

Project Update July 2023

On 27th June, a meeting took place between the Parish Clerk, Cllrs Bailey, Hill, Perkins, the Kingsbridge Skate Park and Basketball Club reps to discuss the proposals and get a good range of input. Between us all, we had experienced players of basketball, netball, tennis, football, plus skateboard, bike and scooter expertise.

The project encompasses three parts:

1. Change the tennis courts and open them up to include a basketball court and hoops, netball posts (on the netball court already marked), keep tennis court nets up for summer use (and remove when required for netball/basketball), replace one with football goals in winter. Plus install a second entrance gate on the opposite side to avoid interrupting play and for personal safety (two ways to exit).
2. A small extension to the skate park and change to some of the rails for better flow.
3. A new pump track for wheeled sports in the corner of the playing fields joining the skate park. To quote SHDC who are installing one in Woolwell: "Pump tracks are designed to be used by all abilities and ages, from small children up to experienced riders, and can be used by BMX, mountain bikes, skateboards, scooters, balance bikes." They are also good for and roller blades. Some sections would not require pedalling or pushing, but rather a 'pumping' action to maintain momentum, hence the name. [Here's SHDC Woolwell info.](#)

In terms of likely costs, Cllr Hill also spoke to Wheelscapes who are implementing the Kingsbridge skate park – they sent him some concepts and prices. We have also had some concepts and prices for the pump track from Forte Trailscapes. Cllr Perkins has also estimated a rough cost for the MUGA, assuming we do the lining ourselves. So we have a reasonable idea of budget to work with:

Courts £10k (posts, lining paint and gates)

Skate park extension £30k

Pump track £60-70k

We are also mindful of the car park extension works and budget (which was £40k but will now have increased).

Having looked at our S.106 funds, given to us for the purpose of improving sport and leisure facilities in the parish, there is £89,823 in available funding for all projects (including parking) and South Hams District Council are due to receive a further £39,750 from the completion of Hi Ho and the second phase of Alston Gate. At this stage it looks as though we would be close to achieving all projects, although Cllr Bailey will apply for grants for any additional sums required.

The next step is to consult the village, gauge the level of interest, invite comments and identify issues to consider. We have drafted a simple online survey that we will promote via Facebook, posters, primary school (via Sharon) and SVRA. We will also speak directly to the residents around the tennis courts (both sides) the village netballers and KM football club.

A consultation poster and link to a draft survey has been forwarded to both the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee with a request for comments at the earliest opportunity to enable the consultation to commence soonest.



