

**Extract from Special Council - 25.9.99**

**283 PLAYGROUNDS - RESPONSE TO THE ROSPA RISK DOCUMENT**

Councillor D.M. Gray presented a petition in respect of the proposals in Crosskeys and the Chief Executive read a letter received from Councillor Mrs. B.M. Toomer who was unable to attend.

During the course of the discussions, Members related to specific playgrounds in their wards and the findings of the report generally. It was noted that it was the intention to convene 8 area meetings to discuss the proposals in detail at which the local members would have the opportunity to put forward their individual comments. The final report on that consultation will be subsequently referred to Council for determination.

RESOLVED that:-

- (i) option 2 of the report (paragraphs 4.4 on page 5) be approved;
- (ii) consultation be undertaken with local ward members on the siting of the playground replacements indicated in the report.

# COMMUNITY PLANNING AREAS (PLAYGROUNDS)

GROUP 1 - UPPER RHYMNEY			
WARD	Bute Town <i>(Replacement)</i>	Ty Coch (By shops) <i>(Removal)</i>	Ty Coch (Bryn Carno) <i>(To Remain)</i>
Twyn Carno			
Moriah/Abertysswg	Rhymney Park <i>(Premier)</i>	Cam y Tylla <i>(Removal)</i>	Greensway <i>(Replacement)</i> <b><i>(Removal)</i></b> * <small>*Site for replacement to be decided after consultation</small>
Pontlloftyn	School Street <i>(Removal)</i>	Sunny View <i>(Removal)</i>	Brynglas <i>(Removal)</i>  Queens Street <i>(Removal)</i>
New Tredegar	Phillipstown Community Centre <i>(To Remain)</i>	Danygraig <i>(To Remain)</i>  Upper Road <i>(Removal)</i>	Tredegar Road <i>(Removal)</i>  Tan Lan Square <i>(To Remain)</i>
Darren Valley	Lower Stanley Terrace <i>(Removal)</i>	Derlwyn Street <i>(Removal)</i>	White Rose Way <i>(Removal)</i>
Tirphil	Rhodfa Ganol <i>(Replacement)</i>  School Street <i>(To Remain)</i>	Bargoed Inn <i>(Removal)</i>  Tennyson Terrace <i>(To Remain)</i>	Glyn Deri <i>(To Remain)</i>  Bute Houses <i>(Removal)</i>

## COMMUNITY PLANNING AREAS (PLAYGROUNDS)

<b>GROUP 2 - GREATER BARGOED</b>					
<b>WARD</b>					
<b>Aberbargoed</b>	Commin Road <i>(Removal)</i>	Lewis Street <i>(Replacement)</i>	Yew Street <i>(To Remain)</i>	Duffryn Street <i>(Removal)</i>	Ty Fry Road <i>(Removal)</i>
	Factory Road <i>(Removal)</i>	St. Peters <i>(To Remain)</i>	Llancayo Street <i>(Removal)</i>	Fairways <i>(Removal)</i>	Bargoed Park <i>(Replacement)</i>
	P.E.P. (By Barleycorn P.H.) <i>(To Remain)</i>				
	Heol Coed Cae - 3 Sites <i>(Removal)</i>				
<b>Gillfach</b>	Aeron Place <i>(Removal)</i>		Maes y Graig Street <i>(To Remain)</i>		Vere Street <i>(Removal)</i>

# COMMUNITY PLANNING AREAS (PLAYGROUNDS)

GROUP 3 - MID VALLEYS WEST							
WARD	Tiryberth Welfare (To Remain)	Mount Pleasant (Replacement) <b>(Removal)*</b>	Haman Place <b>(Already removed)</b>	Glyngaer (Removal)	Hanbury Street (To Remain)	Penybryn Penallta (To Remain)	William Street (To Remain)
Nelson	Tawel Fan (Replacement) <b>(Removal)</b>	Llwyn yr Eos (To Remain)	Heol Fawr (Removal)				
Replacement to be sited at the Wern Playing Fields							
Ystrad Mynach	Duffryn Street (Removal)	Davies Street (Removal)	Station Road (To Remain)	Ystrad Mynach Welfare (Replacement)			
	Park Lane (To Remain)		Brynmynach (Removal)				
Maescywmmmer	The Park (To Remain)						
Hengoed	Ash Grove (Removal)	Community Centre (Replacement) <b>(Removal)</b>	Cefn Road (Removal) <b>(Replacement)</b>				

