

Community Recreation Facilities Project

Update for Parishioners

In this document you can find...

- a summary of the progress achieved to date with Phase 1 of the Project
- a look ahead to Phase 2 of the Project in 2027, including the work planned and our funding proposals
- more on how you can support the Project, by volunteering or making a donation

All comments welcome!

**Crowle Parish Council
October 2026**

A brief recap about the Project...

This is an exciting and ambitious project that will transform our community recreation facilities!

It is a community-led initiative, based on feedback from residents on their needs and aspirations forged into a detailed plan by a Working Group of volunteer parishioners. The resulting proposals were delivered to all parish homes, followed by three open meetings to allow residents to share their views.

Very positive feedback was received, following which some changes were made (including the relocation of the Cycle Mud Track closer to Jubilee Field) - and the Parish Council took the decision to go ahead! We submitted a planning application in July, and hope to receive approval in October.

Phase 1 – achieved so far and to do for 2026...

The storage containers for The Shop and Crowle Players have now been installed next to the Shop. The foundations and concrete blocks were provided free-of-charge by Spitfire Homes, and labour by community volunteers.

During the summer we improved the track round Jubilee Field by resurfacing it with binding gravel. Before the year-end, we will:

- create the Young Farmers' Tug of War Practice Area
- dig ponds/ditches and start planting in the Wilding Area
- create the new Allotments Area including access track, soil improvements, deer/rabbit fencing and water troughs
- extend the existing Cycle Mud Track.

All Phase 1 funding is confirmed and came from various sources including Spitfire and Summerfield CIL payments, a County Councillor grant, a parishioner bequest, Crowle 10K 2026 and a donation from Crowle Tennis Club.

Phase 2 – planned for 2027...

Below are the features of the Project we intend to complete next year, together with information about costs. See the Masterplan in the centre pages for pictorial detail.

Phase 2 Facility	Timescale	Cost Estimate
New Outdoor Activities Area for Older Children/Teenagers	Q2 2027	£251,000**
Relocation of Preschool Forest School	Q2 2027	Nil (DIY with volunteers)
New Gravel Car Park + new road linking with current gravel car park and existing track on Jubilee Field	Q2 2027	£33,095
Exercise Track around Back Field	Q2 2027	£32,000
Resurfacing of Multi-Use Games Area/Tennis Courts	Q2 2027	£32,500
Storage Containers and Activity Area for Scout Group	Q2 2027	£4,500
Padel Court, including walls, roof and fencing	Q3 2027	£127,100
Shed for Men's Shed	Q3 2027	£16,000
Benches, Picnic Tables & Bird Hide, and further planting for Wilding & Relaxation Area	Q3 2027	£4,800
10% Contingency and 3% inflation on 2026 estimates		£66,087
Total		£567,082

VAT is excluded, as the Parish Council can reclaim this.

*** This estimate is the higher of two obtained; the second was in the order of £150,000. When the final scope is established, this will be tendered to at least three contractors.*

Phase 1 - August 2026 to March 2027 (shown in ORANGE on the plan)

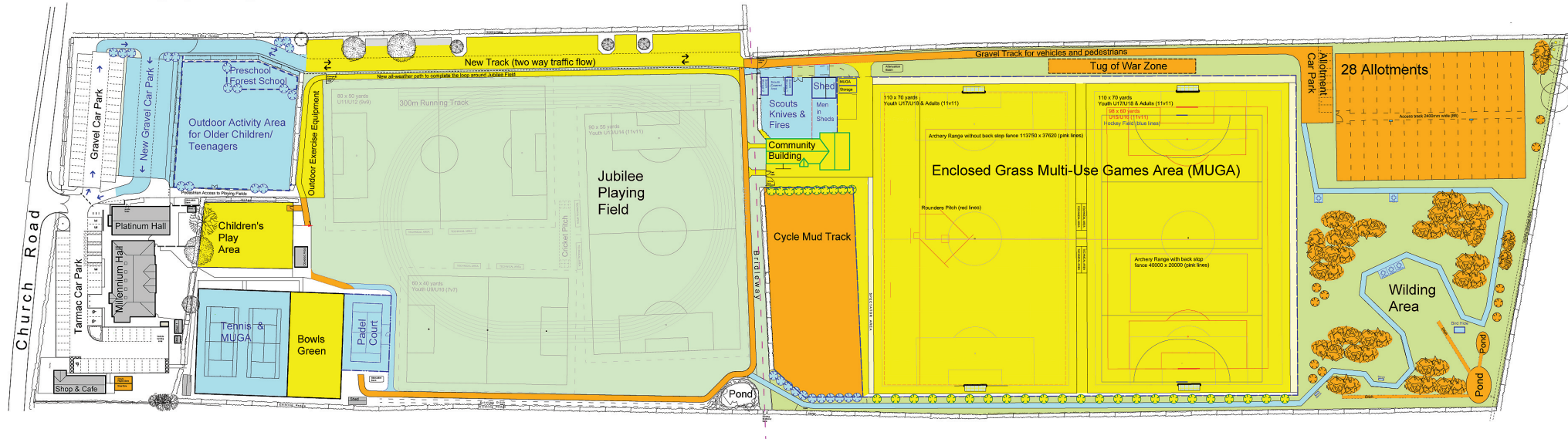
- New Gravel Surface to Exercise Track around Jubilee Field
- Storage for Shop & Cafe and Crowle Players
- Ponds and Ditches to Wilding Area
- Planting to Wilding Area
- Access Track to New Allotments
- New Allotments Area soil improvements, fencing and water troughs
- Cycle Mud Track extended
- Tug of War Zone

