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Application No. 20/00501/FUL
Installation of concrete Skate Ramp and Teen Shelter
Statement of the applicant in support of the application

The application for a concrete skate ramp and teen shelter is in relation to land at Notley Green, Great Notley which is an area of land that has been used for recreational purposes including a skate area since 1996. The Parish Council has always maintained the area and its lease with Braintree District Council states that the land shall be used for recreational purposes.

Consultations with the community over the years have revealed that residents would like improved facilities for teenage residents.

You will note from the design and access statement that to decide how best to upgrade the area the Parish Council entered into a comprehensive consultation with residents including a survey with young people which received 268 responses and a drop in session for all residents in the Community Centre which was well attended. Thus, the Parish Council is able to say that the planning application before you reflects the views of young people in the Parish as to what they would like in the area.

The Design and Access statement and associated plans set out the proposals and you will note that the existing metal ramp is to be replaced with a concrete facility which will offer better flow for skaters and in particular will be quieter than the existing metal ramp and will be visually more pleasing. In relation to the teen shelter it is of a modest size and the surrounding vegetation means that there will not be a detrimental visual impact upon the area in relation to the shelter or the skate facility.

It is noted that two residents have raised issues of anti-social behaviour in the area however, during the design process there was communication with the Police to try and address how to avoid such behaviour and their advice regarding the management of vegetation has been noted. In addition, the Parish Council has recently been verbally advised by the Police that there is no record of any recent reports of anti-social behaviour at the site.

The current facilities in the area are now becoming quite worn and tired and it is considered that the proposals will provide a wonderful facility for young people within the Parish in line with their wishes and the Parish Council would urge the committee, in considering all factors, to grant this application.