

MULTI-USE GAMES AREA FOR OVER WALLOP

Over Wallop Parish Council has the opportunity to spend a windfall gained from Section 106 money allocated for recreation by Test Valley Borough Council. Section 106 money is a building developer's legal contribution towards local amenities that is paid to the borough council on completion of work on a site. The money is split between road improvements, recreational use and the development of open spaces and is subsequently made available for projects in the parish concerned. This money is not part of the annual precept.

The Council wishes to use the money to build on the success of the youth sports programme and provide wider sports opportunities for all parishioners. Working closely with the cricket and football club representatives, the council is investigating the possibility of installing a multi-use games area (MUGA) on the Salisbury Lane playing field. A MUGA is similar to a large fenced hard tennis court and, because it has an all weather surface, it would accommodate netball, tennis, basketball, five-a-side football and some other sports throughout the year. This would be especially important for winter training. The attached photograph shows the intended position of the court at the far end of the field.

The Parish Council is in the process of obtaining quotes from potential contractors who could install the facility. Planning permission for the MUGA will be required before any work commences and parishioners will have the right to register comments and objections when the project is submitted for planning approval.

This matter will be an agenda item for the next Parish Council meeting on Monday 8 March, 8.00 p.m. at St Peter's Church Hall. All are welcome to attend and express their support or opposition to the proposed project.

