



Shropshire Council
Legal and Democratic Services
Shirehall
Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
SY2 6ND

Date: Friday, 20 March 2015

:

**Committee:
Environment and Services Scrutiny Committee**

Date: Monday, 30 March 2015

Time: 2.00 pm

**Venue: Shrewsbury/Oswestry Room, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury,
Shropshire, SY2 6ND**

You are requested to attend the above meeting.
The Agenda is attached

Claire Porter
Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer)

Members of Environment and Services Scrutiny Committee

Vince Hunt (Chairman)

Keith Roberts (Vice Chairman)

Peter Adams

Ted Clarke

Nigel Hartin

Roger Hughes

Christian Lea

Pamela Moseley

Vivienne Parry

Arthur Walpole

Your Committee Officer is:

Jane Palmer Senior Democratic Services Officer

Tel: 01743 252748

Email: jane.palmer@shropshire.gov.uk

AGENDA

1 Apologies for absence and substitutions

2 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Members are reminded that they must not participate in the discussion or voting on any matter in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

3 Minutes of the last meeting held on 8 December 2014 (Pages 1 - 4)

To consider the Minutes of the Environment and Services Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 8 December 2014.

4 Public Question Time

To receive any questions, statements or petitions from the public of which members of the public have given notice. Deadline for notification for this meeting is Wednesday 25 March 2015.

5 Member Question Time

To receive any questions of which members of the Council have given notice. Deadline for notification for this meeting is Wednesday 25 March 2015.

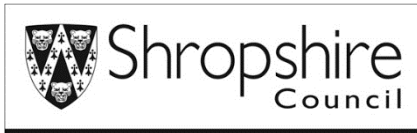
6 Shropshire Council's Play Area Provision (Pages 5 - 32)

To consider the report from Shropshire Outdoor Partnerships Service Manager. The report is attached, marked 6.

Contact: Deb Hughes on Tel. 01743 255057

7 Date/Time of next meeting

The Committee is next scheduled to meet on Monday 22 June 2015 at 2.00pm.



Environment and Services Scrutiny
Committee

Monday 30 March 2015

2.00 pm

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON 8 DECEMBER 2014 IN THE PLOWDEN ROOM, CRAVEN
ARMS COMMUNITY CENTRE, NEWINGTON WAY, CRAVEN ARMS SY7 9PS**

2.00PM - 3.40 PM

Responsible Officer: Jane Palmer

Email: jane.palmer@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 252748

Present

Councillor Vince Hunt (Chairman)

Councillors Keith Roberts (Vice Chairman), Ted Clarke, Roger Hughes,
Christian Lea, Pamela Moseley and Vivienne Parry

34 Apologies for absence and substitutions

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Peter Adams, Nigel Hartin and Arthur Walpole.

35 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None were declared.

36 Minutes of previous meetings

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meetings of the Environment and Services Scrutiny Committee held on 20 October 2014 and 10 November 2014 be approved as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

37 Public Question Time

There were no questions from members of the public.

38 Member Question Time

There were no questions from Members.

39 **Future Commissioning and Provision of Library Services and Community Hubs**

The CasCA Supervisor led the Committee on a tour of the building and provided information on the facilities available.

On return to the meeting room the Director of Commissioning drew Members' attention to the savings target for Library Services of £1.3M over the three year period 2014/15 to 2016/2017. Members noted that the first year savings had been achieved through a range of efficiency savings, improved operating arrangements as well as through voluntary redundancies.

The Director of Commissioning added that savings in the next two years would be delivered by transferring the operation of a number of libraries (not mobile libraries) to community organisations or Town or Parish Councils and/or by working in partnership with these organisations to manage provision differently. The current provision amounted to 22 libraries and 4 mobile libraries.

The Library Service Manager continued and, with reference to presentation slides, explained that flexible delivery of the service was essential to future proof libraries. [A copy of the presentation slides is included as part of the formal record of the meeting]. He added that local public consultation was being managed at a community level through 'community conversations' that gave local residents the opportunity to help shape the future direction of their local library and customer service points. Members accepted that the status quo was no longer an option.

The Library Service Manager explained that the expectation of 'library' was being broadened to service users; the baseline offer would aim to include customer service, library and registrar activities. Future 'community hubs' would be broadened out as a commercial entity owned and run by the community for the community. Members noted that different offers would be made in different locations and it would not be a 'one size fits all'. The need for continued face to face contact was recognised and any reduction in staff would require the remaining staff to be provided with the necessary skill sets to work in a broader environment. It was noted that staffing costs currently amounted to half of the service budget.

The Library Service Manager stated that he would hold a conversation outside of the meeting to answer a Member's concerns relating to the Ludlow Library building but recognised that the issues related to staff IT issues, cold work environment caused by drafts from the door opening, lack of privacy and addressing damp problems with the fabric of the building. Another Member requested that consideration be given to re-instating the facility to allow service users to make cash payments at the Market Drayton facility particularly as those making payments were often the least likely to have credit/debit cards of their own.

In answer to a Member's concerns on the quality of the future library service offered, the Library Service Manager assured the Committee that a librarian would have oversight of each library in the county, the core collection of material was being maintained and the book request service was to continue. He added that local communities were being given the opportunity to shape their library for the future according to the needs and wishes locally. The Director of Commissioning commented that libraries in future would meet local 'need' and, although the Council may not provide the front line service itself, the local community may do so adding

that the library provision would drive the footfall in a building in which other services would also be on offer. Members noted the need for libraries to constantly re-invent their offer to keep up with the needs of the community.

Some Members commented on possible health and safety concerns over the location of the library at Craven Arms in the front hallway/corridor of the building and the proposed re-location of the Church Stretton library to the school. It was noted that the school's number one priority was safeguarding its pupils and there were no concerns about the proposed relocation of the library particularly given that there would be a separate public entrance. Referring to the books in the entrance hallway at CasCA, the Library Service Manager commented that the facility was well used, CCTV was in operation and enhanced lighting for this area was soon to be installed.

