

# Sheepscombe Village Hall Play Area

Following the condemnation of one of the swings, last year the Village Hall Trustees proposed a new play area. Several villagers made generous donations towards the proposed scheme, but quite a few concerns were raised about it. Having listened to those concerns, the Trustees are now proposing a new design to revitalise the area. The new design is based on two principles:

1. There are items to appeal to toddlers, to age 5-10, and to older kids (and perhaps adults too)
2. The design is a 'circuit' which gets progressively more difficult: younger kids can see how far they can get, older ones can try get all the way around without touching the ground - maybe even timing themselves

The new design takes up about five more metres of the current grass area than the existing set up (see diagram on the following page), leaving an 'L-shaped' open grass space for 'play', kick about, bouncy castle etc. The overall length of the open grassy area is about 60 ft, and about 50 ft wide at its widest and 30 ft at its narrowest.

The total cost, including matting and installation, is about the same as the previous design, around £18,000, but with quite a lot more kit and for a wider age range. So far, we have cash donations and commitments specifically for the play area of about £13,000. We do not intend to use Village Hall funds for this, so we will need to do further specific fundraising; we are reasonably confident that it will be possible to make up the £5,000.

**The design will be discussed at the village hall AGM at 7.30pm on 15 April 2019. All are welcome to come and join in the discussion.** Based on the feedback we receive, the Trustees will make a final decision, submit a planning application and seek to raise the remaining funds.

Meanwhile, if you would like to make a donation please contact either Rob Jones or me - sheepscombeplayarea@gmail.com.

**Quentin Thompson (Chair of VH Trustees)**