



MARLDON PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER NO. 1

Welcome to the first Marldon Parish Council Newsletter. Unfortunately, this edition is a little rushed as we need to get an urgent **Public Consultation Document** to you in super quick time.

The Public Consultation covers two extremely important actions to ensure the Public are fully informed of **1.** The final Plan and cost of the Regeneration of the Torfield Play Park, and **2.** the need for the Parish Council to apply for a Public Works Loan.

Pages 2,3,4 & 5 of this newsletter holds information to update you and allow you to make an informed decision, it gives you the background, the middle and hopefully the end - which will produce a wonderful Play Space for our children to enjoy along with their friends, parents and grandparents and also a welcoming place for our visitors.

This Newsletter is a shortened version of future editions and we would welcome your ideas and suggestions for inclusion. However, we must be mindful not to disrupt or in any way overstep or cross-over the wonderful content of our Parish Church Magazine. This Newsletter is more about informing you of current Government initiatives, how that impacts on us as the first tier of Government, and in turn how that may impact on you as Parishioners.

It will introduce you to our Councillors and we will have regular columns from them. Along with the updates on what our wonderful Marldon Environment Group (MEG) have been up to and how they help maintain the Parish in so many ways.

It will advertise vacancies within the Parish Council such as the Village Ranger vacancy which will now be a critical role in ensuring any new facility, like the Play Park is checked and maintained on a regular basis. We will ensure whoever we employ will have that experience already or be

prepared to attend specialist training courses.

It will publish Casual Vacancies and will be a platform for those nominated to become Councillors at the May Elections, to put forward their manifesto's.

We will publish the dates of our proposed 'Insight into Local Parish Council Life' events, which will provide the background and legislation to which we, as a Council, have to work to. It will also highlight the benefits and extreme satisfaction which our volunteer Councillors feel when they achieve something which the Community has requested or indeed, deserves or needs looking into by District or County if it is not within our remit to help directly.

It will also be a platform for you to submit your letters, we cannot promise to publish all, but we will publish a cross-section.

We will hold surveys and competitions. Provide updates on Council business and indeed, publish the Minutes in full. However, as we now have an active Website, Facebook and this Newsletter, the Minutes will be as they should be, records of the decisions made by the Parish Council. Minutes are never meant to be verbatim accounts of discussions at Parish Council Meetings.

We will publish all meeting dates, however, we will be unable to publish Agendas or Virtual Meeting access details as the lead times for the Newsletter will outdate those documents.

The Newsletter will be published on a bi-monthly basis and delivered to every home in the Parish. If you have articles/letters/ideas or suggestions please email stating NEWSLETTER in the subject header to: clerk@marldonparishcouncil.org.uk

MARLDON PARISH COUNCIL

Final Public Consultation regarding the Regeneration of Torfield Play Park.

Your chance to endorse the final plan and support a Public Works Loan for Marldon's Torfield Play Park

Torfield Play Park has been closed since 27th January 2020 for health & safety reason although totally disappointing, the Parish Council were right in that decision after commissioning a full Play Park Inspection by accredited RPII Play Park Inspectors, who identified the Play Park as overall Dangerous. The reasons identified as lack of investment and lack of maintenance over a number of years, if not decades.

The Parish Council took the decision to use the closure to go forward with a long awaited and much needed regeneration, rather than waste good money after bad of trying to refurbish and repair decades old play equipment which would not provide a warranty and would very soon require further repairs, then COVID hit and everything was put on hold for 4 months until mid June 2020.

During the first 'round' consultation the Pre-school were approached for their thoughts and contributions relating to the regeneration of Torfield Play Park, an area used by them on a weekly basis as they were only able to use the Village Hall for 3 and half days a week. The other 1 and half days they used the Play Park or visited other areas of the Parish in all weathers, but having to avoid Jubilee Meadow and Broomhill Meadow as Ofsted stated those areas proved unhealthy and inappropriate due to the number of dogs using the Meadows and the of amount dog mess left behind.

The Pre-School had suggested the requirement for an undercover area to allow them to use the Play Park when the weather was bad or indeed, as shelter from the sun during the summer.

A Storytelling and drama area was also discussed as an area where the children could learn and express themselves.

The natural environment was also discussed and it was seen that having a wildlife area would also be used as an area to teach and learn about the natural environment and learn about wildflowers, insects and birds, from this, the idea of educational storyboards located throughout the Play Park was included along with bird feed tables.

Numerous parents and children were involved in choosing and providing ideas for the play equipment which was relayed to the invited Contractors, along with the Contractors input on what was currently being installed and used by other local authorities or private development sites.

Out of these consultations, from the users of the Play Park and professional specialist play park contractors the Specification was produced.

Three Contractors (out of 5) submitted quotes and designs according to the specification which was the same for each and every one of them. The designs were then shown to the Pre-school and to some of the parents and children who had contributed prior to the Specification being drawn up.

