

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

17 May 2016

Question from Councillor Adrienne Westbrook, Melksham Town Council

Question

Whilst accepting that the planning process was not flawed with regards to the development of the new Multi Use Games Area in King George V Park, can Wiltshire Council explain what engagement process they went through with stakeholders and park users to be able to tell Fields in Trust that the grassed area now enclosed for Rivermead School was not used and therefore surplus to requirement? The application came to Melksham Town Council after Fields in Trust had given their consent so there was no opportunity for Melksham Town Council to raise an issue with Fields in Trust.

Response

The area of grass which has been leased to the school is a very small part of a large field (approx. 0.07Ha out of a flat area of field of approx. 2.5Ha – the whole field including sloping areas is significantly bigger). As a result the only consultation was with Fields in Trust, whose consent is required for leases. As the works were to be part of the larger project to create a multi-use games area on the former tennis court, planning permission would be needed and other stakeholders would be consulted as part of that process.