

HUTTON CLOSE - HAVE YOUR SAY!

Newbury Town Council owns and maintains the open space at Hutton Close, comprising an area of around 2.6 acres. The land has remained largely an open space for a number of years and used mainly for dog walking. There are 2 small goalposts at the centre which are occasionally used by local young children.

From 2018 to 2021 David Wilson Homes used a section of the open space for a temporary construction compound whilst building the adjoining housing at Hutton Close. Any new facilities will be paid for using funds provided by David Wilson Homes in connection to this and would therefore be no extra burden on the Council Taxpayers in Newbury. The delivery of the project is subject to funding and may therefore have to be phased.

Newbury Town Council are looking at plans to enhance the area, which could include planting a communal herb garden, building a pond or series of small ponds and installing a small goalmouth area for children

We would like your opinion on the use of the open space going forward and how it could be improved. We are inviting local residents to make comments on the provisional plans, which can be found on our website: www.newbury.gov.uk.

If you have any additional ideas or observations on the proposals, please contact the Parks and Open Spaces Supervisor, James Heasman at james.heasman@newbury.gov.uk or write to the Town Hall, Market Place, Newbury, RG14 5AA.

Any comments will need to be received by **9th February** to be included. The project will be discussed at the following Green Spaces Working Group.

Please scan the QR code below or follow this link to take part:

<https://www.newbury.gov.uk/the-council/public-consultations/>



Town Hall, Market Place, Newbury, RG14 5AA

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HUTTON CLOSE PROPOSAL

Option 1 - Small multi use goal mouths for exercise

Two multi use goal mouths to replace the current ones. They would provide '5-a-side' goals which have backstops to stop run off and fixed cricket wickets that can be used for 'quick cricket'. The dimensions of the proposed goalmouths are 5.9m x 1.1m x 0.7m and they will be placed 30m apart.



Option 2 - Seating area with trellises for climbing plants



As there is currently no seating in Hutton Close our plan is create a seating area that looks nice and provides a space for pollinators. Two benches will be placed near trellis a trellis design with good sightlines to the goal mouths so parents can watch their children play. This will also ensure there is good visibility from the park entrance and the local buildings. The trellises will be planted with Summer and Winter Jasmine, Summer and Winter Clematis and Honeysuckle.

Option 3 - Community Herb Garden



This would be a community led project which would encourage locals to look after and use herbs in a raised bed. As there is not an easy access point at the moment from the development into Hutton Close, the raised bed would be built next to the fence behind the orchard so residents can pick the herbs by leaning over. The aim would be to have the following: chives, coriander, dill, mint, oregano, parsley, rosemary, sage, thyme, chamomile and marigolds.

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Option 4 – Insect Hotel

This is a simple and effective way of boosting the biodiversity in the ecosystem. They provide refuge for solitary bees, ladybirds and other bugs which then in turn support pollination and control pests. This would be an amazing resource in an environment so close to the Robin Hood Roundabout. It will also create a learning resource for children in the area who can come and look at the bugs and see if any bees have moved in.



Option 5 - Wildlife Trail



Another benefit to children could be a wildlife trail. This will consist of a series of plinths around the open space near to trees, plants or areas that animals might live, textured metal plaques on them which can be used to make rubbings. If all the rubbings are made and brought to the town council, children can collect a Mayors Bear.

Option 6 - Natural Play Frame

A climbing area made from oak trees around Newbury that required felling after becoming unstable. This would be a great asset to the area by helping children: get exercise, encourage imaginative play, promote social play, connect with nature and provide natural stimuli which are particularly important to children with SEND.



Ponds (Only One)

Option 7 - Above Ground Barrel Pond

A series of covered ponds, located in the shadier areas of Hutton Close. Ponds are an amazing resource in boosting biodiversity in urban areas, supporting two thirds of all freshwater species. They are also used by mammals as watering holes. Plants could include water lilies, hornwort, aquatic mareetail and marsh marigold. Covered ponds are a great way of encouraging wildlife into the area whilst providing a safe educational space for children.



OR

Option 8 - In-Ground Pond with security fence

A small pond which is rainwater fed and has shallow edges to provide habitats for marginal species. There will be a waist high fence surrounding it for safety or a pond cover. It will be a minimum surface area of 4m² and a depth of 20-60cm. These provide good conditions for wildlife to flourish. This would be a good learning resource for families and schools who would be invited to use it as part of learning activities.



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