



MEETING PAPER

Subject: Specifications for Benches

Meeting: Parks and Open Spaces Sub-Committee

Date: 19 October 2021



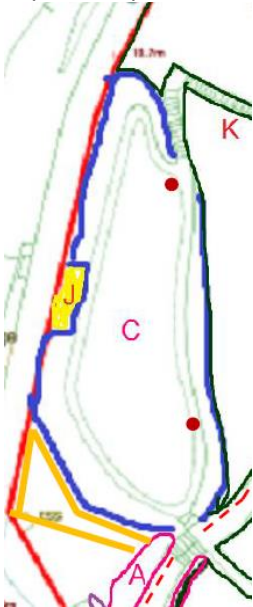
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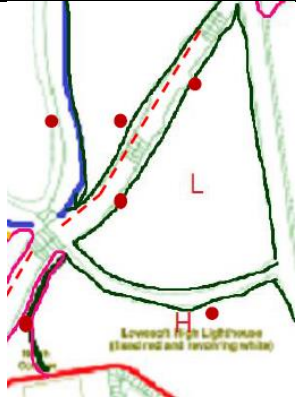

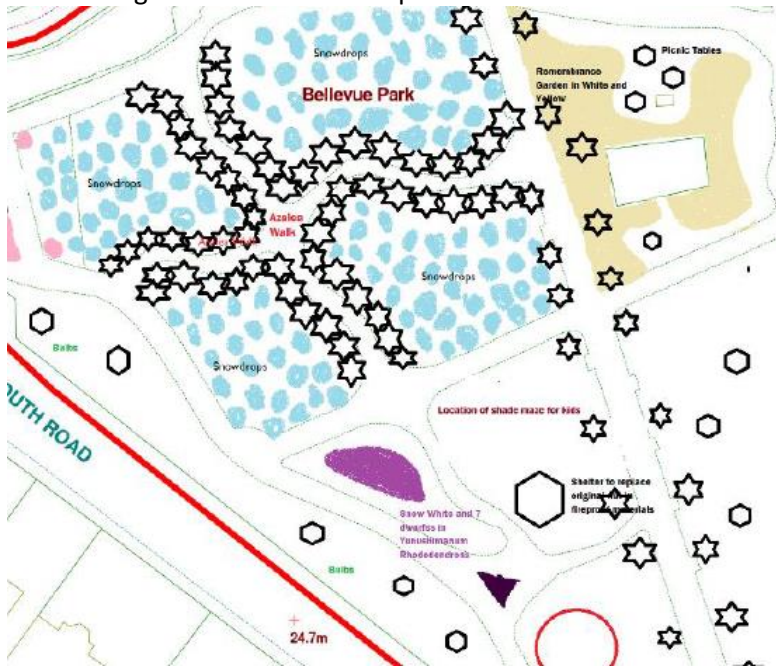
Background/Introduction

The Council has decided that it would like to progress the purchase of benches for its parks, in line with the wider five-year plans for those sites. There has been a decision by Full Council that the cost of the benches themselves must not exceed the underspend from the Parks Development budget in 2020 – 2021, and the installation cost must not exceed the total of the Parks Development earmarked reserve.

The Parks and Open Spaces Sub-Committee has been tasked with making a recommendation to the Assets, Inclusion and Development Committee regarding the specification of the benches.

Details

Name of Park	Recommended Number of Benches	Type of Bench	Comments	Cost
Sparrows Nest	Seven	<p>Bluebell Bench Seat</p>  <p>'Hyde Park' formal seat</p> 	<p>Sparrows Nest already has a good provision of benches.</p> <p>The five year plan has identified that more benches are needed at the top of the park, as indicated below:</p>  <p>The area delineated in blue has been identified as a potential bluebell walk so the recommendation is to install two Bluebell Seat Benches within this area (identified by the two red circles within the blue area).</p> <p>The five-year plan has also identified the areas marked as L and H on the below map as areas of woodland planting:</p>	<p>£2,631.60 for two Bluebell Seat Benches (including VAT, delivery and bolt-down kits)</p> <p>£2,778 for five 'Hyde Park' style benches (including VAT and bolt-down kits)</p>

			 <p>The 'Hyde Park' style bench would lend itself to this area. Five benches have been identified on the map above (red dots).</p>	
Belle Vue Park	Twelve	<p>'Hyde Park' formal seat</p>  <p>Standard Picnic Table</p>	<p>The five year plan has identified the need for twelve benches, marked as small hexagons on the below map:</p>  <p>The five benches along Yarmouth Road are recommended to be 'Hyde Park' formal style benches.</p>	<p>£2,778 for five 'Hyde Park' benches (including VAT and bolt-down kits)</p> <p>£2,208 for five standard picnic benches (including VAT and bolt-down kits)</p> <p>£820 plus VAT for two standard wheelchair accessible picnic benches</p>



