

**Chiddingfold
Combe Common
Recreation Ground**

The Vision



Purpose of the document

This document has been produced by Open Design Studio to set out the vision and design principles for the new community pavilion at Combe Common Recreation Ground.

Project Location

Combe Lane
Recreation Ground,
Combe Lane,
Chiddingfold,
Godalming,
GU8 4QR

Client

Chiddingfold Parish Council



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Background

“To create a community-led pavilion building that supports longterm growth of youth sports, recreation and learning groups for the local surrounding areas.”

The Combe Common Recreation Ground is an attractive large open grassed area surrounded by beautiful ancient woodland and community allotment plots to the East and Combe Lane to the South. Mature trees edge the southern boundary providing a natural boundary between the grounds and the road. Centrally the grassed area has been levelled to provide space for football pitches which suffer from drainage issues in winter months. An informal parking area adjacent to the road provides adequate parking generally but is totally overwhelmed on training and match days when cars spill over into the road increasing risk to road users by having parking on a blind corner where drivers are passing quite fast.

The Chiddingfold Football Club are based at the Coxcombe Lane Recreation Ground and is a club that caters for the over 16s and adult teams. This site has its own pitches and supporting facilities. In contrast The Chiddingfold Youth Football Club runs from the Combe Common Recreation Ground where the grass pitches become muddy in wet winter months, parking is causing problems to other village users on match days and there are no supporting club facilities or storage for equipment.

The Chiddingfold Scout Group currently use other local facilities but has no set base from which to run. A 20ft shipping container is located at the Combe Common Recreation Ground to provide the Scout Group with storage for their equipment.

The recreation ground is also used regularly by dog walkers and families wanting to enjoy some open space.

The village of Chiddingfold would like to improve facilities on the Combe Common Recreation Ground to support both the Chiddingfold Youth Football Club, the Chiddingfold Scout Group and the wider Chiddingfold Community in order to promote sports, recreation and wellbeing for the under 16s within the village and surrounding areas.

A working group has been set up to act on behalf of the Chiddingfold Parish Council with the aim to create a special community-led project that seeks to inspire residents to enjoy sport and recreation in a beautiful building and setting.



This project will include a site-wide masterplan incorporating a club house building, external site facilities and improvements to the drainage of the football pitches and parking arrangements in order to support both the clubs and promote wellbeing of other Chiddingfold youth residents.

The scheme will provide a safe and suitable hub from which the Chiddingfold Youth Football Club can run training, matches and social events to promote youth football within the village and surrounding areas.

The building will be the new headquarters for the Chiddingfold Scouts Group to promote youth recreation and learning in a fun, educational and interactive facility.

The project will provide high quality, fully accessible facilities that include the storage requirements for both clubs. The facilities will be flexible in order to accommodate potential secondary users with the aim to benefit local residents from the village and have a long lasting positive impact on the wider community.

Design proposals will evolve in conjunction with a carefully considered approach to the landscape and environmental design to ensure longevity for the local community end users.



Project Objectives

An engaging experience:

Client

activation of a sports and recreation facility to get people active/social/learning

Experience

fun/informative/educational/interactive

Connecting with the wider community

provide a long lasting positive contribution to the village of Chiddingfold and surrounding areas

One Building. Multiple Users. One Community.

What is the pavilion offering to the community?

Supporting youth football in the village and surrounding areas

Creating a safe and inspiring headquarters for the Chiddingfold Scout Group

Providing an engaging community space for local groups and families

Enhancing the natural surroundings with a complimentary structure in a beautiful setting



The Building & Landscaping

A BUILDING WITH A LIGHT TOUCH ON THE LANDSCAPE

visual impact / material choice / sustainable energy strategy

Considerate selection of beautiful building materials that do not require a regular maintenance schedule will minimise on going running costs. Selecting materials which inherently have quality and character that can be expressed within the design can contribute to creating special spaces and reduce construction costs by making plastered finishing redundant. The use of hard wearing low maintenance materials that are suitable for high footfall help minimise wear and tear and reduce the need for regular maintenance.

Celebrating the structure by exposing construction materials can contribute to a positive visual impact of the building in the setting.

