

Supporting information to Old Road play area considerations
[sic]

1. I request that immediate steps are taken to remove the misleading "advisory" sign from Old Road park and the skate park.

The confusing and unenforceable sign, presently advises young people to not use the park, implies that non school age children/ dog walkers and parents should not use the park and invites intergenerational distrust without a proven need.

I suggest we can do better, and in future I would like us to support fully informed advice and regulation.

Cllr Brampton has advised me that KTC has only 'play areas', not parks, I propose we equate parks and play area in our discussions, and avoid any confusion.

(See supporting document for more details about the importance of, and a mechanism for, considering positive community cohesion in local government decision making)

2. To consider and investigate my public proposal for a funded lighting solution, to be supported by appropriate rules and regulations.

A viable solution:

A reasonable cost, low carbon, low light pollution lighting system, see Keynsham template below

(There is no proven reason to dismiss this essential Youth consideration as either 'expensive', unfundable, or 'not in the public interest', there are solutions..)

"New control mechanisms will ensure the lights are only on between dusk and 9pm and that they will power down to 30 per cent during those hours if no movement is detected. The cost has also reduced to under £5,000."

<https://www.keynshamvoice.co.uk/skate-park-lights-may-finally-get-nod-after-a-%E2%80%98long-haul%E2%80%99>

I propose such lighting primarily for the skate park, and basketball court. Plus, I also propose consideration of this lighting system to be deployed in the Old Road park, these lit safe public spaces will benefit the whole community.

Funding would be sought from external sources.

RDC last year offered these grants:

<https://www.ryedale.gov.uk/living-here/community-living/community-grants.html>

NOTE: Regarding possible antisocial behaviours , that must be rationally addressed, I ask that positive self-regulation schemes and supervision systems are established.

A primary method of social regulation is to create a lit, safe public space that may be enjoyed by ALL residents, the knowledge that standards must be maintained MUST be inherent, established and managed. If supported, lighting in Old road park would be positive social cohesion in action

It would be "partial" information if we did not note the following facts regarding the present uncompromising justification for the ongoing blanket ban/ token blanket ban. *

(* denotes source available)

The police view of Kirkbymoorside young people:

'beyond occasional incidents, there are no general youth problems'. *

The reason that NYF funding was removed:

" Kirkbymoorside does not have the youth problems of the other Ryedale Towns"*

Separation of our two public parks:

The skate park, and Old Road play area were NOT identified by the police as the location of regular antisocial incidents, just the opposite. Yet presently they have a 'ban notice' without distinction , or cause.

The incidents of shared concern were in Ryedale View, and also of note the main troublemakers were not young people (21/22) and not from Kirkbymoorside.*

Although some Kirkbymoorside young people were also involved , I would like to strongly reiterate, the great majority of Kirkby' Youth are good kids and deserve respect, not our ill considered advice.

I attach the respectful Gazette debate between myself and Angus.

Please consider and support my stoic, public position as in this area I have both experience and academic study. Consider my intentions and research generated by the "Unicorn Project"

(and many other intriguing, safe and inclusive Moorside Youth escapades)

"I would like us all to consider some positive solutions, which are built on respect for young people, and which will also support good behaviour in parks,"

"Those most affected by this ban often do not have easy alternative safe community places to be, so they now go up on the hills, into Manor Vale and into the churchyard, or just wander round town.

"We already have protections for the parks, we have other rules (drinking/smoking/anti-social behaviour), so why must we have this absolute ban?

<https://www.gazetteherald.co.uk/news/17407927.anger-over-kirkbymoorside-youth-park-ban/>

Regards

Cllr Derek