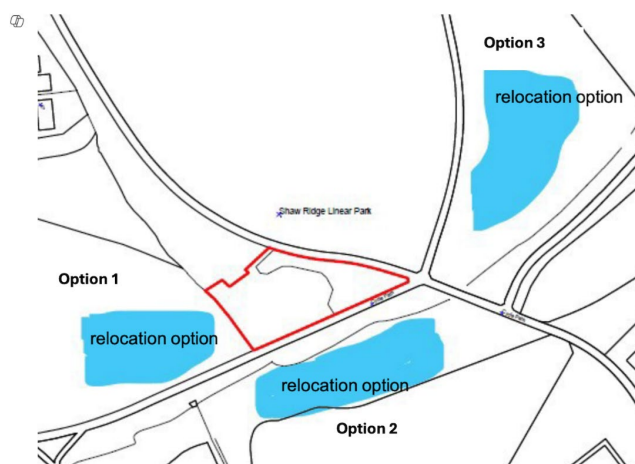
Date: 16 June 2025

Contact Officer: Paula Harrison

Subject: Shaw Ridge Play Area

1. Shaw Ridge Play Area Refurbishment

- 1.1 The Parish Council recently advertised a budget of up to £130,000 and requested designs and quotes to be submitted for Shaw Ridge Play area. Due to complications with the existing site, designs were requested for neighbouring locations



- 1.2 The tender process has concluded and eight designs were submitted. Six designs opted for Option 3, and one design was submitted for Option 1 and Option 2. Seven designs were quoted equally at the maximum of the budget allocated.
- 1.3 Following a recommendation from the Planning & Environment Committee, the Play Working Party met on Thursday 5th June to discuss and score the tenders. As a result of this, one design was selected after scoring the highest in terms of play value, quality, and alignment with the brief. This design is attached as **Appendix A**.
- 1.4 The preferred bidder as recommended by the Play Working Party proposed a design for location - Option 3, which is the area known as the FAB meadow. It is likely that the design would take up approximately one third of the area – although it is difficult to be exact at this stage.
- 1.5 The company – Hags UK have been used by the Parish Council on previous play area refurbishment projects and has proved to be reliable.

- 1.6 Feedback from Hags UK is that depending on the date that the Parish Council confirms the commission, a Programme Of Works being agreed, a schedule of dates would be as follows:
- example order date being 20th June 2025, then completion would be estimated as 15th September 2025. The installation would start on approximately 12th August.
 - The dates are a follow-on from factory production and delivery to the site. This is typically 7-8 weeks. The time for the installation, as the construction phase is 4 to 5 weeks.

- 1.7 Swindon Borough Council Planning Team have confirmed that providing there is no excess on a height restriction of four metres, no additional planning consents would be required as this would fall under 'permitted development' under the regulations

A. The erection or construction and the maintenance, improvement or other alteration by [F1 or on behalf of] a local authority or by [F1 or on behalf of] an urban development corporation of —

(a) any small ancillary building, works or equipment on land belonging to or maintained by them required for the purposes of any function exercised by them on that land otherwise than as statutory undertakers;

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Parish Council approves the recommendation to commission the refurbishment of Shaw Ridge Play area as proposed by Hags UK (Appendix A) at a value of £130,000.
- 2.2 That the Parish Council liaises with West Swindon FAB and offers new meadow space at least the size of any land being utilised by the new play area, on the grass area slope adjacent to the current meadow area.
- 2.3 That if West Swindon FAB volunteers do not wish to adopt an additional/alternative meadow space, that the Parish Council commits the team to create an additional meadow area and adds it to the maintenance programme.