



ALDRIDGE AND STREETLY LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

20 September 2004

AGENDA
ITEM:

TRANSFORMING YOUR SPACE PROGRAMME

Ward(s): Aldridge and Streetly Local Neighbourhood Partnership boundary area.

Forward Plan: Yes

Portfolio: Councillor A. Andrew

Service Area: Urban Regeneration

Summary of report:

This report outlines Walsall's Transforming Your Space Programme (TYS).

TYS is a "Big Lottery Fund", formerly New Opportunities Fund (NOF), initiative of environmental projects and play and youth schemes across the borough of Walsall. The programme consists of 14 large projects which are all due to be complete by September 2006. YYS has and will continue to work in partnership with the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP), Community Empowerment Network (CEN), and local groups and residents. The programme totals just over £2.7 million in funding, with £1.7 million of this being secured from the Big Lottery Fund.

This report provides details of the YYS schemes due to be implemented in the Aldridge and Streetly LNP area and seeks authority for the proposals to be included in the final local neighbourhood plan.

Background Papers:

Transforming Your Space Programme Cabinet Report – 16th October 2002.
Transforming Your Space Programme Cabinet Report – 08th September 2004.

Recommendations

- To note details of the Transforming Your Space Programme in Walsall.
- To endorse the proposals detailed for the Aldridge and Streetly LNP and include these in the final local neighbourhood plan.

Resource and Legal Considerations

Transforming Your Space is a Big Lottery Fund grant of £1,748,294. With match funding, the programme totals approximately £2.7 million.

There are no known legal considerations, other than the sealing of individual contracts exceeding £100,000.

Citizen Impact

The TYS programme will have a borough wide impact and will benefit a broad range of Walsall's population. In particular, young people will directly benefit through access to improved play and recreational facilities.

Environment Impact

The programme includes environmental improvement projects and improvements to play and youth facilities, therefore there will be a positive impact on the environment.

Performance Management and Risk Management Issues

The TYS programme contributes to the Environmental Regeneration Service objective to "developing and delivering a range of environmental regeneration initiatives which improve the quality of life for people in the borough."

Risk Management Issues:

Risk

Failure to obtain LNP approval for the inclusion of TYS schemes in their final local neighbourhood plan: This risk is considered to be low given the extent to which local people and existing partners have been involved in the development process for the TYS programme.

Equality Implications

The TYS programme will have a borough wide impact, ensuring that every part of Walsall sees some form of activity.

The processes used to identify the TYS projects have been scrutinised by the borough's CEN.

Consultation

To date the programme has been developed in consultation with local communities, the

LSP (in particular the Housing and Environment Theme Group), the borough CEN, Friend of Parks groups and all the former District Committees. These and other groups will continue to play an important part in the programme.

Vision 2008

The programme will contribute to the following Council Priorities, identified in Vision 2008:

- Ensure a clean & green borough
- Ensure all people are safe & secure
- Make Walsall a healthy and caring place
- Encourage everyone to feel proud of Walsall
- Make it easier to access local services
- Listen to what people want

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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Aldridge and Streetly LNP about the Transforming Your Space (TYS) programme in Walsall.
- 1.2 To provide details of the YYS schemes due to be implemented in the Aldridge and Streetly LNP area.
- 1.3 To seek the Aldridge and Streetly LNPs approval for the YYS schemes to be included within their final local neighbourhood plan.

