



## **Evesham Adventure Playground New Community Hub - Consultation**

Evesham Adventure Playground is a hugely important part of the local community, providing a range of services around children and adults, people in need, local schools, and active travel. Amongst other things, the Playground provides a community hall for clubs and events; wraparound care for local schoolchildren; youth club; provision for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND); a community pantry and free lunches for anyone who needs help; and a bicycle recycling sales and repair service. You can see more about what they do on their website, where this page will be used to give updated information about this project as things proceed. There's also a little more information at the back of this questionnaire

Their current main building is now 30 years old, and it's showing its age. They're constrained by both size and layout, it's expensive to heat, and it just doesn't work as well as it could do. In the meantime, our community has flourished, evolving in both size and diversity - and that means there's a need for a modern, inclusive space that can accommodate our expanding population and provide a welcoming environment for all.

So, they're proposing a new building, just to the side of the existing site: a purpose-built Community Hub, low carbon throughout, different sizes of hall for hire, drop-in rooms for e.g. advice clinics, health screening, blood donation sessions, and so on. This new building will serve as a multifunctional centre, fostering social cohesion, promoting educational initiatives, and supporting various community activities. They can then refurbish and remodel the existing building to make better use of that space: a better home for the Pantry and bikes, a new upstairs area, "zoning" for different services, improved insulation, updated facilities. In effect, twice the indoor space, with much improved capacity and flexibility.

The Adventure Playground will need money from multiple different sources to make this happen: local authority, National Lottery, other charities. Evesham Town Council is supporting the Playground to apply for these grants.

If you prefer – and it would certainly help us if you could, please – you can access and complete this survey online this using this link. Please, give us your views, and help us to shape the case for this new Community Hub. This closing date for this consultation is **midday on Monday, 22nd of April, 2024**.



Concept Drawing of New Community Hub (which will inevitably change!)

Only Q1 and Q2 are mandatory; you can leave any other section b	olank if you	don't wa	nt to fill it i	in.
Q1. What is your postcode <u>without the last two characters</u> (e.g. WR11 7, WR10 1)?				
Q2. Do you believe that	Yes	No	Maybe	No opinio
The Adventure Playground is important to the community in Evesham and the surrounding area	0	0	0	0
The need and demand for their services will continue to grow	0	0	0	0
Expanding and refurbishing the Playground buildings will benefit the community	0	0	0	0
Increasing the range of services at the Playground will benefit the community	0	0	0	0
Having more, and more flexible, space will be beneficial	0	0	0	0
People will take advantage of more usable space for hire (e.g. for parties, celebrations, classes)	0	0	0	0
Section Two: About Current Usage				
These questions help us to understand the immediate views of per Playground currently  Q3. Do you or your family use the Adventure Playground at al			t use the	
	i currently	f		
O Yes, regularly (e.g. weekly, or several times a month)				
O Yes, infrequently (e.g. every couple of months)				
O Yes, rarely (a couple of times a year, or you have in the past	but not rec	ently)		
O No				
O Other:				

**Section One: Public Feedback** 

Q4. If you or your family <u>DON'T</u> use the Play	ygro	und, can	you tell ι	ıs why n	ot?		
$\Box$ I didn't know it was there $\Box$ The activities aren't on at a suitable time							
☐ I don't think it's meant for people like me	I don't think it's meant for people like me $\Box$ I find it hard to get to						
☐ It's for children	☐ I can't afford it						
☐ I don't know what goes on there		☐ Better facilities are available elsewhere					
☐ There are no activities of interest	☐ Other:						
Q5. If you or your family <u>DO</u> use the Playgro	ound	l, what do	you thir	ık of it c	urrently1	?	
		Very poor	Poor	Okay	Good	Very good	No opinion
How welcoming the current buildings are		0	0	0	0	0	0
Condition of indoor space		0	0	0	0	0	0
General facilities (kitchens, toilets)		0	0	0	0	0	0
Size/flexibility of spaces		0	0	0	0	0	0
Car parking		0	0	0	0	0	0
Q5. Is there anything you'd like to add?							
Section Three: About the Playground	l Se	rvices					
These questions help us to understand more a	bout	what's ne	eded.				
Q6. What do you think of the services curre	ntly	offered a	t the Adv	enture F	Playgrou	nd?	
		Very poor	Poor	Okay	Good	Very good	No opinion

Breakfast and after school club
Holiday play schemes
Family events, e.g. Hallowe'en, Christmas
Alternative Provision for SEND children
Youth club

