



## A Vision for Millfields



### Millfields

Easingwold Town Council view Millfields as a jewel in the town and are making and planning a series of investments within the park's environs to enhance its role in community life...

### A Major Recreational, Environmental and Social Resource for Easingwold



Millfields was opened by two current Easingwold Town Councillors (Shirley Shepherd and Geoff Ellis) on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 1999 and, like them, it has been giving the town excellent service ever since.

The park has served us well over the years, but Easingwold Town Council believes that it should be the epicentre of a series of major projects and investments to increase its role in the town's social, recreational and environmental lives. In totality this comes to a major visionary approach from an improved car park and entrance to enhanced access and facilities throughout.

Broadly if you enter the area from alongside the Millfields Surgery end, on the right runs a large, informal recreational space and to the left an even bigger swathe of wetlands, scrubland and woods; all bisected by a footpath and a part of the White Rose cycle route leading north.

For the recreational space plans include:

- a full drainage scheme to improve access and year round usability,
- the complete replacement of the skate park with a modern, state-of-the-art facility,
- a 500 metre year-round, low-lit jogging track combined with a trim trail of multiple exercise stations.
- Improved seating and usability for all social and recreational purposes.

For the other area plans include:

- bike and dog-walking tracks in the scrubland and woods
- improved environmental management of the woods and scrubland
- Investigating safe and controlled access to the ponds and wetland areas, to see if they can become an improved asset for townspeople to visit and include in our wildlife programmes.

**EASINGWOLD TOWN COUNCIL ERROR!  
BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.**

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## What are the Planned Investments?

- An enhanced and impactful entrance with improved car parking from the Church Hill end to encourage and facilitate increasing use of the facility by the townspeople and visitors.
- Maintenance of the main footpath and cycle way, with improved seating and social use facilities. Better integration with the Claypenney play park and picnic area.
- A full drainage scheme for the recreational area to deliver year round usability and the possibility to use the area for town events.
- The continued provision of an informal, grassed parkland area for general recreational use – kite flying, ball games, exercising, relaxing, reading, social gatherings etc.
- The on-going provision of informal rugby and football pitches with goal posts.
- The complete replacement of the current skate park with a state-of-the-art facility with integrated seating for users and visitors
- The continued provision of an informal dog-walking track along the periphery of the recreational area.
- The installation of a 500 metre long and two metre wide, all-weather jogging tracking around the area, including low-level lighting so that it can be used throughout the year; especially giving joggers a safe place to practice in the winter.
- Alongside the jogging track a trim trail with a series of all-weather exercise locations to facilitate outdoor fitness regimes.
- Greater management and control of the woodland and scrubland area to enhance its usability for walking and viewing wildlife.
- The provision of a separated walking trail and bike track through the woodland and scrubland areas.
- Examining the potential for the insertion of a controlled path through parts of the wetland and pond areas, so that safe public access can be provided to enable the townspeople and schools to visit this large and interesting space

## How will this be done?

- Easingwold Town Council already has funds in place for significant parts of the work. Some will be supported from Council reserves and from Hambleton District Council development funds arising from current extensive building around the town. For other parts groups are working to identify funders and grants that can enable these investments to happen.
- This means that some investments will come in to place over the coming eighteen months or so, whilst other parts will take longer to realise.
- Funds are already in place for the maintenance, drainage, skate park, trim-trail and bike track.
- A grant from Tesco has been won and will be used to examine the feasibility of opening up the wetland and pond areas.
- A working group involving the local running club is working on funding the jogging track.
- Because of the ever-increasing importance and use of Millfields by the local population and visitors, Easingwold Town Council will be seeking partners to help improve and extend the current entrance and parking facilities.
- Anyone wishing to help the Council see through this wonderful improvement programme will be welcome to join in. The recreational parts will be under the auspices of the Recreational Committee. Projects in the other areas will be the responsibility of the Open Spaces Committee.

**The Town Council would welcome the views and suggestions of Easingwold residents to be submitted via the Town Clerk**