

**FOLKESTONE TOWN COUNCIL**

Folkestone Play Parks Upgrade

Brief Document – Parks Information

Introduction

Folkestone Town Council are responsible for several play parks around the town. As part of investing in the health and well-being of the residents of Folkestone a budget has been made available to upgrade eight of these parks.

The following has been proposed.

Park	Proposed budget
Coniston Road	£27,000.00
Downs Road	£35,000.00
Firs Lane	£27,000.00
George Gurr	£25,000.00
Naseby Ave	£1,000.00
Pine Way	£25,000.00
Roman Way	£50,000.00
Southern Way	£40,000.00
Total proposed budget	£230,000.00

The council are looking to maximise the play equipment and play opportunities at each site through this project. We are seeking a contractor with experience in play parks to partner with the council to make this work.

This document should be read in conjunction with the following as part of the tender pack:

- 3064-Folkestone Parks Refurbishment Preliminaries -2022-04-28
- ITQ Instructions Document - Main Contractor - Folkestone Play Parks 3064 190422
- ITQ Response Document - Main Contractor - Folkestone Play Parks 3064 190422

In addition, there are sets of photos for each park that can be found on this link.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/napx1kzqyw9rq1x/AACsNHgjiE3mqtTHP3WMPTe1a?dl=0>

Where possible the council would like to minimise waste across the works and recycle as much as possible. There may be opportunities to move serviceable equipment from one park to another where for example equipment has been installed for the wrong age group.

With respect to Naseby Park this has recently been refitted and we would urge contractors to look at this space for inspiration. There is a small allowance at this park for minor repairs.

With respect to Roman Way Park we would urge contractors to think big here and propose something inspirational for the families living in that area. It will be possible to move proposed budgets around parks as long as the overall figure remains the same.

Parks Information

The following sections give information specific to each park. Please consider these in the light of the overall aims of the project.

Job ref: 3064

Park: Coniston Road Park

Address: Coniston Road, Folkestone CT19 5JQ

Proposed budget: £27,000

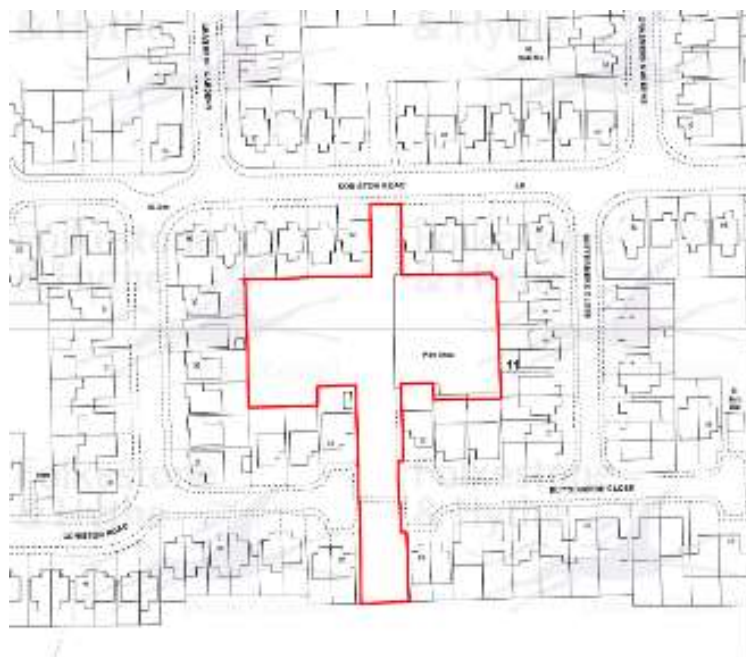
Photo



Context

Coniston Road Park is green space hemmed in by residential property on all sides. It has a range of play equipment in a dedicated play area surrounded green space. It is accessed from the north and south ends. The western section of green space has a number of established and healthy trees that could be incorporated in to the park offer in some way. The lower part of the park has a wild area that could be made more accessible.

Map



Equipment	Condition
Swings	Remove
Rocking horse	Remove

Contractors are encouraged to suggest replacement and new play equipment that is robust, has proven benefits to users and will enhance the play experience in this park. Attention should be given to the public feedback about this park given later.

Repairs

Wet pour floor tiles have failed in the designated play area and need to be taken out completely and another solution found.