Phase 2 - April 2027 to December 2027 (shown in BLUE on the plan)

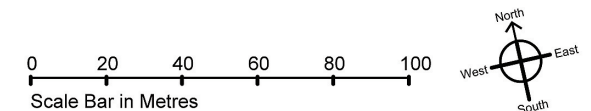
- New Gravel Car Park and linking roads by North boundary
- Outdoor Activity Area for Older Children/Teenagers
- Relocation of Preschool Forest School
- Resurfacing Multi-Use Games Area/Tennis Courts
- Padel Court
- Scouts Storage and Activity Area
- Men's Shed
- Exercise Track around Back Field
- Benches, Picnic Tables and Bird Hide
- Tree and Hedge planting

Phase 3 - 2029/2030 (shown in YELLOW on the plan)

- Enclosed Grass Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA)
- Community Building
- Crowle Searchers Storage
- Two-way Track and Parking to North boundary of Jubilee Field
- Tree and Hedge planting
- Completion of Exercise Track around Jubilee Field
- Outdoor Exercise Equipment
- Upgrade of Children's Play Area
- Upgrade of Bowls Green



Coloured Phasing Plan



Funding Phase 2

Funding confirmed so far is:

- Parish Council - £52,500 (includes funds allocated from reserves for MUGA/Tennis Courts resurfacing)
- Community Infrastructure Levy from Summerfield phase 2 - £2,000 (estimated)
- Scout Group (for containers) - £5,000
- Anticipated surplus carried forward from Phase 1 - £3,846
- **Total - £63,346**

Projected additional funding sources (not guaranteed) are:

- Local community (groups and individuals) - £10,800
- Men's Shed (grants) - £16,000
- First 8 months' income from Padel Court (conservative projection) - £10,500
- **Total - £37,300**

- **Overall total of above - £100,646**
- **Total Phase 2 cost estimate (from page 3) - £567,082**
- **Balance to be funded for Phase 2 - £466,436**

We plan to fund the bulk of the Phase 2 balance via a loan from the Public Works Loans Board (PWLb). This is the same funding route that we used for the Millennium Hall, Jubilee Playing Field, and the Wellbeing Project which included the Platinum Hall.

The Parish Council proposes to seek approval to borrow up to £500,000 from the PWLB, repayable over a fixed 20 year term.

The actual amount borrowed will be reduced if additional grant or other external funding is secured or if costs reduce (eg due to the 10% contingency or competitive tendering).

Illustrative loan repayment: A loan of £500,000 over 20 years would currently result in estimated half-yearly repayments of £21,886, paid in arrears. The actual repayment will depend on the amount borrowed and the interest rate applying when the loan is drawn down.

No additional increase in the precept needed to repay the loan:

The Parish Council can confirm that it will not be necessary to increase the amount of the precept currently payable by parishioners. This is expected to be possible through a combination of:

- existing loans maturing
- additional precept income from new homes in the parish (approved developments only), and
- income generated by the Padel Court.

Our Project team is also pursuing a range of major grant opportunities from national funders. If successful, the loan amount may be reduced or drawn down at a later date to support delivery of Phase 3.

A brief look ahead to Phase 3...

The main facilities planned for Phase 3 are: new community building, new enclosed grass multi-use games area (MUGA), outdoor exercise equipment, upgrades of children's play area and bowls court, exercise track extension on Jubilee Field, and vehicle track improvements plus new occasional parking - *all coloured yellow on the centre page plan.*

These will of course depend on funding availability, primarily S106 and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) generated from new housing developments in Crowle (some of which have yet to be approved), together with income from the Padel Court.

Community funding via personal donations

Some residents have told us that they would like to donate to support the Project. If you would like to pledge a contribution, please complete the enclosed form. We won't collect any pledged donations until the funding picture is confirmed.

Gift Aid opportunity: *If you are a UK taxpayer, donations made to our Project partner, Crowle Parish Hall and Recreation Trust (PHT), a registered charity, may be eligible for Gift Aid. This can increase the value of a £1 donation to the Project by 25p. If you tell us that you wish to Gift Aid your donation, we will send you a charity declaration form.*

Volunteering – your help please!

A number of people have already volunteered, but we are still seeking a few more for Phase 1 and Phase 2. If you could spare some time or would like to find out more about what's involved, please see the reply form enclosed with this leaflet.

What happens next?

Subject to consideration of comments received by the 4th November deadline, the Parish Council anticipates making a formal decision on applying for the loan at its 12th November meeting. The decision on our loan application is projected to be confirmed in December/early January – in time for the Parish Council's 2027/2028 budgetary decisions. The loan would be drawn down during 2027, probably in instalments as required to meet Project needs.

Crowle Parish Council
October 2026