Some amendments were made, including adjusting some of the play equipment and ensuring there was a picnic area and that the whole site was 'user friendly', this included the pathway around the Play Park for easier access by those in wheelchairs, disabled and pushchair/pram users.

The specification also dictated that each section was priced separately so the Council were able to select, amend or remove items if the costings were not considered appropriate or inhibitive.

The three designs, including the names of the Contractors were uploaded to the Parish Council's website, by the Parish Council's web Design and Management Company, Visionict, in July 2020 and have remained there ever since along with an indication of the quotes, however, as the tender process is confidential, the names of the Contractors were not submitted with the quotes.

The Public were offered the option to comment and select the Design they preferred and also encouraged to suggest other options for additional equipment.

The Public were also provided with a tick box to gain support for a Public Works loan which had been discussed and resolved at the Parish Council Meeting of 10th August 2020.

In September 2020, the Parish Council were provided with the breakdown of costs and a dialogue regarding the comments received and the popular choice.

The choice above all was for Plan 3 – submitted by Rhino Play (SW) Ltd . However, the costings were high and the Parish Council requested the Clerk obtain a reduction in the overall costs by removing some of the equipment as suggested by the Councillors, and especially a reduction in the Groundworks. The quote at that time was £173,000.

In September 2020, the Parish Council were provided with the breakdown of costs and a dialogue regarding the comments received and the popular choice.

At a further meeting in September 2020, the Clerk reported to the Parish Council that a reduction of over £50,000 had been achieved and the Groundworks specifically had been reduced to £9,816 with the pathway being halved. The final quote is £119,500. This was after discussions with the Play Park Specialist at South Hams District Council, who also assisted with supplying contractors for the possible use of tarmac on the pathway instead of the soft pour safety surfacing, however, as the site is on a slope, this was deemed as a potential health & safety risk as when wet, tarmac becomes slippery. The Chosen Contractor then suggested using Mulch instead of wet pour or tarmac.

The Groundworks are 'surface level' groundworks only, a survey by the Groundworks Contractor met on site, and agreed that no excavating would be necessary and that all soil and rubble would be re-used to mould the bank in between each level to provide the picnic area, which then did not involve additional costs to remove and dispose, all would stay on site and be re-used.

RHINO PLAY (UK) Ltd, produced a final plan which was shown at the Meeting on 14th September 2020 – the plan was shown via Virtual video by the Clerk.

As part of our application to use some of the s106 funds allocated to the Parish for Sport, Leisure and Recreation, we have been requested to provide a further Public Consultation as an opposition group and the Ward Councillor for Marldon are opposing the use of s106 funds and declaring that the Parish Council are not capable of providing professional management of the regeneration, even though throughout the preliminary and subsequent project process, we have consulted with the 'users', consulted with lead Specialists at South Hams District Council, consulted with the Professionals in Play Park provisions and installation and been fully involved in all decision making.

Many of the Grant Funding options available to Local Councils suspended their deadlines during the COVID lockdown and notified that they would hope to re-establish grant funding applications in the Autumn, which indeed, they have, however, the criteria's have changed as has the eligibility, therefore, the Parish Council has had to resort to the final option within its reach – a Public Works Loan, already ratified by the Parish Council, in the sum of £80,000 with repayment over 25 years at an

annual repayment of approx £5,200 which equates to an increase in your monthly Council Tax of 0.46 per month or £5.54 per annum to assist with the repayment and to invest in the Play Park for the children of today and for future generations, for a Play Park to be Proud of and which will be maintained and managed unlike the forgotten and neglected one which has been in place for decades with no real foresight, investment and indeed, no maintenance.

Please use the form on Page 5 to indicate your choices and support; this is now critical to forwarding this project. The Public Consultations can also be accessed online via our website or via our Facebook Page, or complete the attached form, and put into the Parish Council Post box at the Village Hall, into the Collection box in Marldon Cards & News or through the Letterbox at Homeside in Compton.

If you are unable to access any of these areas, please email or telephone the Clerk who will arrange a socially distanced collection.

All responses must be received by 12 noon on Friday 27th November 2020.

Please note: you will be required to enter your name and address and number of persons (and age bracket) within your household to ensure that we are collecting the responses and wishes of residents within the Marldon Parish only. All responses will be checked against the electoral register, any responses received with no address or those which do not correspond with the current 2020 electoral register will be disregarded.

Once the information has been collated, the forms both paper and online will be destroyed.

We thank you again for your time and the effort you have put into supporting the Parish Council in its drive to ensure Torfield Play Park will be regenerated, opened and ready for all of you to enjoy in the very near future.

MARLDON PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

www.marldonparishcouncil.org.uk

Facebook: Marldon Parish Council

Tel: 0770 770 9390

or email the Clerk on

clerk@marldonparishcouncil.org.uk

Address: Marldon Village Hall Postbox, Village Road,
Marldon, Devon, TQ3 1SJ

Proposed Play Area

Playground Equipment
& Safety Surfacing
Provider



Drawing Number: MPRP001-D

Marldon Parish Council

Design Approved by:

Sign: Date:

© Copyright Rhino Play (SW) 2020 - Design shown is for illustrative purposes only and maybe subject to change without notice. Colours and materials may vary.

