

**FEEDBACK FROM NEIGHBOURING RESIDENTS & BIRCHWOOD GROVE CP
SCHOOL / WOODLANDS MEED SCHOOL & COLLEGE**

“Thank you for the poster sharing the proposed play equipment for Folders Meadow.

I have lived adjacent to this park since 1988 and think it is the nicest park in Burgess Hill. It is currently very serene as there are just swings, a slide and climbing equipment as well as an adult gym trail. The large grass football pitch is well used. In the summer, I have seen games of rounders take place up there.

The proposed inclusive wheelchair seesaw is a good idea and also the interactive play panels (four in a row/tic tac toe).

I do not think the zip wire is a good idea, due to health and safety concerns, also it will attract the teenagers in the evenings that congregate up there, even after dark!

My other concern is the basketball net, which will create the noise of bouncing balls which is not good when sitting in my garden relaxing. We have already got to contend with the new Woodlands Meed College multi games area which has just been built behind our garden hedge!!

I really hope that this Meadow will remain a pretty grassy children’s playpark and not become a mini Knockhatch adventure playpark. This would be unfair to all the residents who surround the park on 3 out of 4 sides.

I look forward to your comments and any plans going forward”

“Further to my email of 15th March, I did not ask which developer was contributing the £45k.

Where are the houses situated and if it is the new development off Keymer Rd south of Folders Lane SA12 & SA13 fields should they build play parks on the actual estate?

I look forward to your reply.”

Mid Sussex District Council has confirmed these S106 funds relate to the following developments - Land at 50 and 54 Folders Lane; Land at 26 and rear of 20-24 Folders Lane; Wintons Farm, Folders Lane; and 62 - 68 Folders Lane. The resident has been updated.

"I am delighted to see a notice that you are intending to provide some new play equipment to folders lane park, however wanted to request a clarification.

Is the intention to remove the existing equipment (slide, climbing apparatus, basket swing, toddlers' area, swings etc) and replace with the proposed, or is the intention to add the new equipment to the field?

While I can see the logic in replacing the current rusty goal posts with the proposed multi use wall, and the zip wire will be fun for most children, I would not be in favour of removing the existing apparatus inc out door gym equipment.

I take my children to this park regularly and think the existing equipment provides good entertainment for children ages 1yr-14yr, and would be concerned how the proposed equipment will improve the playing environment at all if the intention is to replace the existing.

Thank you in advance."

The resident was informed the existing equipment will remain.

"That's perfect and a relief to hear, thank you, I think this will be a wonderful addition to Burgess Hill."

"We were surprised to read the notice on the play area gates. We live in Shearing Drive, with our lounge windows facing the play area. This area is very popular and quite well used. The proposed additions will make the area overcrowded, and wonder if a zip wire would create a noise, bearing in mind there are houses on three sides of this area. We do not agree with the notion of cricket, as any bat and ball games would be too dangerous where there are young children.

Our main worry is car parking. This is a private estate with a notice quite clearly stating that there should be no parking on the road. Where do you propose the more people using this area should park. Car parking is a very big issue and I hope the Estate Manager has been consulted about this. We can give you his details if you do not have them. It is essential that the Estate Manager is informed of this.

Can we be assured that the developer has no plans to build on any remaining land."

"Please see comments below received from a concerned Homeowner on the above development managed by FirstPort:

"We thought we ought to bring to your attention a notice posted on play area gates a lot more equipment is planned and the council are asking for opinions by 28th March

our main worry is as usual more cars and parking. We have sent an email to the council and asking them if they have contacted you about it. As we have not had a reply we thought it best we contacted you ourselves."

I cannot find any contact from the Council with regards to the works proposed in the play area which is accessed via Shearing Drive. We already have parking issues in Shearing Drive and are to the point of installing parking control to try and resolve the parking issues.

I fear that the installation of more equipment will add further issues to the parking on the development and we have had issues where emergency vehicles have had difficulty in accessing properties on the development.

Whilst I welcome the proposed improvement to the play area I believe that Shearing Drive should be a road solely for the use of Homeowners and their families and that maybe the council should consider another access route to the play area from the main road at the top of Shearing Drive."

An additional email received from the Shearing Drive estate manager:

"I am not sure whether I will be able to attend the meeting on Thursday 4th April 2024 but I would like it put on record that we (FirstPort) are opposed to the idea purely based on the parking issues it will create on Shearing Drive. I myself have seen families park in Shearing Drive in front of no parking signs in order to use the play area. I far as I am aware the road has not been adopted by the Council and is therefore maintained by FirstPort. Additional traffic to the site will only result if increased deterioration of the road surfaces at the cost of the private Homeowners on the site.

May I suggest that the Council either create an alternative entrance to the play area from the main road and parking spaces or adopt the roads on the Folders Meadow development and maintain them.

I will advise you that I have referred the matter to our Legal Team for comment."

"I am a resident of Folders Lane and I wanted to email you today as I saw your poster in the park.

I frequent the park often to play football and do basic work outs on the pull up bars.

This request is not to do with play equipment but I would love a dip station to perform workouts.

I think I'm combination with the pull up bars I could consistently get a decent workout. The dip bars are typically just two horizontal metal beams around chest height, which you can use to perform a dip exercise.

I think This would be a great addition to the park and encourage more people to be active as all you need is your own body weight for a great workout.”