2. THE TRANSFORMING YOUR SPACE PROGRAMME

- 2.1 The Big Lottery Fund, formerly The New Opportunities Fund (NOF), allocated £1.7 million to Walsall Council under its Fair Share Initiative in October 2002. The Fair Share Initiative was launched in recognition that not all parts of the Country were receiving their “fair share” of lottery funding. The allocation was made following the successful submission of an umbrella scheme for Walsall that would target not only the 11 priority areas identified by the Walsall Borough Strategic partnership (WBSP) (strand 1 – environmental improvement projects in WBSP “priority neighbourhoods”) but also the whole borough (strand 2 – borough wide play and youth schemes). This was stage 1 of the application process.
- 2.2 Stage 2 of the application process involved the submission of a portfolio of projects to NOF by 31st August 2003. Part of the criteria for the submission included the endorsement of the portfolio by the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) prior to 31st August. This deadline was met by working in partnership with the LSP, Community Empowerment Network (CEN) and local community organisations. The LSP endorsed the portfolio at their meeting on 18th August 2003. Prior to this, the projects were appraised by the LSP’s Housing and Environment Theme Group, and the processes used were scrutinised by the CEN to ensure that all projects had been inclusive and developed in partnership with the local community (a condition set by NOF). All the former District Committees endorsed the strand 2 package in April 2003.
- 2.3 The portfolio of projects, approved by the Big Lottery Fund in November 2003, includes 14 large projects ranging from environmental improvement proposals to improved play and youth facilities across all six of the former District Committee areas.
- 2.4 Progress to date
 - 2.4.1 Of the 14 projects, 2 pilot projects, Caldmore Junior School Multi-Sports Provision (strand 1) and the Walsall District and Town Centre Project (a package of 7 sites: Arboretum, Beechdale Park, Pleck Park, Palfrey Park, Reedswood Park, Silverdale Park and WS2 Skate Park) (strand 2) have been developed and are anticipated to be on site during autumn 2004. The remaining 12 projects will then be developed and implemented in accordance with the timetable approved by the Big Lottery Fund, with all projects being complete by September 2006 (a grant condition).

3. THE VISION

3.1 TYS contributes to Walsall's Vision for 2008, relating to 6 of the 10 identified priorities:

- Ensure a clean and green borough – the implementation of the planned projects will encourage people to take pride in their open spaces, parks, and general environment. The TYS process has and will continue to increase community participation in Walsall's parks.
- Ensure all people are safe & secure – the improvement of key sites will help increase safety and thus encourage more people to use the facilities. It is also hoped that the new/improved facilities for young people, such as multi use games areas, will provide diversionary activities for this vulnerable age group.
- Make Walsall a healthy and caring place – better recreational facilities will encourage people to use these more often, promoting interaction and well-being. Enhanced facilities will also encourage the young to participate in energetic activities, helping reduce obesity in the borough.
- Encourage everyone to feel proud of Walsall – the £2.7 million investment will help improve Walsall's image.
- Make it easier to access local services – the planned improvements will make it easier for people to access their local green/open spaces, parks and play areas. One of the key issues each project will look at is access; every effort will be made to ensure that as many sections of the community can use the improved facilities.
- Listen to what local people want – TYS is a community led programme, which will continue to involve and listen to local people. The CEN has also been involved in scrutinising the processes used for community engagement.

4. TYS LAUNCH

4.1 To celebrate and publicise the award, inform people about the forthcoming projects, and highlight the importance of the programme for Walsall and its community; the TYS programme was 'launched' in the Town Hall on Friday 16th July 2004. The event was hosted by Chief Executive Annie Shepperd and was attended by Bruce George MP, Richard Shepherd MP, Ward Councillors, community representatives, Council Officers and representatives from the Big Lottery Fund.

5. TYS WEBSITE

5.1 A website for TYS has been developed and was launched on 16th July. The website will not only inform people about the programme but will also act as a major consultation tool, enabling project specific comments to be made directly via email. Subsequently, the website has been commended by the Big Lottery Fund as an example of good practice. The address for the site is www.walsall.gov.uk/tys/. Details of all the projects can be found on the site, including project description, sketch schemes and site photos. The website will become a living record of the Programme.

6. TYS SCHEMES IN THE ALDRIDGE AND STREETLY LNP AREA

6.1 The approved TYS proposals for the Aldridge and Streetly LNP are:

Walsall Airport
Anchor Meadow
Blackwood Park
Goodwood Drive Open Space
Redhouse Play Area

These schemes form part of the Aldridge South District project which covers the old district committee boundary. The sketch schemes for these proposals are contained in appendix 1.

