

Wickhambreaux Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Chenice Howard-Sparkes,
39 Larch Close, Hersden, Canterbury, CT3 4GE
Telephone: 07972 201687. Email: wickhambreauxpc@gmail.com

14 April 2025

Dear Resident,

URGENT RESPONSE - FURTHER LOCATION TO CONSIDER

Re. Proposed Installation of New Play Equipment

I am writing on behalf of the Frank Montgomery Playing Field Committee with regards to proposals to install a basketball and football goal incorporated into one play item (otherwise known as a MUGA) in the playing field.

Following the playing field Committee's Extraordinary Meeting on **Wednesday 09 April 2025 at 6pm** in Wickhambreaux Village Hall, 25 members of the public attended and following lengthy debate it was proposed to recommend to the Parish Council that the preferred location would be central at the far end away from the play equipment, 13m from the boundary fence. The only other locations considered at this meeting were along the Seaton Road boundary.

The Parish Council is meeting tomorrow on **Tuesday 15th April 2025 at 7.30pm** in Wickhambreaux Village Hall to consider the Committee's recommendations.

Following further views from residents, Cllr Rees has gone back to the preferred company to see whether it would be possible to further bespoke the piece of equipment to have a side panel either side of the mouth of the goal. This would enable the MUGA to be installed closer to the existing equipment, which was originally discounted due to safety concerns for children using the play equipment. This would be installed facing up the playing field towards the nature area end (i.e. children will have their backs to the play equipment and be kicking towards the nature area end of the playing field). Although we are waiting for the new quote, we have been advised this is possible and the side panels will prevent balls hitting playing children.

It is also possible to adjust the height of the hoop and, following feedback at the meeting last Wednesday, the Committee already plans to have it lower to suit a younger audience as they feel this would be preferable for our playing field.

Cllr Rees therefore intends to put this new location with updated costs as an alternative for the full Parish Council to consider tomorrow.

Cllr Rees really wants to hear your views, so that the Parish Council can take these into account when making their decision. Please could you either send your views to the Parish Clerk using the details in the letterhead above, or contact Cllr Rees directly on 07432 726273 / rees@wickhambreaux-pc.gov.uk. You are also very welcome to attend the Parish Council meeting tomorrow to express your views and hear more information.

Kind regards



Chenice Howard-Sparkes
Clerk to the Council