In answer to a Member's query, the Library Services Manager commented that all options were being considered and nothing had been ruled out at this stage; the retention of current assets formed part of future deliberations.

RESOLVED:

- i) That the Committee's feedback and comment from the above detailed debate be taken into consideration in the next stages of library redesign work;
- ii) That the co-location of services development in the major market towns be accepted; and
- iii) That a further update on the library redesign and co-location model be made to the Environment and Services Scrutiny Committee in the Spring 2015.

40 Date/Time of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee was scheduled to be held at 2.00pm on Monday 2 February 2015.

Signed (Chairman)

Date:

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Committee and Date

Environment and Services
Scrutiny Committee

Monday 30 March 2015
2.00pm

Item

6

Public

SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL'S PLAY AREA PROVISION

Responsible Officer Deb Hughes

e-mail: Deb.Hughes@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 255057

1. Summary

- 1.1 Play is an essential component of growing up and helps children and young people in their physical, creative, emotional, social and intellectual development. Shropshire Council, through Outdoor Partnership's Parks & Greenspace Team manage and maintain 123 urban parks and public open spaces, including 52 play areas across the county.
- 1.2 Access to play areas and public open spaces is a key component in the mix of activities that help support children and young people to be physically active. Public Health England states that '*children become more active when they live closer to parks, playgrounds and recreation areas. It is the quality and not just the quantity of public parks and spaces that encourages people to be active and evidence shows just having ease of access to open space makes a crucial difference*'.
- 1.3 Shropshire Council is not the only play provider, with both Town and Parish Councils, and Schools providing play opportunities.
- 1.4 The 52 play areas managed by Shropshire Council, are in a fair to reasonable condition. Although some of the play equipment may be old, it is checked every two weeks to ensure it is in a safe condition to use. The Service has introduced 'natural play' areas that go beyond fixed play equipment to engage children & young people to develop their own play. Efficiencies across the service has led to challenges in balancing maintenance on these play areas alongside the wider focus on other parks and public open space maintenance.
- 1.5 The move from S106 to Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) has had an impact on funding towards new play provision. S106 funds generally had specific provision to provide play areas within new housing developments over a certain size, or a commuted sum provided in lieu. The introduction of CIL in 2012, widened the range of community infrastructure needs, as set out in the 18 Place Plans. The competing demand for the use of CIL has meant that to date no allocation has been made towards any new play facilities.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Shropshire Council recognise the value of play areas and public open space provision and the benefits they afford local communities.
- 2.2 That consideration is given in how Shropshire Council can best support local communities to use CIL monies to support investment in new play facilities identified within the 18 area Place Plans.

REPORT

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 3.1 The service operates a risk management approach on the maintenance of play areas. Those managed by Shropshire Council are in a fair to reasonable condition, although some of the play equipment may be old, it is checked every two weeks to ensure it is safe to use.
- 3.2 As the S106 money tapers down additional pressure will be put on the Service infrastructure & maintenance budgets to meet the current checks and maintenance standards.
- 3.3 There is a need for further investment in play and with no specific revenue budget or S106 monies likely to be available in the future, communities will need to prioritise CIL funding toward play provision.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 Shropshire Council is responsible for the management, maintenance, and community engagement of, 123 parks and green spaces, totalling some 577 hectares. The parks and green spaces are broadly categorised as follows:
- 4.2 2 Major Parks – The Mere at Ellesmere and Severn Valley Country Park, which between them have over 500,000 visitors making them one of the most visited attractions in the County.

18 Countryside Heritage Sites – these sites are typically located outside the towns and provide access to some of Shropshire unique landscape

103 Local parks and green spaces - These sites are generally urban green spaces used by the local community and include local wildlife sites, 52 play areas and 5 recreation grounds with football and cricket pitches.
- 4.3 The two major parks have their own identified budgets, but all the others sites are maintained via the Ringway grounds maintenance contract (£213k) and a repairs & infrastructure maintenance budget of £88k (15/16). Generally a third of the £88k is spent on tree safety works. The revenue funds available, therefore, do not allow a proactive approach for developing new play areas or to replace old equipment,

which is expensive to install. There is also small budget of £5k for the Play Inspector & Maintenance Officers to use on day to day maintenance & repairs.

- 4.4 There is S106 maintenance money associated with some play areas, however, this is a reducing amount as it is used up on an annual basis to cover maintenance works. As the S106 money tappers down additional pressure will be put on the Service infrastructure and maintenance budgets to meet the current checks and maintenance standards.
- 4.5 Funding for new play areas is only met through available S106 funds. The CIL funding, administered by Shropshire Council, has not yet been used towards any new play facilities. However, play improvements are identified within the 18 Place Plans and therefore there is potential for local communities to use some of their Neighbourhood CIL funds to facilitate new or updated play area provision.

5. Background

5.1 Introduction

The importance of play for children is well documented. It helps in their physical, creative, emotional, social and intellectual development. Play helps children understand themselves and the world around them, it is an essential component of growing up. A child's capacity for positive development may be constrained if they are denied the opportunity to play. Well designed and maintained play grounds and play equipment provides an additional stimulus for children and gives them an opportunity to improve their motor skills and test their physical abilities in a controlled environment.

5.2 Legislation

The general requirements of the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 and the Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1999 extend to the provision of playgrounds and play equipment. European Standards BS EN1176 (Playground Equipment) and BS EN 1177 (Impact absorbing playground surfacing) are guides to good practice. The Occupiers Liability Act 1957 and 1984 impose a 'duty of care' on the occupier of the premises to people visiting and using them. The 1957 Act imposes this duty in respect of lawful visitors. Section 2(3)(a) of the Act states that greater care is required where children are concerned and is therefore of particular importance in respect of play areas. The 1984 Act extends a limited duty of care over trespassers by applying a 'test of liability'.

Shropshire Council has adopted a standard of checking all its play areas on a 2 weekly cycle to meet its 'duty of care' towards children.

5.3 Being Healthy

Physical activity in energetic play provides children and young people with regular exercise. Good play opportunities give the chance to try out and experience a range of emotions in a safe environment, promoting resilience and fostering self-esteem. Active play uses more calories than many organised sports, as well as developing essential skills such as teamwork and co-ordination, providing a basis for participation in organised sports for those who enjoy such activity.