There is a Bow Top fence surrounding the play area. Repairs are required to both gates and the maintenance gate. Consideration could be given as to whether the fence is required at this location.

The slide was recently removed as it was rusting and had become unsafe

Desires

Integrate with the landscape to bring the play, outdoor seating, picnic seating, walkways and wooded area into one cohesive visitor experience.

Develop a design to focus on adventure in nature to perhaps include balancing, climbing and trails at low level so that grass matting could be required rather than impact accentuating to enhance the natural aspect of the park.

Is there an opportunity for sensory equipment to be included?

There currently no bins or poo bins.

Age range Up to 8

Contractors are encouraged to suggest replacement floor surfaces that are robust, attractive and will enhance the visitor experience in this park.

Public feedback

How do you use the Park?

Walking	20.00%
Dog Walking	10.00%
Childrens Play	70.00%

What facilities would you like to see developed or improved at Coniston Road Park?

Swings	88.89%
Slide	88.89%
Climb	77.78%
Toddler Play	44.44%
Adventure Play	88.89%
Sensory/inclusive	22.22%

Sports/ Active	33.33%
Landscaping	33.33%
Picnic/seating	55.56%

Contractors are encouraged to suggest furniture that is robust, attractive and will enhance the visitor experience in this park. Consideration should be given to provision of litter and poo bins. Where there aren't any these should be provided.

Park: Downs Road Park

Address: Downs Road, Folkestone CT19 5TH

Proposed budget: £35,000

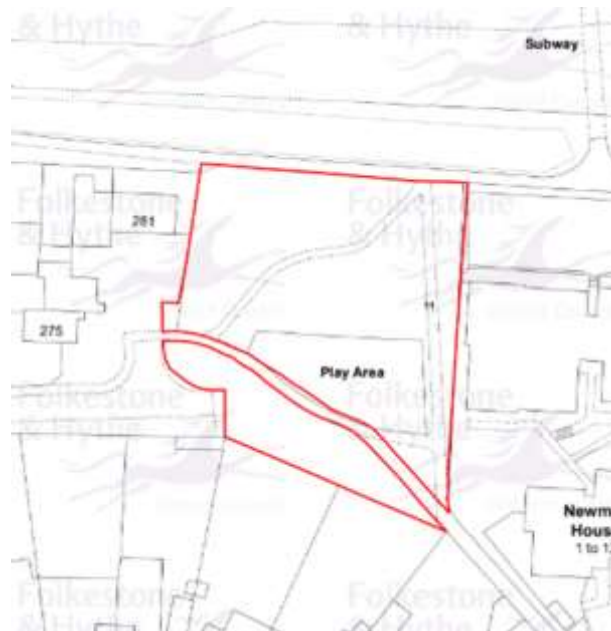
Photo



Context

Downs Road Park is green space hemmed in by developments and the main ring road for the town. It has a range of play equipment in a dedicated play area surrounded largely blocks of flats. It is accessed through Downs Road and is a densely populated residential area. The open space is quite sloped and has a range of different surfaces and uses.

Map



Equipment	Condition
Climbing frame and slide	Repair
Swings	Good

Contractors are encouraged to suggest replacement and new play equipment that is robust, has proven benefits to users and will enhance the play experience in this park. Attention should be given to the public feedback about this park given later in this report.

This park has space for more equipment as some pieces have been removed over the years. The bulk of the designated play area floor is tarmac. This is unfriendly and grim and needs to be replaced or overlaid with something softer and more colourful. Contractors are encouraged to suggest replacement floor surfaces that are robust, attractive and will enhance the visitor experience in this park. There are some rusty posts to be removed.

Public feedback

How do you use the Park?

Dog Walking	10.00%
Picnic & Sitting	10.00%
Childrens Play	60.00%
other	20.00%
What facilities would you like to see developed or improved at Downs Road Park?	
Swings	50.00%
Slide	60.00%
Climb	70.00%
Toddler Play	60.00%
Adventure Play	60.00%
Sensory/inclusive	40.00%
Sports/ Active	10.00%

Job ref: 3064

Landscaping	20.00%
Picnic/seating	30.00%
other	30.00%

The emphasis for this space for new equipment should be towards 2–8-year-olds. Toddler and adventure play would seem to be the most popular desires.

Contractors are encouraged to suggest furniture that is robust, attractive and will enhance the visitor experience in this park. Consideration should be given to provision of litter and poo bins. Where there aren't any these should be provided.

