



Ideas for Parkfield Sports Ground

Number	Idea
1	<p>I'm currently in Thornham, Norfolk. They have an outdoor area with gym equipment which I would like to suggest the Parish Council considers also providing. As a not very middle aged female, I have been able to easily use the equipment. Obviously as I improve so will my reps!</p> <p>The health - both physical and mental - of our community would really benefit. I roughly paced the surrounding area and it is 30 metres x 45 metres. (very rough!!). I have attached photos FYI.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>
2	<p>I recently saw the post regarding ideas for the sports ground. I had a thought regarding the 2 tennis courts. Is it possible to have Netball lines painted down too and netball posts? I work for England Netball and think it would be great to run some Netball sessions there. We organise Back to netball, walking netball and junior netball! Offered to all ages and abilities.</p> <p>Most public tennis courts/mugas also have netball lines (Avenue park, Baldock and Bancroft Gardens for example)</p> <p>There is a netball court at the primary school however sessions can only run after school and in holidays where as we could run daytime sessions if courts were available</p> <p>Completely understand if not worth it but thought I would suggest.</p>
3	<p>I live within the village and have done for the last 5 years.</p> <p>I know the village is lacking in facilities and leisure areas for teenagers and the older kids, and I think it's great ideas are being considered.</p> <p>I'm actually a playground designer, and have designed them for numerous schools and councils.</p> <p>I'm happy to offer my services and not charge a design fee, as I feel it's such an important asset that the village is missing. I think we could do something really fun and new, and to engage and include 11-17 year olds, as frankly I feel they have been most affected during the pandemic.</p> <p>If you'd like to see some examples of my work just let me know or meet to discuss please let me know.</p>
4	<p>Great to see the post on Facebook about the parish council asking villagers their views on sports improvements at Parkfield!</p>

As someone who grew up in the village I know that the sports facilities have remind mostly unchanged in 20 ish years, and most noticeable neglected is the teenage (10+) residents and the basketball/skatepark area at Parkfield.

When I was the teenage age the basketball/skateboard area did serve as a good place to hang out and on the odd occasion we did throw a few balls at the hoop, the main issue the area was the surface was poor for playing on and the ball always going into the carpark.

Through my work at Cain Markings I've travelled around the UK working on sports and recreational projects, from full 3G Football association pitches to simple line markings.

I believe Parkfield is the perfect location for some development within sports/social sports for all residents but most importantly I believe is teenage age and residents who may not be able to join a sports club due to fitness or money for example.

Below are a few ideas for parkfield:

- i) Outdoor gym equipment/trail would be an amazing asset! From my local travels I believe we are one of the last villages not to have one installed, they are a great way to keep fit for free! A lot of people believe they are a waste of money, but this is far from the truth! I've been in public parks around 6am and they are in full use at this time of the day.



Especially for the younger generation they are using the equipment whilst being social which is a great plus and for this reason it's also popular with retired/older people, the equipment is designed to only lift your own body weight with the rule being if you can get out of bed unaided it's safe to use.

With the modern equipment the designs are stylish and can be painted to blend it with the greenery and some even charge your phone!

- ii) the basketball (including the skate park) area can be easily revamped for a very small budget, with some additions of some markings it could be turned into a multi fitness area without changing the sight line of the Parkfield, this style marking areas is normally included in big urban projects to change the previous site and they have a great impact.
- iii) the addition of a sports practice wall is another consideration, it's a simple brick build wall with multiple sports markings on (cricket stumps, tennis net, football goal for example). I'm not sure when the singular metal football goal was removed from Parkfield but up to that point it was used frequently, the down side on this was the other made up football goal with the back of the tennis club which caused damage

The area I proposed for this would be where the old practice cricket net used to be as there is concrete pad already there for some of the sports like tennis.

The benefits of a sports wall is it's a great way to try other sports, play with yourself or others, and gain skills, from designs I have installed and seen the possibilities are endless, one of the main design features is no matter how bad the shot is the ball always returns to you.