# COMMUNITY PLANNING AREAS (PLAYGROUNDS)

GROUP 4 - MID VALLEYS EAST						
WARD	Manmoel (To Remain)	Rugby Ground Hollybush (To Remain)	Railway Terrace (Removal)	King George Field (To Remain)	High Street (Removal)	Cwm Argoed Bottom (Replacement) <b>(Removal) *</b>
* Replacement site to be decided after consultation with Members.						
<b>Penmaen</b>	Woodfieldside (To Remain)		Penmaen (To Remain)			Oakdale Reer Ground (To Remain)
<b>Cefn Fforest</b>	Twyn Gardens (To Remain)		Clos Gronw (To Remain) <i>Is actually in the Pengam Ward</i>			
<b>Pengam</b>	Fairview Bottom (To Remain)	St. Davids (Removal)	School Street (To Remain)	Warne Street (Removal)	Britannia (To Remain)	
<b>Pontllanfraith</b>	Marshfield (Removal)	The Bryn (To Remain)	High Mead (Removal)	Penllwyn (To Remain)	Springfield (To Remain)	Civic Centre (Replacement) <i>Not on the existing site</i>
<b>Crumlin</b>	Hafodyrnys (Replacement)	Viaduct Terrace (Removal)	Kendon Hill (To Remain)	Croespenmaen (To Remain)	Treowen (Replacement)	
	Trinant Soccer Field (Replacement) <i>Consider elsewhere in the Ward</i>	Phillip Street (Removal)	Penyfan Close (Removal)	Crumlin Park (To Remain)		

# COMMUNITY PLANNING AREAS (PLAYGROUNDS)

GROUP 5 - ABER VALLEY			
WARD			
Aber Valley	Alexandra Terrace <i>(Replacement)</i> <b><i>(Remove)</i></b>	Commercial Street <i>(Removal)</i>	Stanley Street <i>(Removal)</i> <b><i>(Replace)</i></b>
	Senghenydd Park <i>(Replacement)</i>	Hendre <i>(Removal)</i>	Abertridwr Park <i>(Replacement)</i>
Penyrheol	Carmarthen Court, Hendredenny <i>(Replacement)</i> <b><i>"Ballot" residents before finalising</i></b>		Caerleon Court, Hendredenny <i>(Removal)</i>
	Grange Close, Treceynydd <i>(To Remain)</i>	Penyrheol Park <i>(To Remain)</i>	Heol Aneurin <i>(Removal)</i>

# COMMUNITY PLANNING AREAS (PLAYGROUNDS)

GROUP 6 - CAERPHILLY BASIN				
WARD				
Llanbradach	The Park <i>(Replacement)</i>			
Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen	Wauganol Park <i>(To Remain)</i>	The Bryn <i>(Replacement)</i>	Graig y Rhacca <i>(Replacement)</i>	Mountain View <i>(Removal)</i>
				Ffwrwm Road <i>(Replacement)</i>
St. James	Van Terrace <i>(Removal)</i>	Hartshorn Court <i>(To Remain)</i>	Gwaun Newydd <i>(To Remain)</i>	Trapwell <i>(Removal)</i>
				Rudry <i>(To Remain)</i>
	Draethen <i>(To Remain)</i>			
St. Martins	Badham Close <i>(To Remain)</i>	Ashmans Close <i>(To Remain)</i>	Clos y Pant <i>(To Remain)</i>	Bartlett Street <i>(Replacement)</i>
Morgan Jones	Morgan Jones Park <i>(Premier)</i>			
				Sir Stafford Close <i>(Removal)</i>