The sustainability design will incorporate a 'fabric first' approach to ensure that the envelope of the building is thermally efficient minimising space heating and energy consumption from the outset. A sustainable energy strategy will be developed incorporating sustainable technologies to reduce running costs. Appropriate levels of glazing will ensure good levels of natural day light to minimise the use of artificial lighting and promote the health and emotional wellbeing.

LOW TECH / LOW MAINTENANCE

good quality building materials / simple construction to minimise costs

The project promotes the use of good quality materials, sustainably sourced to provide a building with a low carbon lifetime footprint that will ensure the longevity of this community facility.

Using low tech construction methods will help minimise initial construction costs and make future maintenance easy and accessible.



A building with a light touch on the environment & surroundings.





The Local Community

As well as supporting the Youth Football Club and the Scout Group users the facilities aim to contribute positively to the local community by catering to secondary users and having flexible facilities that can be used on a hire or informal basis.

Community engagement at the varying stages of the project will be invaluable in developing a strategy and then refined design to cater for the wider community and deliver a project which will be well used. To date suggested secondary users include:

01 Allotment Users

Rainwater collection, externally accessible WC facilities could provide facilities to support the adjacent allotment users. Kitchen facilities could have an exterior facing pop up counter to allow for teas and coffees to be sold to allotment users when open.

02 Dog Walkers

The site is used regularly by dog walkers. The facilities could provide outdoor taps and water bowls as well as WC facilities accessed from outside to cater for these users. Kitchen facilities could have an exterior facing pop up counter to allow for teas and coffees to be sold to dog walkers when open. Appropriate bins should be provided to promote the collection of dog waste and prevent waste being left on the grass which is also used when playing football and generally on the site.

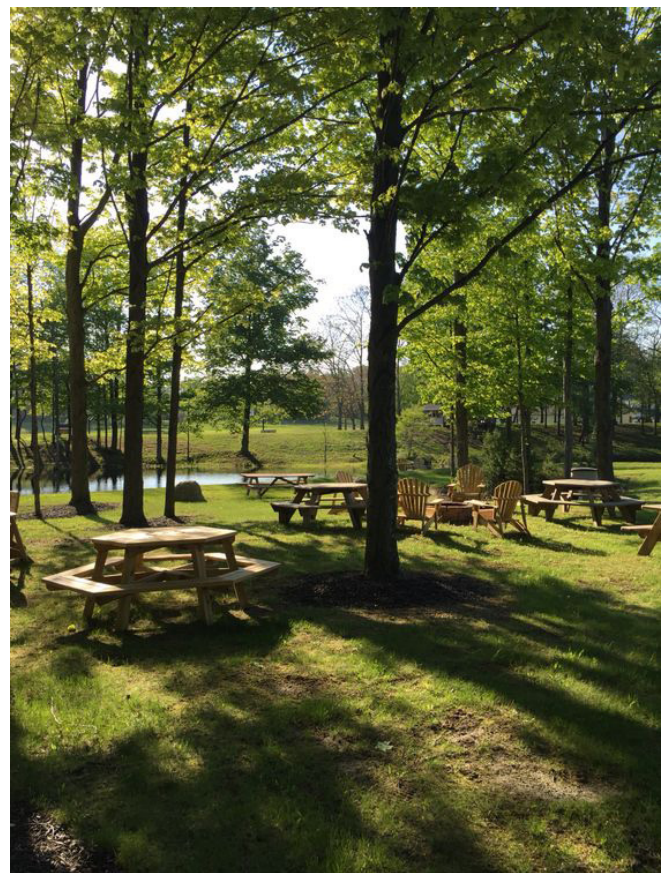
03 Young Children & Families

The site masterplan aims to cater for young children and their families. This can be through informal use of externally accessible facilities such as an outdoor wooden play trail, picnic benches, built BBQs, standing shelters and externally accessible WC facilities. Flexible internal hall or social spaces with access to the external space could be available for hire by local families for gatherings and birthday parties.



PLAY TRAIL

wooden play trail to promote the use by young children and their families



PICNIC BENCHES & BBQS

picnic benches, BBQs and standing shelters to promote informal use for gatherings and birthday parties by local families



04 Personal Fitness

Flexible internal hall or social spaces could be available for hire to run local fitness groups during the winter months. External standing shelters may benefit personal training sessions or fitness groups to provide shelter from the sun or rain on an informal basis.