The Chief Medical Officer, in a recent paper from Public Health England – ‘Everybody Active, Every Day’ provides the following guidance on physical activity for children and young people:

5.4 For early years (under fives)

1. Physical activity should be encouraged from birth, particularly through floor-based play and water-based activities in safe environments.
2. Children of pre-school age who are capable of walking unaided should be physically active daily for at least 180 minutes (three hours), spread throughout the day.
3. All under-fives should minimise the amount of time spent being sedentary (being restrained or sitting) for extended periods (except time spent sleeping).

These guidelines are relevant to all children under five, irrespective of gender, race or socio-economic status, but should be interpreted with consideration for individual physical and mental capabilities.

5.5 For children and young people (five to 18 years):

1. All children and young people should engage in moderate to vigorous intensity physical activity for at least 60 minutes and up to several hours every day.
2. Vigorous intensity activities, including those that strengthen muscle and bone, should be incorporated at least three days a week.
3. All children and young people should minimise the amount of time spent being sedentary (sitting) for extended periods.

The ‘Everybody Active, Every Day’ report goes on to say ‘*children become more active when they live closer to parks, playgrounds and recreation areas. The impact is most significant among the least well off. Building more physical activity into daily routines – the commute, walking the dog, the journey to the shops, school or workplace – involves creating the kinds of environments that support active living*’.

‘The way land is used in communities has an immense impact on the public’s health. Although it is the quality and not just the quantity of public parks and spaces that encourages people to be active, evidence shows just having ease of access to open space makes a crucial difference. One study showed that respondents living closest to parks were more likely to achieve recommended physical activity levels and less likely to be overweight or obese. Those with close access to green space live longer than those without it, even adjusting for factors such as social class, employment and smoking’.

5.6 Shropshire Council Play Areas

Access to the provision of play areas and public open space within local communities is a key component to supporting physical activity for children & young people. The majority of publicly accessible play areas and public open space have come about as part of new housing developments and the Planning Policy requirement for community infrastructure needs.

Outdoor Partnerships manages and maintains 52 play areas across the county, the details of which are provided in **Appendix 1**.

The Team has 3 Parks & Greenspace Officers who cover geographic areas within the North, Centre & South. There are 1.3 F/T Play Inspection & Maintenance Officers who check all the play areas on a 2 weekly cycle. The Officers undertake small repairs on site and order in contract work for larger play repairs. Each play area is also annually inspected by The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA) who provide a detailed report on the condition of each site and the play equipment. To date there have been no successful claims made against the Council due to faulty equipment.

The Play Inspection & Maintenance Officers also undertake play inspections for sites owned by some Parish Councils and Schools. This generates small amount of income for the Service and it is an area we are trying to grow.

Since 2009 when Shropshire Council took on the responsibility for looking after play areas, it adopted the guidelines of Play England, the then Government's advisor on play, who advocated a more innovative approach to play and included the principles of natural play, using the contours of the land, boulders and logs to supplement the traditional fixed play equipment of swings and slides.

The Team are very experienced in this field having undertaken numerous community consultations, engaging children, young people, as well as adults, to help design and create specific age range play areas, which incorporate natural play principles both on a small and large scale. **Appendix 2**, shows pictures of the natural play areas at Arundel Close, Ruyton XI Towns; Milars Field, Oswestry; Birchmeadow, Broseley and The Severn Valley Country Park, Alveley, to name a few.

To help us monitor and understand the usage of our play areas, we are piloting new visitor counter technology and installing 8 units that will enable us to capture usage data. For the first time during 2015 we will have data on how many children and adults use our play areas and at what times.

5.7 Sustainability

The play areas are maintained through a small revenue budget of £5,000 p.a. This is used for tools and equipment and replacement parts such as seats, bearings, shackles & chains etc. Some play areas have S106 maintenance funds available to make improvements as and when required.

The end Columns on **Appendix 1** show what is currently spent with regards to grounds and play maintenance at each site, as well as costs for tree assessments. Where there is S106 maintenance money available, then the site maintenance costs are deducted per annum from each S106 amount. If there is no S106 money then the costs are met through the grounds maintenance and general parks & sites revenue budget.

The final column provides a traffic light assessment of the pressures that will affect future revenue budgets, as the S106 maintenance money is used up.

Red - indicates that the S106 money will be used up within 0-3 years

Amber - indicates that the S106 money will be used up within 4-8 years

Green - indicates that the S106 money will be used up after 9+ years

The Appendix 1 table shows that in 2015-16 the Service will need to find £12,136 to cover play area maintenance costs and within the next 2 years another £12,365. This will have an impact on the other sites across the county as priority will be given to ensure that play area maintenance and current standard checks are carried out.

5.8 Play Strategy

Following the BIG Lottery Play Funding 2009 -11, Shropshire Council set up a 'Shropshire Play Partnership' made up of various stakeholder organisations, to oversee the BIG lottery spend and then to help develop a county wide play strategy. Some initial survey and GIS mapping work was undertaken in 2012, but unfortunately, due to lack of resources at the time, this was not taken forward. Therefore, there is currently no adopted Play Strategy for Shropshire.

However, the response from the initial survey did provide a snap shot of the number of play areas and their quality. The survey identified 262 equipped play areas across the county. The county town of Shrewsbury has over 50 play areas with the remaining majority distributed across Shropshire's market Towns. There are various owners and managers of the play areas including Shropshire Council, Town/Parish Councils, Housing Associations, Schools, Village Halls and the Voluntary Community Sector. The determination of quality was left to the various organisations that manage the play facilities. The quality criterion was simply to identify if it was in very good, good, average, poor and very poor condition.

