

SHAWBURY PARISH COUNCIL

POLICY STATEMENT

FACILITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The Parish Council is committed to providing facilities for young people within the Parish and will endeavour to work closely with local schools, the Youth Club and other interested parties. Representatives of any organised youth group will be welcome to attend Council meetings, where an opportunity will be afforded to them to raise issues with Councillors.

Councillor Tracie Howells has the role of 'Councillor with responsible for Education and Young People' and will endeavour to listen to their views and requests and bring these to the attention of Council Members.

The Parish Council currently owns or leases the following facilities which are available to young people of varying ages:

1. The Playing Field:

This is a safe open access area in the centre of the village which is available for casual and organised play use. It has a youth sized football pitch with two sets of goal posts. The Council pays to have litter collected from the site
The Recreation Ground is on a long term lease from the Lichfield Diocese.

2. Children's Play Area – Playing Field:

The Council has had donated to it, a state of the art Children's Play Area, containing a wide range of equipment suitable for children up the age of sixteen. It also includes a 'kick wall' for individual or group use, providing facilities for football, basketball and cricket. The money for this play area complex was raised by a dedicated volunteer group from within the Parish, including a Parish Council representative and the Council has agreed to pay for the maintenance, insurance and the regular cleaning of the site. Weekly visual inspections of the equipment and the site are carried out by Richard Bailey and the annual inspection of the equipment is carried out in June or July by RoSPA. Any fault or damage is immediately reported to the Parish Clerk who takes the appropriate action to facilitate repairs

3. Children's Play Area – Erdington Close:

Part of the planning agreement for the erection of two housing estates in the Parish, was the direction to provide play facilities for young children. On completion of the housing development, ownership of the play area was transferred to the Parish Council. The Council takes full responsibility for the maintenance, insurance and supervision of the site, which is not suitable for ball games.

The site is maintained and weekly inspections are carried out by Richard Bailey with any fault or damage being reported to the Clerk for action. An annual inspection of the site is carried out by RoSPA in June or July.

4. Cycle Track:

The Council has constructed a dirt track on an area of waste land at the rear of the playing field. Grants were obtained to help finance this project and the site is maintained and inspected weekly by Richard Bailey. The facility is suitable for young people up to the age of sixteen. There is an annual inspection carried out by RoSPA.

In addition the Council has links with and acknowledges the importance of:

Shawbury Scout and Guide Management Committee

The Council appreciates the dedicated work carried out by this committee in providing facilities for young people to become involved in a wide range of activities and has been happy to make grants to assist in the maintenance of the Scout and Guide Centre.

Shawbury Junior School, Poynton Road

The Council is committed to working closely with and supporting the Staff and Governing Body of the school and the Head of the School has a standing invitation to attend Council meetings to update Members on developments and discuss arising issues.

Shawbury Youth Club:

The Council has welcomed the re-generation of a Youth Club in the village and appreciates the actions of the Village Hall Committee in providing accommodation for meetings to take place. Full support, including limited financial help, will be given to the volunteer team who have taken responsibility for the club.

Policy reviewed in September 2016