6.2 Schemes

6.2.1 Walsall Airport

New equipment and safety surfacing around the equipment will be installed at this site to meet the needs of young people around the area.

6.2.2 Anchor Meadow

A youth shelter will be installed adjacent to the existing multisports pitch and the pitch will be marked out. The proposals were identified through consultation with the Manor House youth club, using methods such as graffiti boards and questionnaires.

6.2.3 Blackwood Park Youth Improvements

The scheme aims to refurbish and improve the existing football facility through improvements to the existing grass surface, the provision of new line markings, installation of a 'dug out' area and improvements to the existing fence surrounding the facility.

6.2.4 Blackwood Park Play Improvements

The scheme aims to replace the worn out multi-unit and bark surfacing on the play area. This will bring the facility back to a high standard and improve opportunities for inclusive play.

6.2.5 Goodwood Drive Open Space

The scheme will see the existing play area at Goodwood Drive improved to benefit local children and young people. The proposals include replacing the existing play facilities with new items of play equipment, safety surfacing and the addition of painted shapes and games on the existing tarmac surface.

6.2.6 Redhouse Play Area

The scheme will see the existing play area at Redhouse Park improved to benefit children and young people. Improvements planned for this site will include the provision of new and additional play equipment and safety surfacing. This will enhance the existing play area and complement the overall play provision.

6.3 The schemes detailed in 6.2 were identified as a result of feedback from parents and young people and along with other schemes and projects within strand 2 by a working group of Officers. The criteria used included:

- Existing provision
- Representation/deputations received from residents
- Officer knowledge of sites
- An equal split of TYS funding across the old district committees

6.4 The schemes detailed in 6.2 are anticipated to be on site in December 2005. Preceding this, there will be a detailed consultation/engagement stage which will ensure that the final designs still meet the requirements of the community. Various methods will be utilised including: displays in libraries and other community facilities, friends groups, open/fun days in parks, on-site consultation and the TYS website. LNP members will be informed of consultation events taking place during the detailed design stage for the project and invited to take part.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

7.1 Risk 1 - Failure to obtain LNP approval for the inclusion of TYS schemes in the final local neighbourhood plan: This risk is considered to be low given the extent to which local people and existing partners have been involved in the development process for the TYS programme.

8. SUMMARY

8.1 TYS represents large scale environmental regeneration for Walsall borough and will contribute to improving people's quality of life.