The result mapped in **Appendix 3**, showed that 90% of play areas were in very good to average condition with the remaining 10% in poor to very poor condition. The majority of the poor play areas were in the south of the county. Since the survey in 2012, Outdoor Partnership has responded by making a number of play area improvements to reduce the identified poor to very poor play areas. The following major improvements have taken place at:

- Newington Crescent, Craven Arms - New play area (community grant)
- Whitmeadow Play Area, Craven Arms – Play equipment repainted and safety surfacing cleaned (Service budget)
- Fishmore Road Play Area, Ludlow – Play equipment refurbished and painted (Service budget)
- Tollgate Road Play Area, Ludlow – Play equipment made safe and safety surfacing improved (S106 maintenance)
- Friars Field Play Area, Ludlow, - New slide and safety surfacing (S106 maintenance)
- Parry Road Play Area, Ludlow, - Safety surface repairs (Service Budget)
- Dahn Drive 2, Ludlow - Safety surface repairs (Service Budget)
- Dahn Drive 1, Ludlow - Safety surface repairs and remove broken equipment (Service Budget)
- Normandie Close, Ludlow – Repair flooding and re-turf site (S106 maintenance)
- St Johns Road Play Area, Ludlow – All equipment repainted (Service budget)
- Chestnut Meadows Play Area, Bucknell – New safety surface (S106 maintenance)
- Turndale Play Area, Stoke on Turn - Refurbished play area and cleaned site (PC funded with contribution from Service budget)
- Ash Road Play Park, Oswestry – New play area (S106 capital)

- Llwyn Coppice Play Area, Oswestry – Play refurbished, cleaned and equipment painted (Service budget)
- Maes Alwyn Play Area, Weston Rhyn – New play area (S106 capital)
- Milars Field Play Area, Morda – New play area (S106 capital)
- Mill Park Play Area, Whitchurch – New play area (S106 capital)
- Whispering Oaks Play Area, West Felton – Play area refurbished and painted, tree works (Service budget)
- Chirk Bank Play Area, Weston Rhyn – Safety surfacing repairs (Service budget)
- Birch Grove Play Area, Ruyton XI Towns - Play equipment repainted (Service budget)

The following work is planned for 2015-16

- Church Street, St Martins – New play area (S106 capital)
- Birchmeadow Park, Broseley – New BMX and exercise equipment (S106 Capital)
- Repair gaps in wetpour safety surfacing & pressure wash to clean on all sites
- Any major repairs required following the annual ROSPA play inspections reports

5.9 Planning Policy & Play Standards

The National Planning Policy Framework states that ‘Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision.

A comprehensive local assessment of all types of open space provision by consultants PMP (2009) brought together a series of surveys which were completed between 2005 and 2008, on behalf of Shropshire Council. The assessment (based on Planning Policy Guidance 17) provided a robust evidence base for determining local needs and has informed the development of new locally derived accessibility standards which will apply to Shrewsbury, the market towns and other settlements respectively.

The standards were set following an extensive programme of consultation and the key issues arising from consultation feed directly into the standards that have been set.

Typology	Quantity Standard	Accessibility Standard
Provision for Children	0.035 ha per 1000 population (Shrewsbury) 0.105 hectares per 1000 population (Market Towns) and 0.105 hectares (Smaller Settlements)	10 minute walk time

The table above, summarises the local standards that have been set for the provision of children’s play. This standard provides a guide as to the appropriate amount of play in each area of the county. As well as facilitating a proactive approach to improving the overall provision of open space and recreation facilities

in line with local needs, this standard was also to be used to determine the additional demand that new developments generated.

The current play and open space standards, last assessed 2005-08 (above), need to be re-evaluated to ensure the amount of play area and public open space provision still meets the needs of Shropshire's local communities.

5.10 S106 Capital & CIL

Shropshire Council also has some pre unitary legacy S106 capital funds available. Discussions with Town & Parish Council and local members are ongoing as to how this is best spent. Where Town and Parish Councils have the means to deliver Open Space and Play improvements, the S106 money is forwarded on to the respective Councils, subject to them providing a declaration of how the money will be spent to meet the terms of the S106. A list of S106 monies not yet committed is included in **Appendix 4**

If the Town or Parish Council's feel that the S106 funds are best delivered by Shropshire Council the Parks & Greenspace officer will go out to local consultation, tender and appoint play area contractors, arrange and oversee the works as well as arranging a celebration opening event. A project management fee of 10 - 12% is made for the project administration.

Since the introduction of CIL in 2012, there has been no further S106 agreements for the development of play. The Planning Policy supporting CIL now requires any development of 20 or more homes to provide 30m² of Public Open Space (POS) per bed space, thus providing a meaningful amount of land - approx 0.20ha. (Half a football pitch).

The POS provision is part of the design requirement of the development, but no play infrastructure is provided. Should a play area be required then this would be met through the CIL money. To date, there has been no CIL funding specifically allocated toward developing new play areas, even though all the Place Plans reference play as a 'Priority' requirement, and the need for new and improved play facilities.

6. Additional Information

6.1 Town and Parish Councils

In September 2012, Outdoor Partnerships was part of the business planning process that looked at its land assets with regards to public green space and play areas within the Market Towns, and the costs associated with managing them. Within the review 99 public green space sites, including 52 play areas were identified as being in the Market Towns providing play and recreational opportunities for local communities.

As a result of the Business Planning process it was agreed that discussions with Town and Parish Councils should be undertaken to see if they had any interest in taking on local Public Open Spaces and play areas within their localities and whether they had the capacity to undertake the work. Discussions with Shrewsbury Town Council have already agreed that 19 POS sites, including 2 play areas are to be transferred, subject to Secretary of State Approval. Bridgnorth Town Council

have also agreed to the transfer of 5 POS sites, including one play area, subject to 'due diligence' by Shropshire Council before the final handover is undertaken. Further discussions with, Oswestry, Oswestry Rural, St Martins, Shifnal & Broseley Councils will take place in 2015-16, this is subject to an agreement being reached for the removal of sites from the Ringway Grounds Maintenance contract.

