

Wiltshire Council

Chippenham Area Board

10 September 2013

Item 8 – Chippenham Skate Park Task Group Report

John Lewin, Chippenham Resident

Question 4

Why has no attention been given the costs of location in Monkton Park, when the report highlights:

1] the noise abatement efforts- walls up to 14' high & even a roof

2] the possibility of massive excavation where extra work would be needed to address flooding issues, and any requirements of the Environment Agency

Why has no attention been given to the likelihood and costs of high security fencing, which was required for the previous skate park in Monkton Park? Nor to the running & maintenance costs - which will probably have to be borne by the Town Council?

Given that the Bristol Rd site is relatively unused , rather wild & has splendid natural contours , why has no attention been given to the costs of location there being much less there, along with far less disturbance & far fewer controversial issues?

It would not be surprising if the costs of a Monkton Park location could easily exceed £200,000.

At a time when Wiltshire Council's funds are under intense pressure with massive job losses & front line cut backs, can you explain to Council taxpayers why the no attention has been given to the relative costs of these two sites?

Response

Wiltshire Council has an obligation to ensure that best value is achieved for Tax payers and therefore the cost issue will always be part of each stage of the considerations.

The STGs first task was to identify site. The design of the proposed Skatepark has not yet been defined, awaiting the identification of a specific site/location and then consideration of planning requirements which will address these issues in detail. It is therefore premature to estimate the cost of fencing, excavation and flooding mitigation. These costs may or may not apply to any site chosen.

See Skatepark report 3.1, 3.6