

AREA 2 COMMITTEE. 28/07/10

THE RIDGE ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND PROGRESS REPORT.

WARDS AFFECTED: BESTWOOD

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to give the area committee an overview and progress report on the Ridge Adventure Playground (RAP). Also to outline the future development plans for the RAP.

OVERVIEW.

The RAP is an open access staffed play provision for 5 to 13 years olds. These young people can engage in a wide variety of activities, which may not be available to these children elsewhere. Examples of these are arts, craft, wide games, sport, den building, camp fires, cooking and playing with water. The playground is staffed by trained Playworkers, who facilitate and support the children, in a child led and centred environment. The funding for the playground was initially from the Pathfinder programme, this was added to from local area capital, Wren and Nottingham City Council. A two year consultation was undertaken with the local community and other partners and agencies. This led to a unique design incorporating the ideas and views collected during the consultation. The playground was launched on the 08/05/10, with a carnival style day for the public. This was well attended by the public and partners despite the weather. The playground is supported by a local voluntary management committee.

PROGRESS REPORT.

The playground has been successful in attracting 1227 children who have completed full registration forms to become members. The average attendance at the playground on the six play sessions delivered each week in term time is 134. During school holidays the playground delivers ten sessions a week. In addition to this we have hosted school visits and partners in the area who work with young people. In partnership with Bulwell Community Toy Library we have developed a 'Stay and Play' session on a Friday morning in term time. This is aimed at parents of under fives to bring their children and play, supported by staff from both organisations. This has attracted new people each week and will be developed further in September when the summer holidays finish. The playground has been broadly welcomed by the community and feedback has been positive. Staff will continue to work with the management committee to meet the communities' needs. The children attending have enjoyed the variety of activities on offer. Most popular has proved to be arts, the zip line, the tower and slides and during the good weather the water area.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS.

The staff and the management committee are committed to delivering quality play opportunities to local children, through engaging in meaningful consultation with them. The staff and the management committee see the Ridge as having the potential to serve the wider community. Staff and the management committee are at present exploring;

- Maintaining the number of children accessing.
- Deliver a quality play offer to children and families through consultation.
- Support local disabled to attend, through accessing the inclusion project and funding.
- Develop the Stay and Play session in September.
- Attract and train volunteers to supplement the staff team.
- Develop the Service Level Agreement with the management committee
- Develop the growing area with the M/C and Groundworks. This will enable children to have the experience of going from seed to plate.
- Develop schools access.
- Work in partnership with youth service and others to deliver access for the older children.
- Establish city wide groups access who work with disabled children.
- Examine possibilities for revenue generation.

CONTACT OFFICER

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Attendances at the Ridge

Session	No of Attendances
20.6.10	32
19.6.10	156
18.6.10	150
17.6.10	187
16.6.10	167
15.6.10	130
11.6	87
12..6	50
12..6	91
9.6.10	54
8.6.10	55
4.6.10	78
2.6.10	180
1.6.10	179
30.5.10	86
29.5.10	134
27.5.10	200
26.5.10	100
20.5.10	167
19.5.10	169
17.5.10	157
15.5.10	174
13.5.10	146
12.5.10	162
11.5.10	178
4.6.10	220

	3489	Total
	26	Total No of Sessions
	134.19	Average