SWOT Analysis - Elms Park Play Area - Post Installation

Strengths

- 1. Completed early and within budget
- 2. Involvement of Local School Council with designs / ideas workshop
- 3. Contractor Project Manager always available and helpful
- 4. Council Sub-Committee with delegated responsibilities enabled project to progress swiftly
- 5. Opening event involving school, staff and councillors
- 6. Positive comms received from residents via social media
- 7. Inclusive design element of the park
- 8. Feedback from users of completed project
- 9. Increase in numbers using play park
- 10. Community supplied and planted hedging on two sides of the play park to create a wildlife heaven and free of charge (front edge had a new fence to ensure safeguarding for vulnerable users)
- 11. Officers / staff have learnt from this project.
- 12. Staff moral positively affected by delivering the park and working with new equipment
- 13. Modern equipment reduces the likelihood of maintenance issues arising.

Weaknesses

- Feedback from some of the community re the communication re how long the work took
- 2. Accessibility to build site (through gates off Park Street)
- 3. With more available funding there could have been more equipment
- 4. Restrictions of using contract finder can increase administration workload
- 5. Timing re Music in the Park event
- 6. Swings not positioned side by side allowing children / friends / parents to swing and chat

Opportunities

- 1. Involve members of Maintenance Team earlier in the process
- 2. More communication in the play park about the work
- 3. Opportunity to promote positive things council does
- 4. Involve community as early as possible with any project
- 5. Involve community immediately after installation (for several weeks) to help prevent vandalism
- 6. Increased comms, reminders about all the parks (what they offer) in Thame throughout the year.
- 7. CCTV to deter vandalism / antisocial behaviour
- 8. Use lessons learnt for our strategy for future developments
- 9. Save some precept money each year towards refurbishment

Threats

- 1. Reliance on contractor / subcontractor installation expertise
- 2. Snagging timescale and quality (via subcontractor)
- 3. Cost of projects like this are higher than many people (including the Council) expect
- 4. Weather can significantly impact project timescale
- 5. Vandalism
- 6. S106 funding not received council forward funded project
- 7. Lack of funds available for future refurbishment
- 8. Lighting attracts anti-social behaviour, adverse effect on wildlife.

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