Park: Firs Lane Park
Address: Firs Lane, Folkestone CT19 4QE
Proposed budget: £27,000

Photo



Context

Firs Lane Park is green space in the middle of a large residential area. It has a range of play equipment in a dedicated play area and has a large green open space. It is accessed from all sides and shares the space with some council owned garages. The space has recently been illegally occupied by travellers and so would benefit from some changes to the access routes. For example large boulders could be strategically deployed. This would also stop the park being used by cars as a short cut.

Map



Equipment	Condition
Slide	Repair
Climbing frame	Repair
Swings	Remove
Goal posts	Replace
Benches	Good

Contractors are encouraged to suggest replacement and new play equipment that is robust, has proven benefits to users and will enhance the play experience in this park. Attention should be given to the public feedback about this park given later in this report.

There is an opportunity in this park for more open play and ball play. Is there space for a half MUGA? This could be against the garages where the broken goalpost is located. This park has opportunities to promote sport.

This park can cater for all ages if the right equipment is selected, and a good plan is put in place. Contractors should be aware that there are Anti-Social Behaviour issues in this park particularly later in the day when younger children have gone home. Consideration needs to be given to equipment and furniture in this regard,

Floor surfaces are mixed, and the grass is bare in places. Attention should be given to robust and attractive flooring in the right places.

Public feedback

How do you use the Park?	
Walking	20.00%
Dog Walking	10.00%

Job ref: 3064

Picnic & Sitting 10.00%

Childrens Play 60.00%

What facilities would you like to see developed or improved at Firs Lane Park?

Swings 66.67%

Slide 66.67%

Climb 55.56%

Toddler Play 44.44%

Adventure Play 66.67%

Sensory/inclusive 22.22%

Sports/ Active 44.44%

Landscaping 44.44%

Picnic/seating 88.89%

Park: George Gurr Park

Address: George Gurr Crescent, Folkestone CT19 6LG

Proposed budget: £25,000

Photo



Context

George Gurr Park is a relatively large open space with a range of play equipment in a dedicated play area surrounded largely by natural countryside. It is accessed through George Gurr Crescent on the South side which is a residential area. The area is widely populated with families with children of all

ages who use the park at all times. The open space is quite steeply sloped and borders the North Downs

Map



Equipment	Condition
Climbing frame, rope climb and slide	Repair
Swings	Remove

Contractors are encouraged to suggest replacement or new play equipment that is robust, has proven benefits to users and will enhance the play experience in this park. Attention should be given to the public feedback about this park given later in this report. Floor surfaces need attention in the designated play area. New floors should be robust and colourful.

Could the swings be replaced with a warrior swing? This park is used mainly by 2–11-year-olds. Could there be some new equipment for smaller children? Is there space for a half MUGA? Can the steep nature of the open space be used in some way?

This park is bordered by wilderness and a national park (North Downs). Can wildlife feature more strongly in the offer? Could there be an attraction at the top of the slope to encourage children to make the journey to the top?

Public feedback

How do you use the Park?

Dog Walking	40.00%
Picnic & Sitting	10.00%
Childrens Play	40.00%
other	10.00%
What facilities would you like to see developed or improved at George Gurr Park?	
Swings	88.89%
Slide	55.56%

Job ref: 3064

Climb	44.44%
Toddler Play	66.67%
Adventure Play	66.67%
Sensory/inclusive	33.33%
Sports/ Active	44.44%
Landscaping	44.44%
Picnic/seating	55.56%
other	11.10%

Contractors are encouraged to suggest furniture that is robust, attractive and will enhance the visitor experience in this park. Consideration should be given to provision of litter and poo bins. Where there aren't any these should be provided.

Park: Naseby Avenue

Address: Naseby Avenue, Folkestone CT20 3SJ

Proposed budget: £1,000

Photo



Context

Naseby Avenue Park is a small space with a range of play equipment in a dedicated play area and open space covered with grass around. It is bordered on all side by residential properties. The area is widely populated with families with children of all ages who use the park at all times.

Map



Equipment	Condition
Swings	Good
Slide	Good
Springs	Good

Contractors are encouraged to use this park as a recent example of play possibilities. There is small budget for floor repairs.