7. Conclusions

- 7.1 All children have the right to quality play opportunities. The rural nature of Shropshire can mean that access to such opportunities can be difficult, especially for those in remote areas, or for the disadvantaged. However, it has to be remembered that Shropshire Council is not the only play provider, with both Town and Parish Councils, and Schools providing play opportunities.
- 7.2 Shropshire Council does however, have a significant role to play, as a key policy maker with regulatory/statutory frameworks, such as Planning & Transport, to create the right environment to promote opportunities for play and recreation.
- 7.3 The play areas managed by Shropshire Council are in a fair to reasonable condition, although some of the play equipment may be old, it is checked every two weeks to ensure it is safe to use. A programme of work to improve play areas identified as poor has been undertaken and discussions are ongoing with Town & Parish Council's to agree S106 spend on new or improved facilities.
- 7.4 There is still a need for further investment in play and with no specific revenue budget or S106 monies likely to be available in the future, communities and local members will need to prioritise CIL funding toward play provision. Communities also have the opportunity to use some of the Neighbourhood CIL money towards play improvements and may well be able match this with small community grants.

<p>List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)</p> <p>None</p>
<p>Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)</p> <p>Councillor Steve Charmley</p>
<p>Local Member</p> <p>All</p>

Appendices

Appendix 1 – List of Shropshire Council managed Play areas, maintenance costs and S106

Appendix 2 – Examples of natural play provision

Appendix 3 – Shropshire Play areas quality assessment Map 2012

Appendix 4 - List of S106 monies not yet committed

Appendix 1

SITE_NAME	TOWN	SQM	FACILITIES	DESIGNATIONS	GROUNDS MAINT COST PER SITE	INSPECTION & MAINT COST PER SITE	TREE INSPECTION COST PER SITE	TOTAL MAINT & INSPECTION COST	S106 MONEY AVAILIABLE 14/15	YEARS REMAINING
Abney Avenue Village Park	Albrighton	3807	Play Area - Toddler, junior and teen play facility. Welcome board, benches, park committee.	QEII Field	2278.35	420	244	2942.35		
Alexandra Park	Craven Arms	1017	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	568.21	420	244	1232.21	16536	13
Amndel Close, Ruyton XI Towns	Ruyton XI Towns	806	Play Area - Todler & Junior Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	573.03	420	244	1237.03	1000	1
Ash Rd. Play Garden	Oswestry	1869	Play Area - Toddler & Junior Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	651.28	420	244	1315.28		
Birch Grove Play Area	Ruyton XI Towns	1057	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	642.53	420	244	1306.53		
Birchmeadow Park	Broseley	53108	Play Area - Todler, junior & Teenage Play Area, greenspace, parking, woodland, football pitch with 10 teams and changing rooms	QEII Field	6615.69	420	244	7279.69		

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Appendix 1

Broadlands Way	Oswestry	16968	Play Area - Toddler, Junior & Teenager Play Area	QEII Field	5055.73	420	244	5719.73	45755.08	8
Brockton Meadow Play Area	Brockton	1636	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	1204.55	420	244	1868.55	3433.90	2
Brook Road play area, Craven Arms	Ludlow	771	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	498.35	420	244	1162.35		
Bryn Melyn Play Area (Llynclys)	Llynclys	1417	Play Area		777.14	420	244	1441.14		
Brynhafod Recreation Ground, Oswestry	Oswestry	20238	Play Area - Toddler Play Area & large field	QEII Field	10424.59	420	244	11088.59		
Chestnut Meadows	Bucknell	279	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	171.29	420	244	835.29		
Chirk Bank Play Area	Chirk	2881	Play Area		1285.16	420	244	1949.16	704	0
Dahn Drive play area (1), Ludlow	Ludlow	1219	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	823.75	420	244	1487.75		
Dahn Drive play area (2), Ludlow	Ludlow	1668	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	1295.29	420	244	1959.29		

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Appendix 1

Doctors Meadow	Ruyton XI Towns	31334	play area - all ages, car parking, river, amenity grass and woodland	POS provision, part of planning development	9523.18	420	244	10187.18	2495	0
Dolgoch Play Area (Llynclys)	Llynclys	736	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	546.19	420	244	1210.19		
Fishmore View Play Area, Ludlow	Ludlow	20816	Play Area, woodland,	QEII Field	8485.34	420	244	9149.34		
Friars Field Play Area	Ludlow	324	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	165.62	420	244	829.62		
Hartman Close play area, Cleobury Mortimer	Cleobury Mortimer	1083	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	670.13	420	244	1334.13		
High Fawr Play Area	Oswestry	1653	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	1285.84	420	244	1949.84	7155	4
Holly Green	Oswestry	2431	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	1330.56	420	244	1994.56		
Hopton Close play area, Ludlow	Ludlow	880	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	617.32	420	244	1281.32		
Juniper Close (St. Martins)	St Martins	1317	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	879.36	420	244	1543.36	3122.50	2

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Llwyn Coppice playing Field	Oswestry	18339	Play Area	QEII Field	6632.91	420	244	7296.91		
Maes Alwyn - Open Space & Play Area	Weston Rhyn		Play Area - Todler and informal POS	POS provision, part of planning development	1466.28	420	244	2130.28	29573	14
Marches Meadow Play Area	Ruyton XI Towns	463	Play Area - Todler & Junior Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	1350.77	420	244	2014.77	5873	3
Milars Field	Morda	2659	Play area	POS provision, part of planning development	1334.04	420	244	1998.04	44084	22
Mill Park Play Area	Whitchurch		Play area	POS provision, part of planning development	220.19	420	244	884.19	9000	10
Morda Teen Play Area	Morda	2228	Play Area - Teen	POS provision, part of planning development	941.08	420	244	1605.08	16053	10
Newington Way play area, Craven Arms	Craven Arms	1044	Play Area, BMX, youth shelter		365.13	420	244	1029.13		
Normandie Close play area, Ludlow	Ludlow	533	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	540.07	420	244	1204.07		
Oak St. MUGA	Oswestry	4312	multi use games Area		228.84	420	244	892.84		

