

**Briefing Note**  
**Full Council**  
Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) Riverside Park

**Background**

In December 2015 the Parish Council was approached to consider taking on the public open space at Riverside Park. After much consideration and discussions with the developer the Parish Council finally decided at its September 2020 Full Council meeting not to adopt the MUGA – a copy of the information that led to this decision and the minute from that meeting are attached.

In February 2021 Barratts approached the Parish Council to reconsider the adoption of the MUGA – see email trail attached.

In March 2021 it was agreed for the PC to arrange a meeting with the Residents' Association and NDC's Section 106 Officer and the Parks Leisure and Culture Officer to investigate the options for the facility, the notes from this meeting are attached, along with the responses that were received to the outstanding questions from the three parties.

A meeting was held between the three parties and the developer to discuss the future of the MUGA. Barratts were quite clear that they would like to work with the Parish Council to find away forward for the MUGA which is currently locked and not in use to the community, it was noted that Barratts had written to residents with the two options for the MUGA which were:

Option 1 transfer the MUGA to the Management Company.

Option 2 transfer the MUGA to the Parish Council (the residents were informed that this option is subject to Parish Council agreement and in the event the PC do not accept the facility it will be transferred to the Management Company).

The majority of those that responded were in favour of Option 2.

It was noted that the original main user that was identified has now indicated that they would not need to use the facility on the same scale as other facilities have been provided since initial discussions took place approximately 10 years ago, therefore it has been agreed by all parties that if the PC was to accept adoption of the MUGA it would be run on an open-door policy (the PC would have to keep in a clean and safe manner) and once the carpet has reached the end of its life the commuted sum for maintenance would be used to remove the carpet and tarmac (or paint the floor depending on the condition of the tarmac underneath) the surface. Barratts have confirmed that the manufacture will inspect the carpet to provide a rough idea of hours left but the timescale for this is unknown at the moment. If the carpet is found to be nearing the end of its life Barratts have indicated that they would be willing to replace, however, the PC should consider if it would be looking for replacement carpet or would request that Barratts undertake the tarmac and lining of the surface to prolong the life.

Now that the outstanding questions have been answered the Parish Council has been asked to reconsider adoption of the MUGA at Riverside Park.

V Woodhouse, August 2021