# COMMUNITY PLANNING AREAS (PLAYGROUNDS)

GROUP 7 - LOWER ISLWYN					
WARD					
<b>Ynysddu</b>	Wyllie <i>(To Remain)</i>	Caerllwyn Terrace <i>(Removal)</i>	Alexandra Road <i>(Removal)</i>	Bridge Street <i>(To Remain)</i>	Ynysddu Welfare <i>(Removal)</i>
					Bryn Awel <i>(To Remain)</i>
	Stanley Street <i>(Replacement)</i>				
	Wattsville <i>(Removal)</i>				
<b>Abercarn</b>	King George Field <i>(To Remain)</i>	Llanfach <i>(To Remain)</i>	Distillery Park <i>(To Remain)</i>	Rhwswg Road <i>(Removal)</i>	Mame Street <i>(To Remain)</i>
					Reeces Terrace <i>(Removal)</i> <i>(Now removed)</i>
<b>Crosskeys</b>	Feeder Row <i>(To Remain)</i>	Twyncarn Road <i>(To Remain)</i>	Colliseum Site <i>(Removal)</i>	Waunfawr Park 'B' <i>(Removal)</i>	Waunfawr Park 'A' <i>(Premier)</i>
	Tredegar Terrace <i>(Removal)</i>				
<b>Risca West</b>	Ty Isaf Welfare <i>(Removal)</i>	Tan y Bryn <i>(To Remain)</i>	Pontymister Athletic <i>(To Remain)</i>	Rifleman Street <i>(To Remain)</i>	Risca Park <i>(To Remain)</i>
	Longbridge <i>(Removal)</i>				
	Fernlea <i>(To Remain)</i>				
<b>Risca East</b>	Herbert Avenue <i>(To Remain)</i>	Ty Sign Open Space <i>(Replacement)</i>	Sycamore Crescent <i>(Removal)</i>	Snowden Close <i>(Removal)</i>	
	Birch Grove <i>(Removal)</i>	Thistle Way <i>(Removal)</i>			Woodview <i>(Removal)</i>



## **GROUP 3 - MID VALLEYS WEST**

Meeting with Members held on 8 November 1999

### **Comments/Requests**

1. A new/replacement playground for Gelligaer was also sought (additional).
2. Basketball hoops should be installed at Tawel Fan after removal of the play equipment.
3. Basketball hoops should be installed at Davies Street after removal of the playground equipment and that the need for a playground there should go onto the priority list.
4. A new/replacement playground for Cefn Hengoed, to be sited by the Youth Centre was also sought (additional). If one replacement only in the Hengoed Ward is available, then that should be sited at Cefn Road and not at the Community Centre.
5. The replacement at the Wern Playing Fields should be sited on the top plateau to give it high visibility from the playing fields etc.

## GROUP 4 - MID VALLEYS EAST

Meeting with Members held on 17 November 1999.

### Comments/Requests

1. A Premier playground (additional) was requested for the Blackwood area, but not at the expense of replacement playgrounds already identified. Members made the point that on a demographic basis the case was extremely strong, possibly even irresistible.
2. A normal replacement for Penyfan Close was requested in the future when finances allow, although because of vandalism it may be better to re-site it.
3. The replacement playground for the Civic Centre should be re-sited, probably closer to the Civic Centre building. Members are to be consulted on the revised siting. There was agreement that this was the ideal place for the additional playground requested.
4. The replacement playground for Trinant Soccer field should be re-sited to a more suitable site within the ward. Members to be consulted on this potential re-siting.
5. The potential for another replacement to be provided as part of the Town Centre Development Plan was raised.
6. Windsor Avenue was mentioned as a suitable site for a Premier playground - if finances allowed (additional).
7. Local/individual company sponsorship, possibly for individual sites, should be investigated by the Leisure Department.
8. The siting of Premier playgrounds at Risca and Rhymney (particularly) was questioned on a demographic basis.

## **GROUP 5 - ABER VALLEY**

Meeting with Members etc. held on 26 October 1999.