In summary, Aldridge and Streetly LNP is asked to:-

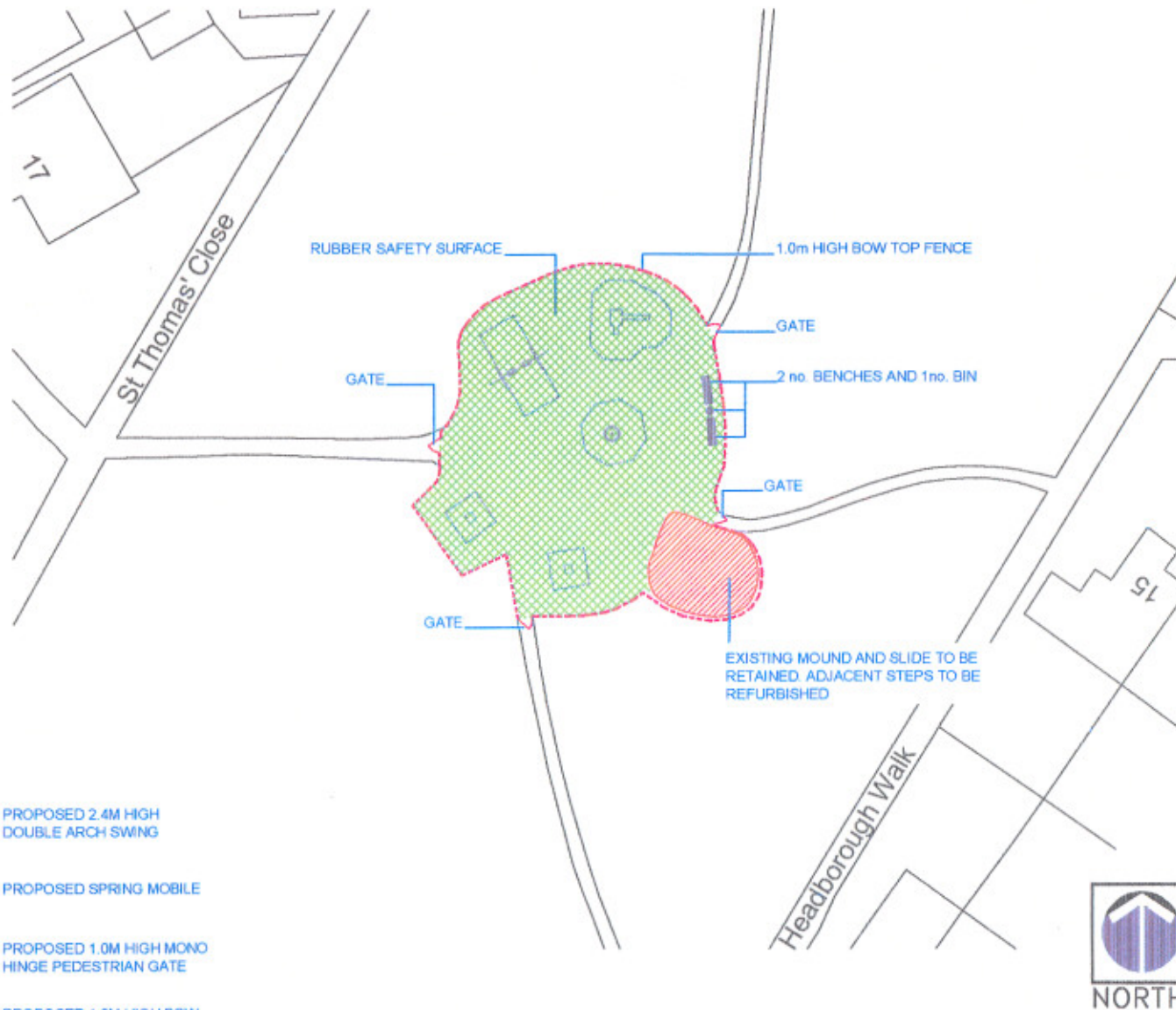
- Note details about the TYS Programme.
- Endorse and include the TYS proposals within the final local neighbourhood plan.