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Appendix 1

Park View Play Area, Broseley	Broseley	2916	Play Area leased to TC	POS provision, part of planning development	1479.01	420	244	2143.01		
Parker Leighton Way Play Area	Morda	2066	Play Area - Junior	POS provision, part of planning development	1957.60	420	244	2621.6	16053	6
Parys Road/Baker Close Play area, Ludlow	Ludlow	4239	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	5036.80	420	244	5700.8	18561	3
Sandpit Lane open space, Hilton	Hilton, Nr Bridgnorth	2903	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	1050.73	420	244	1714.73		
Severn Valley Country Park	Alveley	513150	Play Area - Visitor Centre, Toilets, Parking, Café,	LNR, Green Flag,	11945.00	420	244	12609		
St Johns Road play area, Ludlow	Ludlow	914	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	465.22	420	244	1129.22		
Station Crescent play area, Craven Arms	Craven Arms	187	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	5.58	420	244	669.58		
Steventon New road play area, Ludlow	Ludlow	3354	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	497.29	420	244	1161.29		
The Green, Cherry Tree Drive	Oswestry	2021	kick wall	POS provision, part of planning development	664.94	420	244	1328.94		

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The Hobbins Play Area	Bridgnorth	1244	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	616.24	420	244	1280.24		
The Mere at Ellesmere	Ellesmere	632890	Play Area, Toilets, Car Parking, Visitor Information Centre, Restaurant, Giftshop, seating, picnic tables, orientation panels	Green Flag	2160.00	420	244	2824		
Tollgate Road play area, Ludlow	Ludlow	2609	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	1645.05	420	244	2309.05		
Trefonen Playing Fields	Trefonen	26012	Play Area, carpark, football pitch, heritage items	QEII Field	8731.57	420	244	9395.57		
Upton Rd. Recreation Ground	Oswestry	16260	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	9054.05	420	244	9718.05		
Vashon Close Play Area, Ludlow	Ludlow	966	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	603.91	420	244	1267.91		
Whispering Oaks Play Area	West Felton	188	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	1466.68	420	244	2130.68		
Whitcombs orchard play area, Cleobury Mortimer	Cleobury Mortimer	205	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	4.68	420	244	668.68	16941	25

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Appendix 1

Whitemeadow Close play area, Craven Arms	Craven Arms	798	Play Area	POS provision, part of planning development	447.47	420	244	1111.47		
Wilfred Owen Green	Oswestry	17701	play area, labyrinth, wild flower meadow, picnic tables	QEII Field	5763.31	420	244	6427.31		
					123042.92	21840.00	12688.00	157570.92		
						Amount met through S106		43310.50		
						Amount met by Service Budget		114260.42		

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Shropshire Council Case studies of Natural Play Provision

Arundel Close, Ruyton XI Towns

This play area is in a small open space within a housing estate. Consultation with local residents showed that the space was used mainly for toddlers and families. The design does not include any fixed play but enables toddler to explore and play in a challenging environment.



Milars Field Play Area, Morda

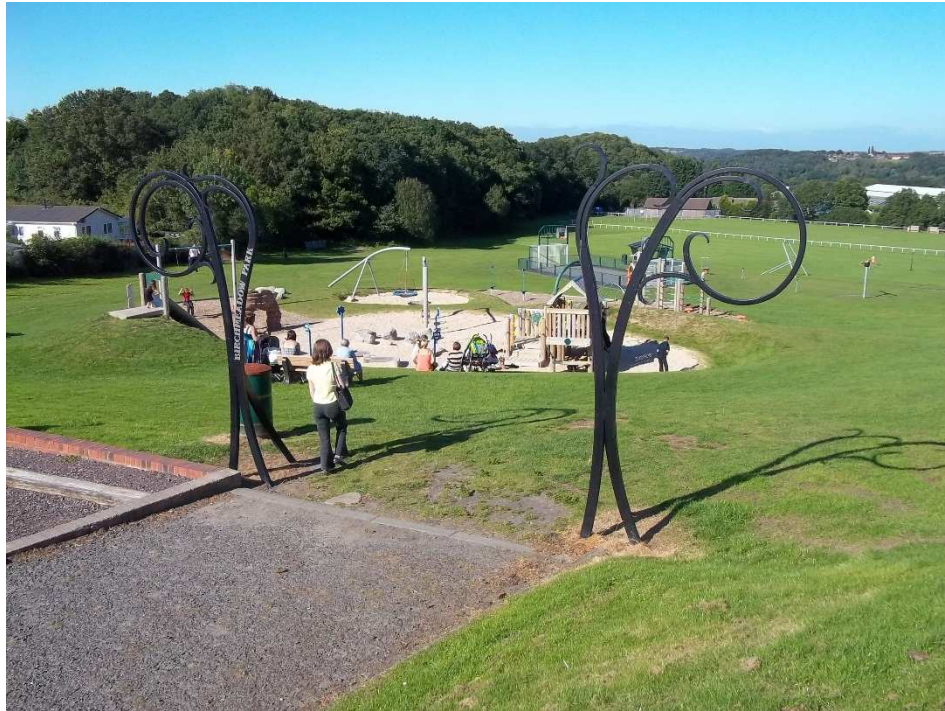
A recently new play area that has a central feature and timber play equipment to go with the rural setting of the site. The concept design was consulted on with the local community and has been well received as a facility for families



Appendix 2

Birchmeadow Park, Broseley

Birchmeadow incorporates a number of play elements to meet toddler, junior and teenager play. The site is also easily accessible for all abilities. The open space surrounding the play enables play to extend beyond the play equipment.