05 Learning

Local schools or community groups may be interested collaborating to set up and run a community garden in a specifically designated zone. Promotion of learning about wildlife, fruit and vegetable growing and in turn where food comes from could be done through the integration of bug and bird boxes and bee hotels to support the bio diversity of the allotments. Standing shelters could provide spaces for outdoor learning and lessons by local schools and groups.



PERSONAL FITNESS

informal use of outdoor space for personal fitness or training or fitness classes supported by sheltered areas for extreme sunny or raining weather. Flexible internal spaces for hire



LEARNING

integration of bug and bird boxes and bee hotels to promote bio diversity for the allotments and learning about wildlife and fruit/vegetable growing



Spacial Requirements

01 Entrance Area

A clearly defined light visible entrance to be obvious and welcoming so that users can easily identify where to go when arriving at the site and provide a good first impression on arrival. Clear design strategies and signage should make it clear where to go from the entrance to the various places of the building.

02 Club House Social Space

Social space for two teams and their spectators to come and have refreshments after a game. This space can also provide somewhere for players and spectators to come, warm up and have refreshments in bad weather or take some shade on extremely sunny days.

03 Kitchen

A small kitchen sized for refreshments and minor oven cooking/heating of food with enough storage space for supporting crockery and cups, The kitchen should have one servery facing into the social space and one external hatch servery to provide drinks directly to outside users.

04 Changing Rooms

One shared changing room to have separate cubicle showers and changing spaces for use by youth football players in poor weather and the scout club following trips. The changing room to have direct access to a WC and a fully accessible WC/shower/ changing room.

A separate adult umpire changing room for 3 - 4 umpires/linesmen with one cubicle shower and one WC provides facilities for the supporting adult users.

05 Football Club Office, Welfare & First Aid

A football club office will provide a dedicated space for the club to use as their main office and welfare room and, as per FA guidelines, can doubled up as the first aid room.



06 Scout Club Office Room

A dedicated room for the Scout Group only can be used as the Scout office and small meeting room as well as a smaller space for doing badge work and training in smaller groups.

07 Scout Club Hall

A larger hall ideally for the dedicated use of the Scouts for use in the majority of the scouting indoor activities and training. The potential to be hired out to secondary users to be explored. Direct access to external spaces including a dedicated fire pit zone, easy accessibility to the scout storage facilities, external play trails and fitness equipment will promote use of these external spaces.

08 Storage & Cleaner's Cupboards

The football club require externally accessible storage for their equipment including football goals, balls and other training items. The storage space should be the equivalent of a 20ft shipping container.

The Scout Club require externally accessible storage for their equipment to be the equivalent of a 20ft shipping container.

Storage provisions for furniture to the social space to stack tables and chairs, a cleaner's cupboard and a smaller internal storage room for each club to be provided. Small storage rooms could be included that can be rented out to regular secondary users such as fitness groups that hire the social or hall spaces.



09 Toilets

Unisex individual WCs and a fully accessible WC to be accessible from the entrance and circulation space that can cater for use by the football club users, spectators, scout club and visitors to the building.

A fully accessible externally accessed WC to be provided to cater for spectators, allotment users and grounds users when the building is shut.

10 Plant & Bin Enclosures

Plant and bin enclosures will be incorporated into the design to ensure they are well considered, sized appropriately and enable easy use and secure storage.

11 Car & Cycle Parking

Improvements to the car parking facilities shall provide clearly marked out spaces and enough spaces so that parking does not spill out onto the road during peak times. Fully accessible parking spaces will be provided in line with government guidelines to promote inclusivity.

Secure cycle parking will be provided to encourage travelling to the site by bicycle to promote activity and wellbeing as well as reduce the number of cars coming to the site and help ease the car parking requirements.



Budget

As a community facility the project needs to be considerate of the budget both during the initial construction as well as the ongoing running costs. The scheme will need to be built as economically as possible whilst still achieving a high quality facility that delivers the aims of the scheme.

Well selected building materials and construction methods will help keep construction costs low and reduce on going costs through low maintenance schedules and hard wearing materials which are not easily damaged. Energy strategies should minimise the ongoing running costs of the facilities.

Landscaping proposals need to be mindful of limited budgets for regular maintenance and possible co-ordination with the local community that may take on some maintenance such as a possible community garden space.

All of this needs to still deliver a bench mark facility which contributes to the local residents and is well used by the community.

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