Appendix 1

TYS Sketch Schemes

TRANSFORMING YOUR SPACE GREENWOOD ROAD, ALDRIDGE

LOCATION PLAN



KEY



PROPOSED SINGLE TOWER UNIT WITH SLIDE



PROPOSED 2.4M HIGH DOUBLE ARCH SWING



PROPOSED DISH ROUNDABOUT



PROPOSED SPRING MOBILE



PROPOSED RUBBER SAFETY SURFACE



PROPOSED 1.0M HIGH MONO HINGE PEDESTRIAN GATE



PROPOSED BENCH



PROPOSED 1.0M HIGH BOW TOP FENCE



PROPOSED LITTER BIN

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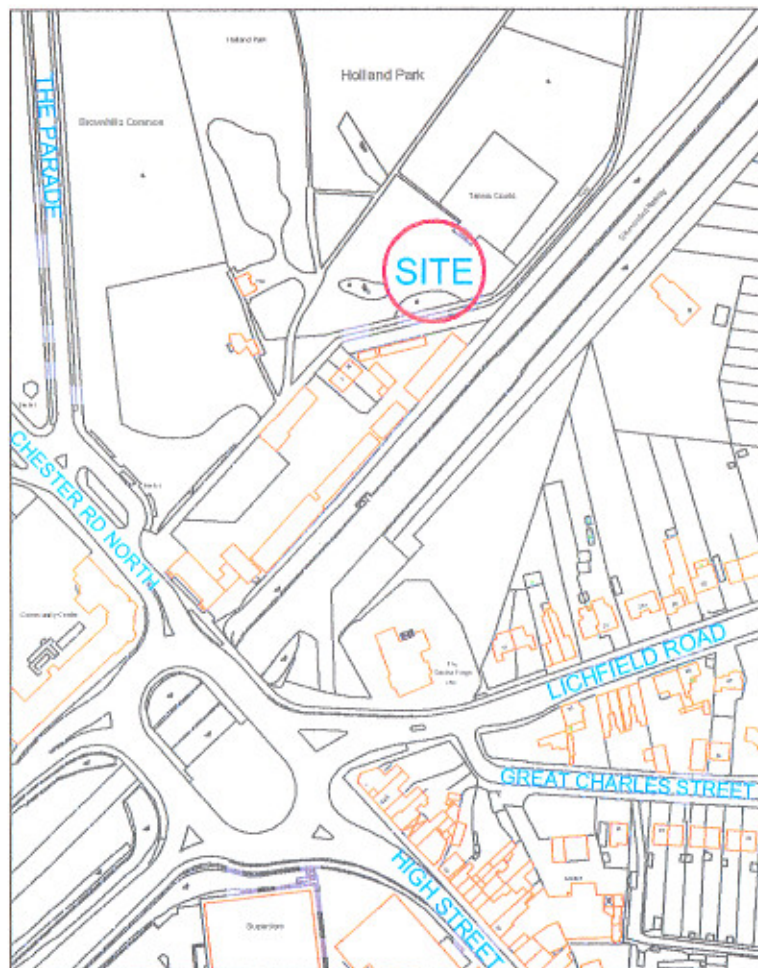


WALSALL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
Civic Centre, Darvall Street,
Walsall WS1 100

job	GREENWOOD ROAD, ALDRIDGE	
title	PROPOSED TYS SCHEME	
drawn	JAW	Drawing No.
checked		
date	APR 2004	ETP 41030
scale	NOT TO SCALE	