Very poor	Poor	Okay	Good	Very good	No opinion
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0

	pod	-	Poor	Okay	Good	very good	NO opinion
The multi-surface pitch	С		0	0	0	0	0
Hall for hire	С		0	0	0	0	0
Existing groups – parents & toddlers, Zumba,	С		0	0	0	0	0
Bicycle recycling – sales, repairs, "Dr Bike"	С	)	0	0	0	0	0
Community café and pantry	С		0	0	0	0	0
Drop-in sessions, e.g. health, security postcoding	С		0	0	0	0	0
Q6. Is there anything you'd like to add?							
Q7. What activities/service would you like to see m	nore	of?					
☐ Adult education classes	□ <sub>F</sub>	Heal	th and w	ell-being	g advice		
☐ Sport & fitness classes	$\square$ Benefit, money and debt advice						
☐ Recreational (e.g. craft) classes	$\square$ Help getting back into work						
☐ Activities for older people	□ н	☐ Help with official forms & paperwork					
☐ Activities for teenagers & older children		Support groups for people who are struggling or feeling "left out"					
☐ Activities for parents & younger children	□ Warm spaces						
☐ Other (please state):							
Section Four: Anything Else?							
Is there anything else you'd like to tell us – what you li don't like, what could be improved, or any concerns you				ground (	or this pr	oposal, v	what you

Helping the Playground Further
If you think you could help the Playground in some way – on this project (groundworks, clearance, construction, decoration, second fit, or similar), or maybe outside of the project (perhaps by volunteering or running a new activity group) – please tell us here.
And that's it - thank you very much for your help!

Evesham Adventure Playground Community Consultation Evesham Adventure Playground Woodlands Evesham WR11 1XH

... or you can email it back to us at <a href="mailto:consultation@eveshamadventureplayground.org">consultation@eveshamadventureplayground.org</a>.

## **Data Protection Notice**

Please now return this form to:

Any personal details you have provided will only be used for the purposes of categorising responses (e.g. by suburb or village, or by people who do/don't use the Playground currently) or for following up with you about what you've said here. By providing those details, you give Evesham Town Council and Evesham Adventure Playground Association express permission to store and use them for this purpose.

## **Further Background**

For anyone not aware of the Adventure Playground, it sits behind Halfords and The Range on the south side of town.

It began life as a community project in the 1980s, as local residents were concerned that Evesham's 1970s new build housing estates had sprung up without a place for children to play. From holiday playschemes to a dedicated open space to a fundraiser and lots of local help... by 1995, spades came out, and the current building began to rise from the ground.







Early days at the Playground

Over the years, there's been much change, and it's shifted from the core definition of "playground" into something much, much more. It's now a child- and family-centred community asset, providing a whole host of services to the local community and beyond: while they focus on the immediate community, they have visitors from across Worcestershire and neighbouring counties.



Bike recycling/refurbishment



The current community hall

The play is still there, of course – learning through play remains at the heart of what they do – but it's grown to become so many other things: an OFSTED-registered setting for children with special needs, a community pantry that collects surplus food from local supermarkets and growers and then distributes it to anyone in need, either at the door or in the form of free hot meals; low-cost or no-cost holiday playschemes; morning and evening wraparound care for local schools; a Friday night youth club; a community hall for daytime and evening events and drop-in "clinics"; a bike recycling project that collects unwanted bikes and refurbishes them for a new life.





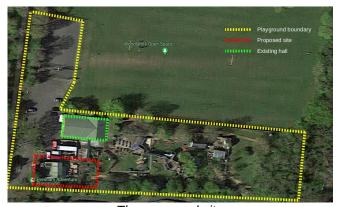


The Community Pantry

The Playground has become an indispensable community asset for so many people. To give you some idea of the scale, in 2023 they:

- Covered 12 weeks of school holiday with 15 family play events, with 300+ children at Hallowe'en
- Provided SEND support to 12 schools, giving invaluable help to 25 children (and their families) with 7,500 hours of supporting
- Delivered breakfast & after-school care to ~40 children every week, from over 300 children on file
- Diverted nearly 30 tonnes of food to over 180 regular Pantry users. With some targeted purchases. this also provided over thousands of free hot meals, 250+ food parcels and 150+ festive hampers to families in need.
- Picked up 1,800 bikes from Pershore/Hill & Moor (plus several hundred donated), and ran 15 "Doctor Bike" community sessions in Evesham and neighbouring villages. Bikes are refurbished and sold on affordably, stripped for parts or sent for a new life in emerging economies in Africa.

This project opens a new chapter in the story of Evesham Adventure Playground. With help, and a little luck, it will ensure that all they do continues for decades to come.



The proposed site

You can learn more about the Playground at any of the links below.

- Website: www.eveshamadventureplayground.org
- Facebook: there are three pages, one each for the <u>Playground</u>, the <u>Pantry</u>, and the <u>Bikes</u>
- Instagram: www.instagram.com/eveshamadventureplayground
- Twitter/X: twitter.com/EveshamPlay
- Email: info@eveshamadventureplayground.org
- Telephone: 01386 442154