Standard Wheelchair Access Picnic Table

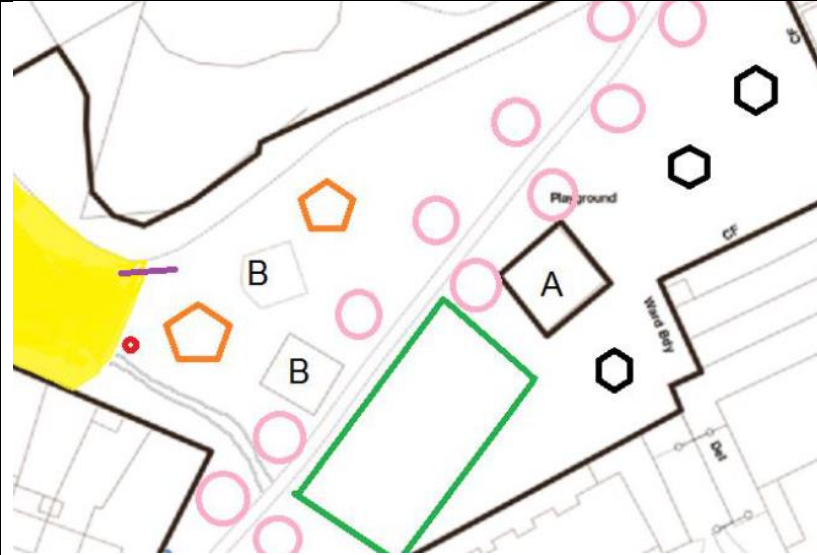


The five-year plan identifies the others as picnic benches. It is recommended that five of these are standard picnic benches and two are standard wheelchair accessible picnic benches

Britten Road	Three	Standard Picnic Table	The five-year plan identifies the need for three picnic benches at the site, marked as black hexagons on the map below:	£967.20 for two standard picnic benches (including VAT
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Standard Wheelchair Access Picnic Table



It is recommended that two of these are standard picnic benches and one is a standard wheelchair accessible picnic bench.

The five-year plan also includes the provision of teen seating, but it is recommended that this is progressed at a later date, as the AID Committee has recommended the removal of the current teen equipment from the park, to be replaced at a later date in a more appropriate area of the park. Plans for teen seating can be progressed alongside this.

The proposed five-year plan for Clarkes Lane is as follows:

and bolt-down kits)


£410 plus VAT for one standard wheelchair accessible picnic bench

Clarkes Lane

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			 <p>This has already changed slightly as the Council has decided to dedicate some land to WildEast. The Council is consulting with Norse to determine the best areas to progress a managed wildflower area and a community garden/orchard, so this proposed plan is subject to change. It is recommended to postpone the purchase of seating for this site until the plan is confirmed.</p>	
Gunton Community Park	Five	Standard Picnic Table	<p>The five-year plan has included provision for five picnic benches (in addition to a wheelchair accessible picnic bench which has already been purchased). Teen seating can be progressed at a later date in line with the development of a football area.</p>	£1,694.40 for four standard picnic benches (including VAT and bolt-down kits)



Standard Wheelchair Access Picnic Table



		 <p>Standard Wheelchair Access Picnic Table</p> 		£410 plus VAT for one standard wheelchair accessible picnic bench
Kensington Gardens	-	-	Kensington Gardens already has an abundance of seating. As part of their comments on the five-year plan, the Friends of Kensington Gardens have identified that seating is only required in the quiet corner. This is where the 'Talking Bench' is due to be installed so at this stage it is recommended that no additional seating is purchased for Kensington Gardens.	
Normanston Park	-	-	Normanston Park has a good supply of seating, and the Council has also approved the installation of additional seating by way of memorial benches. The development of additional sports facilities at the park may lend itself to additional seating at a later date.	
Rosedale Park	Eight	Standard Picnic Table	The five-year plan has included provision for seating as part of a planned wildflower area, for which the recommendation would be the 'Hyde Park' formal seat. The five-year plan also includes provision for picnic	£1,666.80 for three 'Hyde Park' benches



Standard Wheelchair Access Picnic Table



'Hyde Park' formal seat

benches, for which the recommendation would be four standard picnic tables and one standard wheelchair accessible picnic table. The picnic benches are identified as hexagons in the below map, and the other benches as ovals:



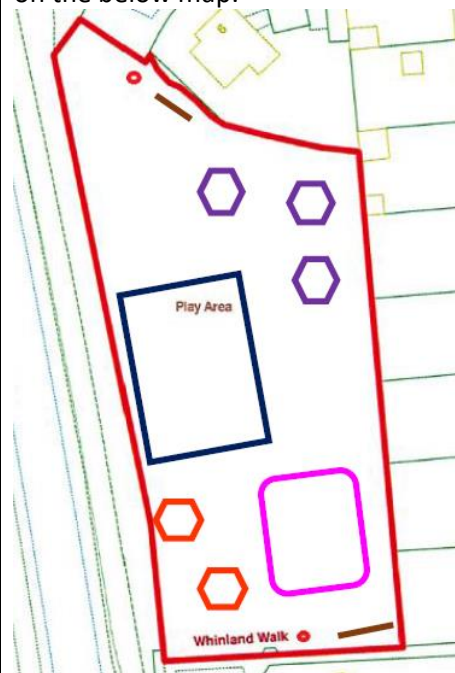
(including VAT and bolt-down kits)

£1,694.40 for four standard picnic benches (including VAT and bolt-down kits)

£410 plus VAT for one standard wheelchair accessible picnic bench




Standard Wheelchair Accessible Picnic Table



The recommendation is to progress four standard picnic benches and one wheelchair accessible picnic bench, rather than designated teen

£1,694.40 for four standard picnic benches (including VAT and bolt-down kits)

£410 plus VAT for one standard wheelchair accessible picnic bench

				seating. This is because picnic benches can be used universally by families, teenagers and younger children and would arguably be more well used and appreciated in a children's play area than designated teen seating.	
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Total to purchase all benches is £20,572.80 (forty benches in total).

The maximum installation cost per bench is £450 plus VAT (assuming a concrete base is required in each case), a total of £18,000 plus VAT.

Recommendations/Decision

- It is recommended that the purchase of the benches proceeds as detailed in the table above.