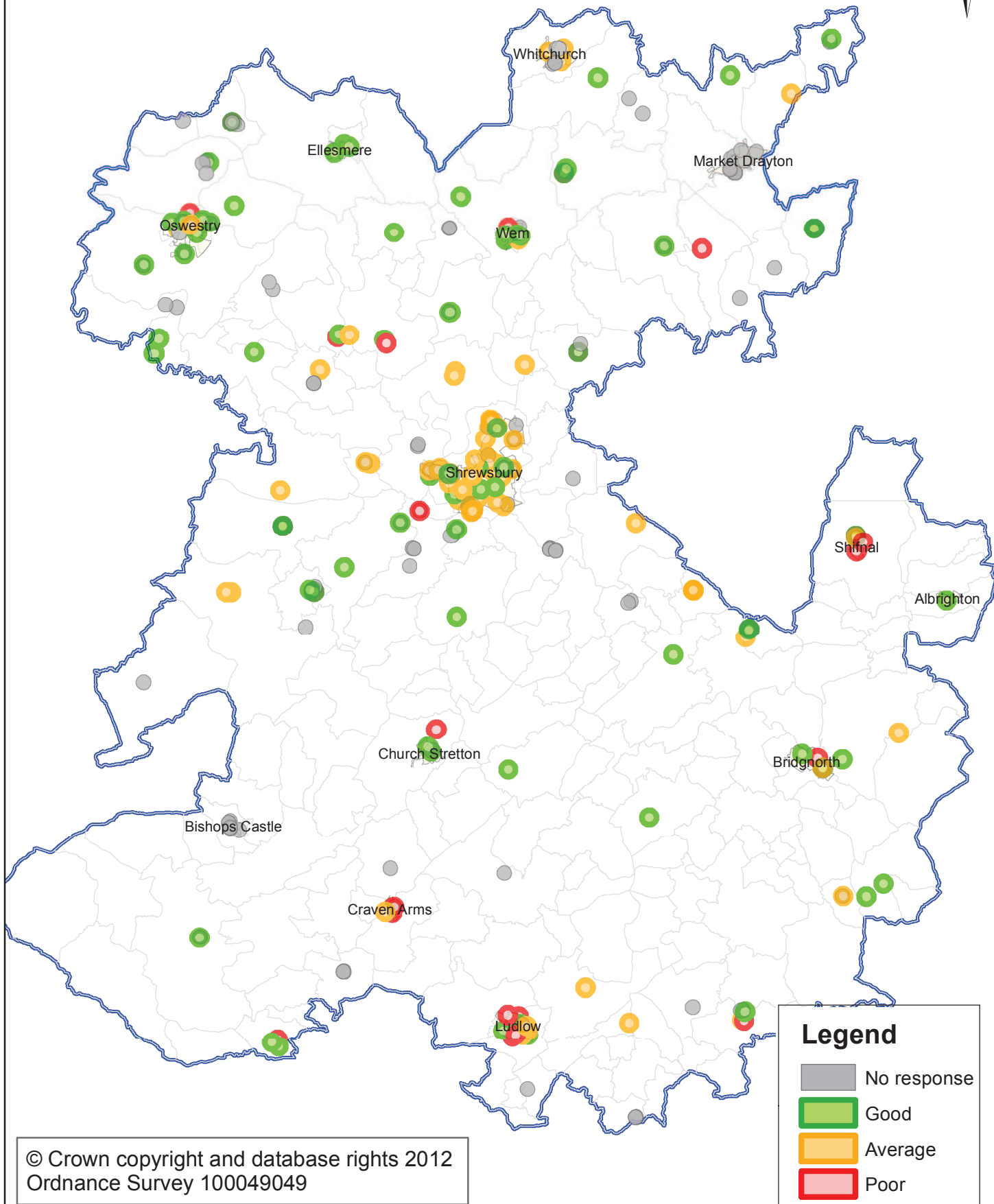


Severn Valley Country Park, Alveley

The Park has around 150000 visitor's p.a. so the play area has to cope with large numbers of children at peak times. The natural play elements such as the bridge and the climbing ropes enable children to role play as well as use fixed swings and slides.



SHROPSHIRE PLAY AREAS QUALITY ASSESSMENT 2012



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Appendix 4

	Ref No	Description	Purpose	Area	Expiry Date	Closing balance 31/03/15	Service Area	Notes/Commitments	Place Plan Area (Spend)
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	N/06/116 1/EU/906	Former Dairy Crest Site, Wharf Road, Ellesmere Open Space / Recreational Enhancements	Open Space/ Recreational Enhancements	North	TBC	20,000 Capital 60000 Maintenance	Leisure & Outdoor Recreation	£20,000 to be used for off-site rec sports in Ellesmere - Need to discuss with TC to establish what improvements they need on their rec ground. £60,000 for future maintenance of POS & play area from Dairy Crest Development.	Ellesmere
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	03/12403	Land at Ellesmere Road, St Martins (The Firs, St Martins) Play Area.	Play Area	North	None	25,361.00	Outdoor Recreation	To be used for provision of off-site play equipment within Parish of St Martins. Working with PC to determine suitable projects.	Oswestry (St Martins)
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	99/10800	Sandlewood, St Martins (Land off Laburnum Close) Play Area	Play Area	North	None	1,200.00	Outdoor Recreation	Working with PC to determine suitable project.	Oswestry (St Martins)
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	01/11849	Land Adjoining Alma House, West Felton Play Area	Play Area	North	None	10,050.00	Outdoor Recreation	Awaiting response from PC as to how community now want to spend monies. Will release to PC when confirmed	Oswestry (West Felton)
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	01/01144 8/OUT/ 02/1197/ REM	Land off Church Lane, St Martins Play Area	Play Area	North		38,554.83	Outdoor Recreation	New play area is being provided early 2015	Oswestry (St Martins)