Park: Pine Way

Address: Pine Way, Folkestone CT19 4QL

Proposed budget: £25,000

Photo



Context

Pine Way Park is a small space with a range of play equipment and open space covered with grass. It is bordered on all side by residential properties and shares its southerly entrance with Harcourt Primary School. The area is widely populated with families with children of all ages who use the park at all times. The park gets busy with Primary School aged children at school closing times and in to the evening.

Map



Equipment	Condition
Swings	Remove
Roundabout	Good
Balancing beam	Good
Log steps	Removed

Contractors are encouraged to suggest replacement play equipment that is robust, has proven benefits to users and will enhance the play experience in this park. Attention should be given to the public feedback about this park given later in this report. . Contractors are encouraged to consider floor surfaces that will enhance the natural visitor experience.

There are some planters that can be removed as they are at the end of their useful life. There are a number of bench bases and no benches. The swings need some attention and may benefit from being moved to a park for older children.

There is an opportunity to develop a design to focus on adventure to include balancing, climbing and trails at low level so that grass matting could be required rather than impact accentuating to enhance the natural aspect of the park. This would benefit the many school children that pass through every school day.

There have been some issues with ball games and balls hitting private fences and causing nuisance. Can new equipment be placed to prevent ball games and encourage other types of play?

Public feedback

How do you use the Park?

Picnic & Sitting	10.00%
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Childrens Play	90.00%
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What facilities would you like to see developed or improved at Pine Way Park?

Climb	80.00%
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Toddler Play	60.00%
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Adventure Play	100.00%
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Sensory/inclusive	70.00%
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Landscaping	40.00%
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Picnic/seating	90.00%
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Contractors are encouraged to suggest furniture that is robust, attractive and will enhance the visitor experience in this park. Consideration should be given to provision of litter and poo bins. Where there aren't any these should be provided.

Park: Roman Way Park

Address: Roman Way, Folkestone CT19 4JU

Proposed budget: £50,000

Photo



Context

Roman Way Park is a large green space close to a large residential area housing many families. It has a range of play equipment in a dedicated play area and has a large green open space with goalposts and basketball hoop. It is accessed from the south and east sides and shares the space with some council owned garages to the west of the site. The northern edge borders a busy road servicing a large supermarket and business park.

This is a busy and popular park for children and families of all ages. There is an opportunity for this to be a real showpiece park for the people living nearby.

Map



Equipment		Condition
Basketball net with goal posts		Good
Slide and climbing frame		Good
Swings		Replace

Contractors are encouraged to suggest replacement play equipment that is robust, has proven benefits to users and will enhance the play experience in this park. Attention should be given to the public feedback about this park given later in this report. Contractors are encouraged to think more widely about the space and whether the dedicated play area is in the best place. Could there be provision for ball games for older children? Can a natural separation be made between the park and the road? Is there space for something as exciting as a zip wire?

Contractors are encouraged to suggest replacement floor surfaces that are robust, attractive and will enhance the visitor experience in this park. There is some missing fence, and some fences could be moved or reused. Consideration should be given to whether additional fence would be beneficial.

This is large park with very little else in close proximity. It would benefit from maximising the space available to include as much activity as possible including sport. The park is used by children of all ages. This park could benefit from a total revamp and consideration given to the overall design. The council would like to make this a showpiece park.

Public feedback

How do you use the Park?

Walking	10.00%
Childrens Play	80.00%
other	10.00%

What facilities would you like to see developed or improved at Coniston Road Park?

Swings	88.89%
Slide	88.89%
Climb	88.89%
Toddler Play	66.67%
Adventure Play	77.78%
Sensory/inclusive	33.33%
Sports/ Active	77.78%
Picnic/seating	77.78%
other	11.11%

Contractors are encouraged to suggest furniture that is robust, attractive and will enhance the visitor experience in this park. Consideration should be given to provision of litter and poo bins. Where there aren't any these should be provided.