TRANSFORMING YOUR SPACE HOLLAND PARK, BROWNHILLS

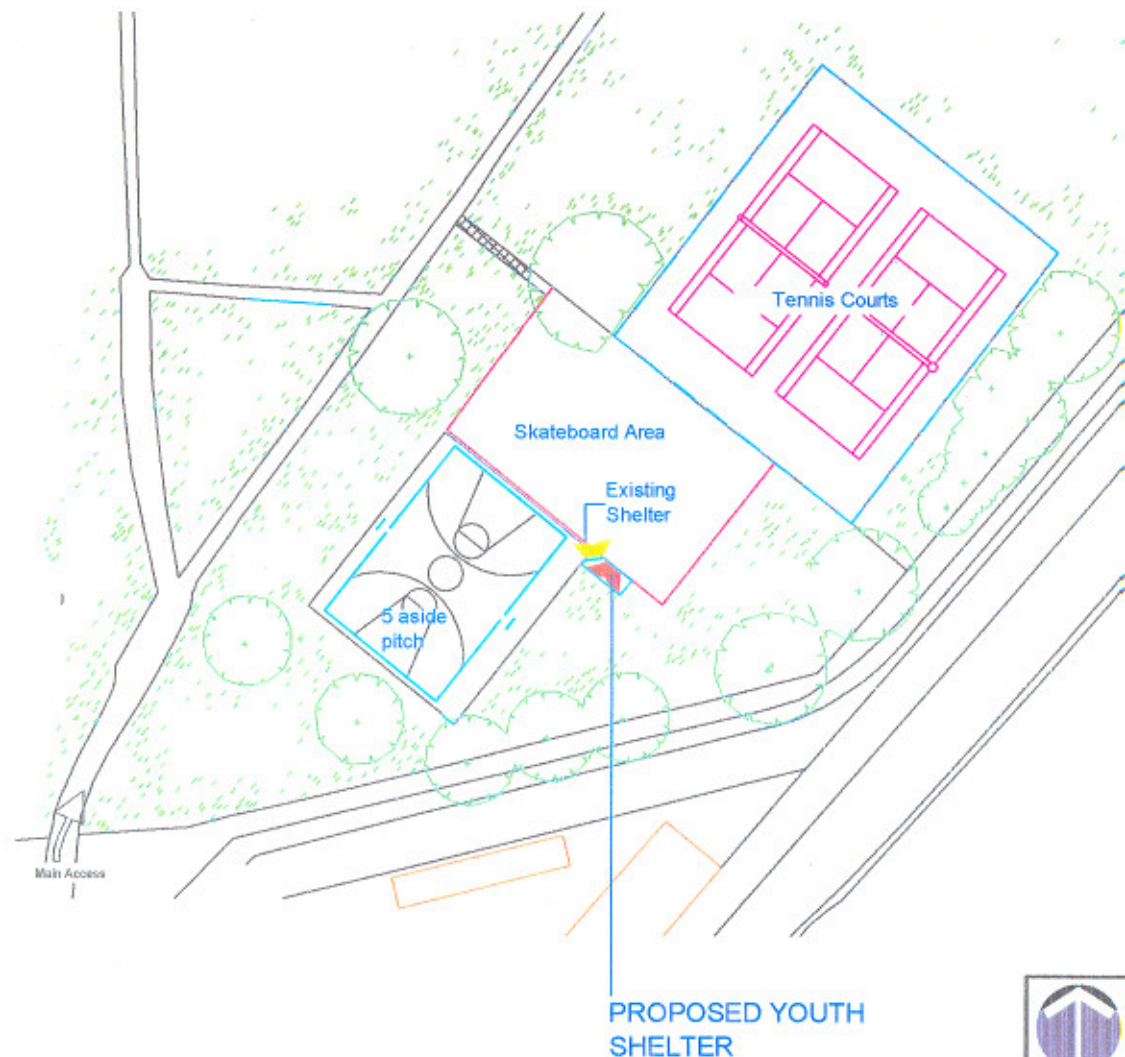
LOCATION PLAN



KEY

-  Proposed Youth Shelter
-  Existing Mown Grass
-  Existing Trees
-  Existing Fences

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PROPOSED YOUTH
SHELTER



ENVIRONMENTAL REGENERATION UNIT

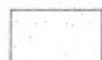
 WALSALL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL ONE CENTRE, DUNWALL STREET, WALSALL WS1 1DG	job HOLLAND PARK, BROWNHILLS title PROPOSED TYS SCHEME
	drawn JAW checked APR 2004 scale NOT TO SCALE Drawing No ETP 41051

