

**Minutes of the Playground Working Group meeting
Held at 7 p.m. on 2nd February 2012
in Tanyard Hall, 30 Station Road, Gomshall**

Present: Councillors C. Brooke (Chairman of the Playground Committee), R. Newman (Chairman of Shere Parish Council), R. Andrews, B. Cohen, S. Nielson, Residents R. Bannister, K. Childs, Mrs. P. Foster, Mrs O. Jila, M. Martin, Mrs L. Pettibone and two local youngsters.

Apologies for absence – Councillor S. Nielson.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1st December 2011 were approved and also the confidential minutes from the same meeting which named the fourteen original sites considered by the Working Group.

Following a suggestion by the Chairman it was agreed that the new facilities would be renamed ‘the skate and ride area’ rather than skateboarding facilities as the majority of youngsters are likely to be using scooters and BMX bikes.

The Chairman then gave a slide presentation (see attached) showing the progress made to date.

Following this presentation the Working Group agreed that it was preferable that the location be situated in the vicinity of other recreational facilities. It was also felt important that it had good visibility and not be too close to dwellings. The Clerk stated that the local police officer had considered the three preferred sites. He felt that Goose Green was the most suitable from a visibility point of view but he understood that visibility was not the only issue that had to be considered. He therefore felt that the police would work with the Parish Council to make any of the chosen sites safer if necessary. A meeting with the Crime Prevention Officer was still awaited and the Guildford Youth Worker may also be consulted.

The Working Group stated that, in its view, the best location was the Shere Recreation Ground and unanimously agreed that arrangements now be made to establish whether this location was appropriate and available. If this was not the case, then Goose Green or the National Trust land opposite Shere Surgery should be considered. It was suggested that a contractors who supplied skate board equipment in each of the three possible materials (wood, concrete, skatelite-pro/metal) be asked to visit the sites.

It was also suggested that members of the Working Group may like to look at the Dorking skate park.

The Chairman then stated that she felt that the Working Group had completed its work and she wound up the Working Group by thanking all Members for the time they had given to the project. She stated that the youngsters might like to commence drawing up rules and a code of conduct for the use of the proposed facilities which she hoped would be available for use by the summer.