### **Comments/Requests**

1. Comments were made that instead of providing Premier Playgrounds this money could be better utilised providing additional replacement playgrounds elsewhere. It was pointed out by officers that for the Premier Playground proposed for Morgan Jones Park no additional money would be released because at least 3 standard replacements would be required instead.
2. The need for a fully comprehensive Playground Strategy was agreed. This is already scheduled to be produced in early 2000.
3. Commercial Street should be considered for an enhanced play area.
4. Hendre should receive some limited, replacement equipment, spring animals etc. after removal (additional).

## **GROUP 6 - CAERPHILLY BASIN**

Meeting with Members etc. held on 27 October 1999.

### **Comments/Requests**

1. Timetable for replacements to go with the final report to Council.
2. Sweeping/cleansing - not sufficient at present. Programme to be in place after rationalisation is complete.
3. The Premier Playground has a catchment area well beyond the boundaries of Caerphilly town. Members would prefer the Premier Playground to be completed first.
4. The money spent on Bowling Greens was envied by the Members when compared to the provision previously for playgrounds.
5. Vandalism index to be provided for all sites from 1 April 2000.
6. Concerns were expressed about the removal of the Trapwell playground because of the roads to be crossed to other playgrounds. This takes account of the number of houses in the locale now and proposed for the future.
7. After removal of the equipment at Van Terrace the land should be returned to the Community Council.
8. Mountain View should receive a small amount of limited equipment after removal (additional).

## GROUP 7 - LOWER ISLWYN

Meeting with Members held on 10 November 1999. The need for a playground in Wattsville (additional replacement) is based upon serious concerns about road safety with regard to children having to travel to other playgrounds.

### Comments/Requests

1. Parking facilities will be required for the Premier Playground to be sited at Waunfawr Park.  
A. Land may need to be purchased for this and the nearby allotments were mentioned.
2. Basketball hoops should be installed at Ynysddu Welfare and possibly the current site at Wattsville after the equipment has been removed.
3. A replacement for Wattsville was considered essential, particularly for road safety reasons, as part of the response to the RoSPA Report - but not at the present site (additional).
4. The need for Skateboard Parks at some sites within the authority, particularly at Crosskeys Park in this instance, was considered essential. A policy decision not to have any within the authority may need to be re-considered.
5. Following the removal of Ty Isaf, a light controlled pedestrian crossing should be provided en route to Pontymister Athletic playground.
6. Ty Isaf welfare should be placed on the priority list for future additional playground developments.
7. **Risca East**  
  
A light controlled pedestrian crossing and double yellow lines should be provided at the required places following the equipment removals.
8. The Ty Sign replacement should have more equipment provided than a "normal" replacement site.
9. At Birchgrove the kerb should be dropped to facilitate its use for off-street parking following removal.
10. The verge along Ty Sign open space could have a number of humps left for the children to create a mountain bike and/or small home-made skateboard site. Officers considered that, even with the provision of suitable disclaimer notices, the authority would probably still be liable in the event of an accident - but they agreed to determine the legal position.

## GROUP 1 - UPPER RHYMNEY

Meeting with Members held on 22 November 1999.

