

Report to Full Council

Subject: Approval of Match Funding Contribution – Overdale Play Park Refurbishment

Council Meeting: 14th July 2026

Agenda Item 1007/26

Report Author: Chris Parsons, Clerk/RFO

Purpose of Report

To seek Full Council approval for the allocation of **£64,000** towards the refurbishment of **Overdale Play Park**, forming part of a wider project with a total value of **£224,000**.

Background

The Council has identified the refurbishment of 3 Play Parks as a key priority to improve recreational facilities for children, young people and families within the parish. The existing play equipment and infrastructure at Overdale Play Park is in desperate need of significant enhancement to ensure the facility remains safe, inclusive and fit for purpose for future generations.

External funding opportunities are being secured/identified to support the project; however, a local contribution is required to unlock the funding package and enable the scheme to proceed.

Financial Implications

The total estimated cost of the refurbishment project is:

Total Project Cost: £224,000 including £38,000 for drainage and £150,000 for equipment

Funding sources:

- **Council Contribution (Match Funding):** £64,000
- **External Funding and Grants:** £160,000
- **(Possible S106 £50,000,)**

The Council's contribution will allow the project to proceed and secure the remaining external funding necessary to complete the scheme.

Benefits of the Project

The proposed improvements will:

- Provide modern, safe and accessible play equipment.
 - Enhance recreational opportunities for children and families.
 - Improve community wellbeing and physical activity.
 - Increase inclusivity through the provision of accessible play features.
 - Support the Council's commitment to investing in community assets.
 - Create a high-quality play facility for residents and visitors.
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Risk Assessment

Should the Council decide not to approve the £64,000 contribution:

- The external funding may not be secured.
 - The refurbishment project may be delayed or unable to proceed.
 - Existing equipment may continue to deteriorate, resulting in increased maintenance costs.
 - Opportunities to improve community facilities could be lost.
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Clerk's Recommendation

It is recommended that Full Council approves the allocation of **£64,000** as match funding towards the **£224,000 refurbishment of Overdale Play Park**, enabling the project to progress and leverage external grant funding. Then include the other 2 play areas (Manham Hill and Beech Close) in the 5-year Town Investment Plan

Proposed Resolution

That Full Council approves the allocation of £64,000 towards the refurbishment of Overdale Play Park, contributing to the total project cost of £224,000 and acting as the Council's match funding contribution to secure external funding for the scheme.

Chris Parsons
Town Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer