

APPENDIX A

Poplar Farm, Grantham PLAY AREAS STRATEGY (Rev B)

The proposed development will provide the following designated children's play areas and will be in addition to the broader proposed landscape and public open space areas:

Principal Equipped Play Area (1 No.)

To be located as part of the broader proposals for public open space and sports facilities on the lower lying land close to the current end of Balmoral Drive. The play area will be designed as an integral part of this part of the site and will relate positively to all of these surrounding proposed uses.

The play area will provide a broad variety of both active and more passive play. It would be designed mainly for older children but would also include play opportunities for younger children.

The key features of this play area will be:

- It will be sited close to the sports facilities/ pavilion and be easily accessible from surrounding footways;
- It will encompass a minimum activity area of 1,250m²; including a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) (of at least 500m²);
- The number and nature of play equipment and structures is to be agreed with SKDC and will provide for a wide variety of play experiences;
- It will include both grass and hard surfaces and impact absorbing surfaces (where required around play equipment and structures);
- It will include a shelter for meeting/ socialising in an open area and with a visual relationship to the MUGA;
- It will incorporate an appropriately designed "buffer zone" around the main activity area(s);
- It will be designed to provide a stimulating and challenging play experience;
- Boundary treatments and any necessary fencing, gates or access controls will be agreed with SKDC as part of the design of the play area;
- It will include signage, seating and litter bin(s);
- It will include convenient and secure cycle parking as part of the broader public open space and sports facilities proposals

Other Equipped/ Landscaped Play Areas (3 No.)

Three areas to be located within identified landscape areas/ corridors. One play area to be located in the south west of the site, close to the future Primary School and Local Centre facilities (and north of Running Furrows Drain); one play area to be located within the landscape corridor (running west – east) in the west of the site: and one would be located towards the north of the site. All of the play areas to be designed as an integral part of the landscape and public open space proposals and to relate positively to the other surrounding proposed uses.

They would be designed mainly for younger children (who are beginning to go out and play more independently)

The key features of these play areas will be:

- They will be sited close to and easily accessible from surrounding footways (one of the play areas will be easily accessible from the Local Centre/ Primary School sites);

- They will encompass areas of between 600 – 900m² (larger areas could include less equipment and incorporate imaginatively designed “natural play” features; using materials such as logs and boulders. Areas with a greater emphasis on specific play equipment could be relatively smaller);
- The number and nature of play equipment and structures is to be agreed with SKDC and will provide for a wide variety of play experiences;
- They will include both grass (more grass within areas with a greater emphasis on “natural play”) and hard surfaces and impact absorbing surfaces (where required around play equipment and structures);
- They will incorporate an appropriately designed “buffer zone” around the main activity area(s);
- Planting to be included around the play areas and to provide a mix of scent, colour and texture;
- They will be designed to provide a stimulating and challenging play experience;
- Boundary treatments and any necessary fencing, gates or access controls will be agreed with SKDC as part of the design of the play area;
- They will include signage, seating and litter bin(s);

Doorstep Play Spaces (4 No.)

Three “Doorstep Play” spaces will be provided. These will be designed as an integral part of the areas within which they are sited. They will be designed and designated specifically for young children/ toddlers. They will be designed to encourage informal play and social interaction and to allow for ease of informal observation and supervision.

The key features of these spaces will be:

- They will be sited close to and easily accessible from surrounding footways and housing;
- They will be designed primarily for children up to the age of 6 but could be used by older children;
- They will include a minimum activity area of 100m²; reasonably flat and of grass or hard surfacing or a combination of the two;
- They may include a small element of “natural play” eg boulder/ logs
- Planting to be included around the play areas and to provide a mix of scent, colour and texture;
- They may include a knee rail or low fence to indicate the perimeter and broadly define the area.
- They will include signage, seating and litter bin(s);
- The layout of the space will be agreed with SKDC.

Programme for Implementation

The designated play areas will be delivered as follows:

Principal Equipped Play Area (1 No.) – by delivery of the 901st unit.

Other Equipped/ Landscaped Play Areas (3 No.) – 1st by delivery of the 450th unit; 2nd by delivery of the 901st unit; and 3rd by delivery of 1350th unit.

Doorstep Play (3 No.) – 1st and 2nd by delivery of the 300th unit; 3rd by delivery of the 901st unit; and 4th by delivery of 1350th unit.

Note: Main sports pitches/ facilities to be delivered by delivery of the 901st unit (ie at the same time as the Principal Equipped Play Area).