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S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	99/10800	Sandlewood, St Martins (land off Laburnum Close) Playing fields	Playing Fields	North	None	6,500.00	Outdoor Recreation	Relating to St Martins Playing fields, discussion with PC to establish how money best spent – decision awaited	Oswestry (St Martins)
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	03/12403	Land at Ellesmere Road, St Martins (The Firs, St Martins) Playing fields	Playing Fields	North	None	2,600.00	Outdoor Recreation	Relating to St Martins Playing fields, discussion with PC to establish how money best spent – decision awaited	Oswestry (St Martins)
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	04/13265 /FUL & 00/01144 8	Land off Church Lane, St Martins Playing fields	Playing Fields	North	None	7,540.00	Outdoor Recreation	Relating to St Martins Playing fields, discussion with PC to establish how money best spent – decision awaited	Oswestry (St Martins)
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	99/10763	Oakfields, St Martins Playing fields	Playing Fields	North	None	2,277.00	Outdoor Recreation	Relating to St Martins Playing fields, discussion with PC to establish how money best spent – decision awaited	Oswestry (St Martins)
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	07/0269	17 Ludlow Rd, Bridgnorth Contribution to towards public amenity space in Bridgnorth	Public Amenity Space	South	13/07/ 2019	31,853.00	Outdoor Recreation	To be transferred to BTC on agreement for provision or improvement of public amenity open space within the town of Bridgnorth. £32.5k allocated to Crown Meadow Big Lottery scheme	Bridgnorth
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	08/20622 /O & 10/01360 /VAR	Land at Hartman Close, High Street, Cleobury Mortimer LEAP sum	Play Area	South	None	17,071.00	Outdoor Recreation	Discussion ongoing with PC to agree play provision requirement	Cleobury Mortimer

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S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	10/02127 /FUL	Land adjacent to Lady Forrester Nursing Home, Farley Rd, Much Wenlock Open Space contribution	Open Space	South	22/02/ 2019	41,632.00	Env. Maint	Env Maint, overseeing this spend with input from TC	Much Wenlock
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	10/02317 /FUL	Land at the former Bridgnorth College Campus, Stourbridge Rd, Bridgnorth, WV15 6AL NEAP Provision Contribution - Neighbourhood Equipped Area of Play	Play Area provision (NEAP)	South	30/11/ 2022	85,212.00	Outdoor Recreation	Funds to be transferred to TC, subject to agreement of spend	Bridgnorth
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	10/02317 /FUL	Land at the former Bridgnorth College Campus, Stourbridge Rd, Bridgnorth, WV15 6AL Sports Contribution	Sports Provision	South	30/11/ 2022	52,456.89	Leisure	To be transferred to BTC once agreed how the money will be spent	Bridgnorth
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	09/02530 /FUL	Land at Royal Shrewsbury Hospital South, Mytton Oak Road, Shrewsbury, Shropshire (Cophorne Grange) installation of community facilities on or within 1 mile of the site.	Community Facilities	Central	06/11/ 2017	112,000.00	Outdoor Recreation	To be transferred to STC once agreed how the money will be spent – need to start discussion	Shrewsbury
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	11/03021 /FUL	Land at Combermere Court, Abbey Way, Market Drayton POS Contribution	Open Space	North	07/05/ 2018	19,208.00	Outdoor Recreation	Mkt Drayton TC advised funding available and ready to transfer. Awaiting agreement on how the money will be spent	Market Drayton

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S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	11/01113 /FUL	Land at Audlem Rd, Woore, Shropshire Open Space	Open Space	North	25/11/ 2018	32,198.55	Outdoor Recreation	Need to agree with PC how money is to be spent – need to start discussion	Market Drayton (Woore)
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	BR/APP/F UL/07/07 769	Land off Avenue Road, Broseley, Shropshire (now called Bright Grove) Open Space facilities Erection of 13 dwellings and construction of new vehicular Access	Open Space facilities	South	09/01/ 2024 16/06/ 2024	40,000.00	Outdoor Recreation	Agreed spend on BMX and outdoor fitness equip with Broseley TC	Broseley
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	10/00543 /FUL	Land adjacent to The Canal Tavern, New Park Road, Shrewsbury, SY1 2RS provision and/or improvement of recreational play facilities within the Castlefields Ward	Play Area	Central	None	5,600.00	Outdoor Recreation	To be transferred to STC once agreed how the money will be spent	Shrewsbury
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	11/04207 /FUL	Mytton Mill, Forton Heath, Shrewsbury, SY4 1HA Open Space Contribution	Open Space Contribution	Central	16/07/ 2024 24/09/ 2024 13/11/ 2024 09/01/ 2025	14,630.00	Outdoor Recreation	Awaiting confirmation from PC as to how the money will be spent	Shrewsbury

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S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	05/01368 /FUL	Land at Station Road, Llanymynech (Badgers Green) Provision of play equipment - onsite	Play equipment	North	15/08/ 2019	24,745.91	Outdoor Recreation	Transfer to PC once agreement if how the money is to be spent	Oswestry (Llanymynech & Pant)
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	05/01368 /FUL	Land at Station Road, Llanymynech (Badgers Green) Provision of play equipment - offsite	Play equipment	North	15/08/ 2019	27,781.22	Outdoor Recreation	Transfer to PC once agreement if how the money is to be spent	Oswestry (Llanymynech & Pant)
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	07/15219 /OUT	Land at Rear of Rhyddallt, Croeswylan Lane, Oswestry Playing Field Contribution	Playing Field Contribution	North	None	520.00	Outdoor Recreation	Need to agree with TC how this money is to be spent– need to start discussion	Oswestry
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	11/00124 /OUT	Land on S E side of Riddings Road Ludlow Open space Contribution Outline application	Open Space Contribution	South	20/10/ 2024	7,176.00	Outdoor Recreation	Need to agree with TC how this money is to be spent – need to start discussion	Ludlow
S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	11/00178 /FUL	Land at Pelham Road, Upton Magna, Shrewsbury, SY4 4UA (De Quincey Fields) Open Space	Open Space Contribution	Central	21/11/ 2024	38,000.00	Outdoor Recreation	In discussion with PC and local Primary School over how the money is to be spent	Shrewsbury (Upton Magna)

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S106 Capital Sums - not full committed	11/02632 /FUL	Riverside Meadow Abbey Foregate Shrewsbury (Gay Meadow) Open Space Sport & Recreation	Open Space, Sport & Rec Contribution	Central	09/01/ 2022	25,000.00	Leisure & Outdoor Recreation	Agreed with STC to be used for new path to Castlefields. Awaiting agreement from Network Rail.	Shrewsbury
Capital Sum		Land at Oswestry Leisure Centre	Open Space, Sport & Rec Contribution	North	None	£50,000	Leisure & Outdoor Recreation	Oswestry Sustainable Urban extension – provision of play and recreation – awaiting developers plans for POS	Oswestry