

Attleborough Recreation Ground Masterplan

Creating a draft masterplan to develop a Town Park for
Attleborough

Phil Doyle and Sioned Williams

Background

Phil is a Play Consultant and Sioned Williams is a Landscape Architect

Attleborough Town Council have commissioned us to develop a masterplan for the Recreation Ground in Attleborough



TOWN CENTRE ENTRANCE
The nearest entrance to the town centre could be more visible and welcoming. The entrance gate can be obscured by parked cars, apart from the decorative gates, the fencing is unattractive with barbed wire along the top and there is poor pedestrian access along Thieves Lane and crossing to the entrance area



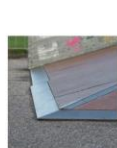
GAYMER BOWLS CLUB
Feels underused, especially out of season. Unattractive boundary fence with barbed wire next to football pitch and play area



PLAY AREA
The play area is well used with some seats and tables for lingering in the space. The play offer is not good with a mix of modern and traditional prescribed equipment. Could be more interesting, challenging and attractive



CONNAUGHT HALL ENTRANCE
Access is through the car park to Connaught Hall and other facilities. Car park ownership and permissions for access to the park are unclear although this is likely to be the busiest entrance for car users, especially to the play area. Visibility is clear but the perimeter fence is unattractive and unwelcoming



SKATE PARK
Well used and popular, now needs repair or replacing with better designed ramps



RAILWAY STATION ENTRANCE
Entrance nearest to Attleborough Railway Station is mainly used for maintenance and potentially football activities at the weekend from the car park which is on Town Council owned land. Access and parking surfacing is poor. The double maintenance gates are occasionally locked

BUILDINGS
The former railway goods yard building, now Attleborough Football Club's pavilion, forms an attractive part of the landscape of the Recreation Ground and is a heritage asset



INFORMAL BALL PLAY
The single goal and basketball end is well-used but inadequate for use, worn and grass is worn and puddled. The small rebound goal end is not usable and both facilities lack cohesion for informal ball play



PAVILION NURSERY
The nursery looks outdoor playable space suitable for pre-school years despite being situated in a park. The path from the main entrance is narrow and in disrepair



ENTRANCE FROM THIEVES LANE
The single pedestrian gate is partially obscured by hedging with functional fencing and gate. There is a highway on the historic Thieves Lane



SIGNAGE
Some of the signage is either redundant or too forbidding. Where signage is needed it is more effective when friendly and designed with involvement of park users



USE OF SPACE
Unplanned fencing can lead to pinch points and the creation of redundant space



Pinch point between the play area and football pitches where run-out area is poor



SEATS
There is good seating provision generally especially in the play and tree seats. Some need seat bases and the style of seating could be more aesthetic



TREES
Mature trees create a sense of place and give a parkland feel to parts of the open space. There is some planting of large species trees to replace some which have had to be removed and it's important to maintain large trees here for the future



- KEY**
- Existing tree
 - Hedge / hedgerow
 - Close mown grass
 - Buildings within the park
 - Bow top railing
 - Barbed wire
 - Gates
 - Path
 - Lighting
 - Current football pitch markings
 - Play area
 - Skate park
 - Goal end
 - Seats and tables
 - Most habitual access points and routes
 - Occasional access

0m 10m 20m 30m 40m 50m 100m

Existing Site

























Retain existing gates with new railing to match. New signage and flower planting and new surfaced 'threshold' to make more welcome



Main Town Centre Entrance

Remove hedging to open up visibility. New gate, railing & new surfacing



Thieves Lane Entrance

Remove barbed wire and replace perimeter fence and gates. New signage and flower planting with new surfacing at 'threshold'



Connaught Hall Entrance

HERITAGE

Share the history and heritage of the open space. e.g. the goods yard building could be brought into new community / heritage use if AFC moves location. Provide new pedestrian entrance by improving visibility, surfacing and attractiveness



Station Entrance and Goods Yard Building





























Table Tennis in Parks



Wheel Park

















Changing with the seasons



Small interventions can make spaces more playable



Photo: Phil Doyle

Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) or a Ball Court

Existing



Usual cage



Ball Courts in Parks











Thank you



Photo: Nicola Butler