Park: Southern Way

Address: Southern Way, Folkestone CT20 1HV

Proposed budget: £40,000

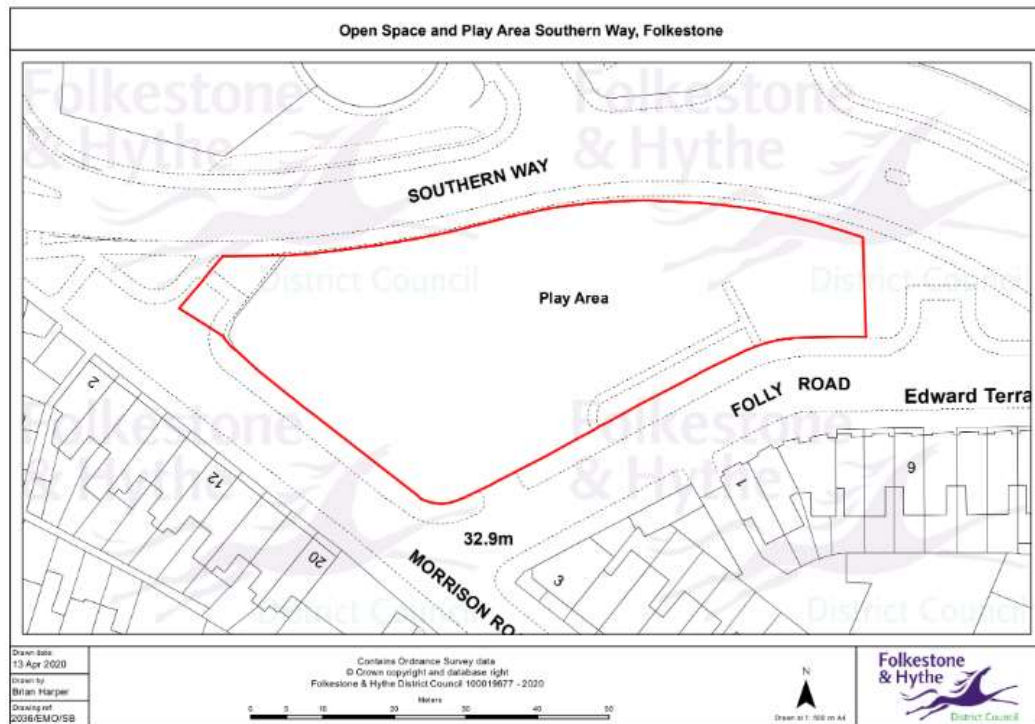
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Context

Southern Way Park is an open space with a range of play equipment and open space covered with grass. It is bordered on the South side by residential properties on Folly Road and Morrison Road. On the North side is the A260 a busy road on a main bus route. There are two primary schools nearby and the park is on the way home for many families.

Map



Current Equipment	Condition
Swings	Remove
Seesaw	Remove
Slide	Remove
Roundabout in storage with base in situ	Reinstall
Picnic benches	Remove
Agility tunnel	Repair
Rope spinner	Repair

Contractors are encouraged to suggest replacement play equipment that is robust, has proven benefits to users and will enhance the play experience in this park. Attention should be given to the public feedback about this park given later in this report. This park experiences Anti-Social Behaviour. Floor surfaces and play equipment have damaged and removed in the past. Graphic graffiti has had to be removed. Consideration should be given to the robustness of any equipment or furniture used in this park.

Repairs

There are some areas of wet pour flooring that have shrunk that need replacing. This is general pathways and around some of the retained play equipment.

Areas of grass wear out quickly and this causing pooling of rainwater. Can better surfaces be recommended in strategic places?

Some of the play equipment is rusty and has missing parts. These can be repaired and given a new lease of life.

Contractors are encouraged to suggest replacement floor surfaces that are robust, attractive and will enhance the visitor experience in this park.

Desires

A nice picnic area and /or gathering spaces. Better play equipment and new play equipment where current equipment is beyond repair.

Can a creative solution be found for enhanced play in the open grass area that doesn't impinge on Southern Water access to the site?

Age range

Up to 11 (Primary school age)

Notes

The site is owned by Southern Water and leased to FTC on a long lease. Access must be maintained for SW to an access hatch in the centre of the grass area. Nothing can be built over this area.

Contractors are encouraged to suggest furniture that is robust, attractive and will enhance the visitor experience in this park. Consideration should be given to provision of litter and poo bins. Where there aren't any these should be provided.

Public feedback

How do you use the Park?

Walking	10.00%
Childrens Play	90.00%

What facilities would you like to see developed or improved at Southern Way Park?

Swings	80.00%
Slide	80.00%
Climb	80.00%
Toddler Play	40.00%
Adventure Play	100.00%
Sensory/inclusive	30.00%
Sports/ Active	10.00%
Landscaping	20.00%
Picnic/seating	80.00%