### Comments/Requests

1. A general comment supported by all Members etc. present was that on the grounds of deprivation alone, these Wards should have been given greater priority in any replacement programme. The Members in attendance felt very strongly about this and it influenced many of the comments that follow.
2. The Premier playground at Rhymney Park was debated extensively. Members were torn between the need for a Premier playground in this area, albeit with many residents unable to travel to it, to ensure that this area does not feel further disenfranchised and the opportunity for two additional (normal) playgrounds with the money that could be released. No decision was taken, but the options were put forward for further consideration. The vandalism at Rhymney Park was recognised as a problem.
3. Three additional replacements were requested in the Pontlottyn Ward, not necessarily from this programme - although that was preferred, but at least in the future when additional funding becomes available. In Members order of priority, these are:-
  - 1) Sunny View
  - 2) Bryn Glas
  - 3) Queen Street
4. The relatively new playground at Phillipstown Community Centre should be moved to Derlwyn Street. Officers' comment - this is likely to be at least as expensive as a replacement playground.
5. The small playground at Lower Stanley Terrace, safety surfacing, replacement swings and some re-siting would be necessary should be replaced as part of this programme (additional). The Community Council may be prepared to contribute. The local children have been proactive in trying to retain it by holding Jumble Sales etc. to raise funding. Officers' comment - some painting to improve the appearance of the equipment and features on site was evident and no vandalism was apparent. The topography of this site unfortunately indicates that there is little space for play provision. Extensive re-modelling would be required to accommodate more equipment.
6. A replacement playground for White Rose Way was also requested as part of this programme (additional).
7. Groesfaen Terrace should receive a partial replacement of equipment as part of this programme because of the very difficult travelling to the other sites (additional).
8. Future sites (additional) for the eastern side of the Darren Valley were also requested.
9. Basketball hoops and five-a-side goals should be provided at Bute House following the equipment removal.

## GROUP 2 - GREATER BARGOED

Meeting with Members held on 29 November 1999

### Comments/Requests

1. Commin Road was requested for a replacement (additional) as part of the response to the RoSPA report or, in the future when finance becomes available. This request was based upon the number of children likely to use this site and the need to cross very busy roads for alternatives.

It was also felt that the Lewis Street replacement will find it difficult to cope with all of the potential use because of the number of houses it will serve.

2. The extra £10k proposed for the replacement in Bargoed Park was discussed and the meeting agreed that they would wish to consider using this money elsewhere in Bargoed for small, additional replacement sites.
3. The three small playgrounds within Heol Coed Cae were considered very important for the following reasons:-
  - a) Safety for children having to cross roads for alternatives;
  - b) Social exclusion reasons, given the apparent high number of single parents on this estate;
  - c) The overlooked position of the playgrounds made them ideal for younger children;
  - d) The number of children using these facilities and the strong local support for them.

The meeting requested that at least one of these three be replaced (additional) as part of the response to the RoSPA report. Ideally all three, as they are very limited equipment sites, should be replaced. If that did not prove possible, then they should be placed on the priority list for the future when finance becomes available. These three small playgrounds were unusually, reportedly provided from the HRA, officers should investigate the possibility of their replacement being funded in the same manner.

4. Basketball hoops should be considered for Llancayo Street.
5. Fairways was also considered as suitable for a replacement (additional), but it was not considered as important as Heol Coed Cae.
6. More equipment was requested, when finance becomes available, for Maes-y-Graig Street.
7. The two sites to be removed in the Gilfach Ward - Aeron Place and Vere Street, should be replaced when finance becomes available in the future, if not as part of the response to the RoSPA report (additional). Both were considered important strategically, but Aeron Place was considered the more important of the two because of its location to the east of the busy A.469. Both sites will be sadly missed because they are well sited and because of the lack of vandalism. Five hundred and twenty primary schoolchildren are served by the Vere Street

## APPENDIX 2

PETITIONS RECEIVED IN RESPECT OF PLAYGROUNDS/WARDS ARE DETAILED BELOW:-

	<u>PLAYGROUND</u>	<u>WARD</u>
1.	HENDRE PARK	ABER VALLEY
2.	WAUNGANOL PARK REAR OF POLICE STATION	BEDWAS
3.	VERE STREET & AARON PLACE, GILFACH	BARGOED
4.	REAR OF GLENVIEW COURT, PENTWYNMAWR	NEWBRIDGE
5.	WATSVILLE	YNYSDDU
6.	CWMFELINFACH/YNYSDDU WELFARE PLAYAREA	YNYSDDU
7.	GILFACH FARGOED ESTATE	BARGOED
8.	PONTLOTTYN	PONTLOTTYN
9.	THORNCOMBE ROAD	BLACKWOOD
10.	PONTYWAUN FARM	CROSSKEYS
11.	LOWER STANLEY TERRACE	NEW TREDEGAR