	<p>I want to make it clear I am not doing this for personally gain at all, my investment in the development of Parkfield is for the current and next generation of residents to get the most out of living here, as a example I had a test of a chalk product in 2018 so I marked out the basketball markings at Parkfield and within the hour children were using them (picture attached).</p>  <p>If you have any questions, please don't to hesitate to contact me.</p>
5	<p>I think it would be nice for the young children from the village to help create a wildlife area. Very popular at the moment saving our bees etc..a bug hotel made from old palettes pots etc.. It would also be great if there was a pond too to encourage wildlife birds frogs insects as every village should have a pond. It would also be good to have some gym equipment up there for runners to use as part of a circuit...climbing frames, fixed cycles etc.</p>
6	<p>I have been talking to my children 8 and 5 about what they would like to see. Here are a few ideas they came up with.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Netball/basketball court full size Park like in Wheathampstead with a zip wire and bigger slide. Maybe some wooden equipment with balance beams and ones that hang down from chains. A slide that goes down the hill would be fun. Nature garden with bug houses, benches to sit on and flowers for bees and butterflies. <p>I have attached some photos they found.</p> 



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Following on from your post on the Kimpton Village fb page I would like to put my vote to the gym equipment most definitely. It would be amazing if we could have both gym equipment and an outdoor trim trail.

Having lived in the village for 26 years, raised a child and worked in the school for 15 years my experience is that there aren't enough public facilities.

We are extremely fortunate that this is a lively and active village but most of the activities/facilities come at a cost. On the surface the community looks comfortable and in some cases well off, however, during my time in the village school I experienced many families that struggle financially and are not able to take advantage of the clubs, scouting, hire of halls etc.

Even if we weren't to take into account of peoples' financial situations, many people (myself included) do not wish to join groups/clubs or be restricted to their time schedules but rather take advantage of going solo or with family at a time that fits into busy and difficult days.

I feel very strongly and passionately about this subject. Through my work I am involved in sports facilities and it's sad to see that Kimpton Village is one of the last places to incorporate an outside gym. The outdoor gym equipment is extremely popular with many age groups and abilities using them throughout the day.

I am sure you are aware, but please take into account that outdoor gym equipment comes in many different varieties, some of which are basically awful and fail. It is also important to ensure that you have a mix of adult and child sizes.

	<p>Please excuse the badly written email, I have tried to keep it short but have much more to say on the subject should people become resistant to the idea. This is a very wise investment into the community.</p>
8	<p>Wonderful to hear the council are looking to invest in the area. Having spoken to the family including teen boys. We would all love to see an outdoor gym at the park. I think it would be very well used. Also love the idea of an outdoor table tennis table. Maybe the tennis club could rent bats and balls or you just have to bring your own.</p> 
9	<p>I think it would nice to have a new cricket pavilion built. For the ever-growing Kimpton Cricket Club.</p>
10	<p>My idea for the park field sports ground is a proper basketball court that is properly surfaced with hoops on either side. This would allow for 1 big group to play or 2 small groups at once as at the moment only one relatively small group are able to play at once. Age 13 years</p>
11	<p>Hi, I would love there to be some outdoor gym equipment and a table tennis table. Could cancel my gym membership then!!</p>
12	<p>Ideas for Parkfield. Zip wire Skateboard ramp</p>
13	<p>Just one or two suggestions for the Sports Ground. Provide 1 or 2 benches for spectators, walkers, etc., an area of exercise equipment for adults and children, a wildlife garden to attract birds, butterflies, etc. Would it be possible to provide a toilet as not only villagers but many walkers come through this part of Kimpton.</p>
14	<p>A surfaced running track. The benefits are obvious for health and fitness.</p> 

15	I love the idea of an outdoor gym. But whatever is decided - can it be free for all to use and not part of a club that needs joining? That will hopefully encourage use by all. 21 likes
16	Could we have more picnic tables, benches.....
17	More play equipment for the children! 1 like
18	Something for teenagers. I know mine has emailed his ideas already! 4 likes
19	Definitely more for teens. The younger kids already have 2 playgrounds in the village
20	Zip wire! Badminton Court
21	Table tennis 1 like
22	My big wish would be to have something like they have in Gustard Wood at the Cross Keys pub, a small wooden cafe hut that is open a few hours on Saturdays and Sundays. It would be wonderful to be able to get a coffee and a cake, without the need to jump in a car. Kimpton is crying out for something like this and the only thing close is the coffee morning, which is only open occasionally when most people are at work. I haven't worked out the logistics e.g. is it rented?, but I'm hoping it's not beyond the realms of possibility. :-)
23	I think an outdoor gym would be a great addition to Parkfield. A zip wire would also be a welcome addition.
24	More wildflower areas