Rhino Play (sw) Unit 21 Bulleigh Barton Farm, Ipplepen, Newton Abbot, Devon

TQ12 5UA Tel: 01803 873711 Email: info@rhinoplay.co.uk



The bottom half of this page should be cut out & delivered or posted to:
Marldon Parish Council
Marldon Village Hall Postbox, Village Road, Marldon TQ3 1SJ or the collection box at
Marldon News & Cards, or the mail box
outside Homeside in Compton

If you are unable to access any of these collection points, please
contact the Clerk who will arrange a socially distanced collection.

ALL RESPONSES MUST BE RECEIVED BY:
12 noon on Friday 27th November 2020

This Public Consultation is also available on our Facebook Page and our Website
www.marldonparishcouncil.org.uk

Note: If you have already responded electronically we would be grateful if you would please **not**
complete this form.

Cut Here: -----

Torfield Play Park Regeneration

Do you support Marldon Parish Council's final Plan in the sum
of £119,500 as shown below, *

☐

YES

☐

NO

(please choose YES or NO)

PUBLIC WORKS LOAN

Are you in favour of Marldon Parish Council proceeding with the
Torfield Play Park Regeneration?

☐

YES

☐

NO

(please choose YES or NO)

Are you in favour of Marldon Parish Council proceeding with the Torfield
Play Park Regeneration if it includes a council tax precept increase
of *0.287%, which is the equivalent of an additional *£5.54 a year for the
purpose of the annual loan repayments? **0.46p per month increase *

☐

YES

☐

NO

(please choose YES or NO)

Name *

First Name

Last Name

Address *

Street Address 1

Street Address 2

Postcode

Please enter the number of people in your household for each of the following ages:

☐

0-12 yrs

☐

13-18 yrs

☐

Over 18

**Please note that temporarily your information may be viewed by a third party.*

*No copy or retention of your personal information will be stored in paper or electronic format
once all responses have been counted.*

MARLDON PARISH COUNCIL LOGO COMPETITION

Welcome to Marldon Parish Council's first COMPETITION which comes with a whopping £50 prize for the winner.

We need a logo to put on our Letters, Posters and the Ears (the sections either side of the Banner - Title) on this Newsletter.

The logo needs to depict something relevant to Marldon, an image (not copied from someone else), an historic event, a new event, a design of the words 'Marldon Parish Council'. It can be in full colour but must be an original piece of work.

Please email your design to:
clerk@marldonparishcouncil.org.uk
or put in the Parish Council postbox by the
Community Entrance of the Village Hall
in Village Road.

**All entries must be received by 5pm on
Monday 30th November 2020**

MARLDON & COMPTON CORONAVIRUS COMMUNITY CARE HUB

is in operation

**For assistance with the following please
ring the contact numbers alongside
SHOPPING - Viv & John on 01803554499
MEDICATIONS - Anne on 07703 066877
(between 10am-4pm)**

**DOG WALKING & PET WELFARE -
Billie on 07925 524001**

**BUDDY EARS - If you just want to talk
to someone if you are feeling isolated and
low - Kevin on 07557 221808 between
10am - 4pm)**

**GENERAL HELPLINE
Susie on 0770 770 9390**

**STAY SAFE - STAY HOME - WASH
HANDS - WEAR YOUR MASK - MAKE
SPACE**

Temporary Editorial Team across all Communication
platforms: Newsletter, Facebook & Webpage

Susie Watt - ClerkEditor
Cllr. Sharland.....IT
Cllr. Page.....Content Reader
Cllr. Ward.....Content Reader

Contact via email:

Newsletter@marldonparishcouncil.org.uk
Marldon Parish Council Newsletter will be
published on a bi-monthly basis.

Next Issue:

Full Newsletter Monday 25th January 2021

Next Copy Deadline: 12th January 2021

Letters: Maximum 150 words .

Please note: one more small Newsletter will be published inbetween this one and the first full Newsletter as we need your views on the Cemetery as a matter of urgency. Unfortunately, there was not enough time to put that Public Consultation together for inclusion in this issue, as we still need further information regarding the field the Parish Council bought some years ago to accommodate a new burial area.

The Parish Council Newsletter will always be delivered free to every household, unless you use the 'opt out' option which will be available to action on the website over the next week or so. This will give those of you with internet access the option to read the Newsletter online via a Flipbook program. We can then not only save on printing/delivery costs but do our bit for the environment.

We are looking for suggestions for content including a bespoke 'Youth' Page for TRAYE and for budding young Journalists or even those within our younger Community who wish to have 'a voice' in the Newsletter..... you are the future of this Community and can carry on the good work we are trying to achieve now and take that into the future.

*No one likes change, it's how you manage change
that makes the difference !*

**DATE OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING IS MONDAY 14th DECEMBER
2020 @ 7.15pm
This will be a 'virtual' meeting**