TRANSFORMING YOUR SPACE OAK PARK, WALSALL WOOD

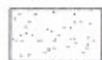
LOCATION PLAN



KEY



PROPOSED AREA OF TARMAC PAVING

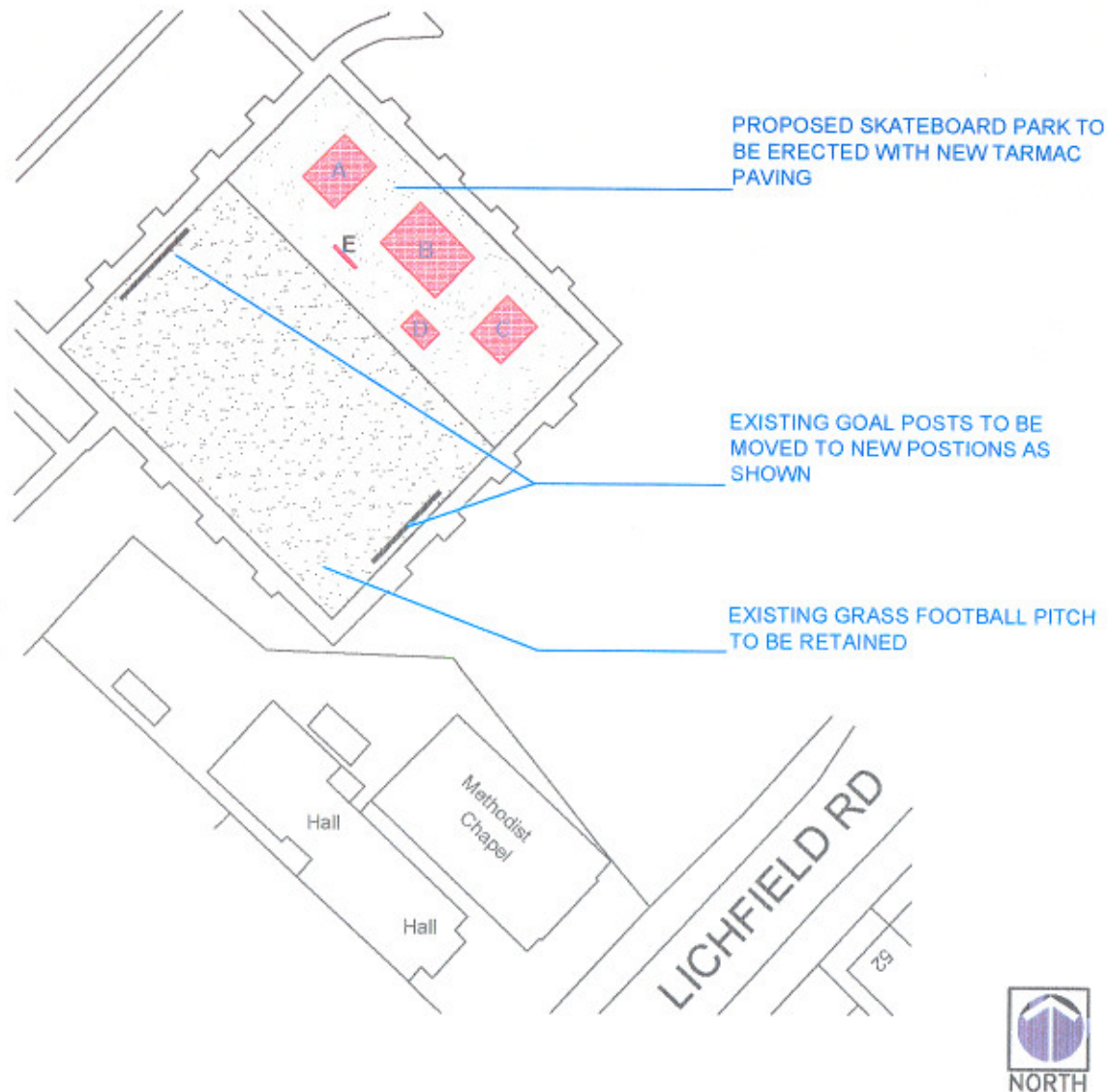


EXISTING AREA OF GRASS TO BE RETAINED
AND RE-SEED WHERE NECESSARY



PROPOSED SKATEBOARD PARK EQUIPMENT

- A FLATBANK
- B HALF DRIVEWAY WITH GRIND AND PYRAMID
- C FLATBANK AND QUARTERPIPE
- D STEPPED GRINGBOX
- E GRINDRAIL



ENVIRONMENTAL REGENERATION UNIT



WALSALL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
CMC CENTRE, CHURCH STREET,
WALSALL WS1 1DG

job OAK PARK,
WALSALL WOOD

title PROPOSED TYS SCHEME

drawn JAW	Drawing No.
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TRANSFORMING YOUR SPACE ANDREWS ROAD PLAY AREA, WALSALL WOOD

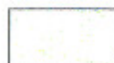
LOCATION PLAN



KEY



PROPOSED SPRING MOBILE WITHIN
RUBBER SAFETY SURFACING



EXISTING MOWN GRASS



PROPOSED OVERHEAD ROTATOR
WITHIN RUBBER SAFETY SURFACING



EXISTING PLAY AREA; EXISTING PLAY
EQUIPMENT TO BE RETAINED



ENVIRONMENTAL REGENERATION UNIT



WALSALL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
Civic Centre, Darvall Street,
Walsall WS1 100

Job:
ANDREWS ROAD, WALSALL WOOD

Title:
PROPOSED TYS SCHEME

Drawn: JAW

Drawing No.

checked:

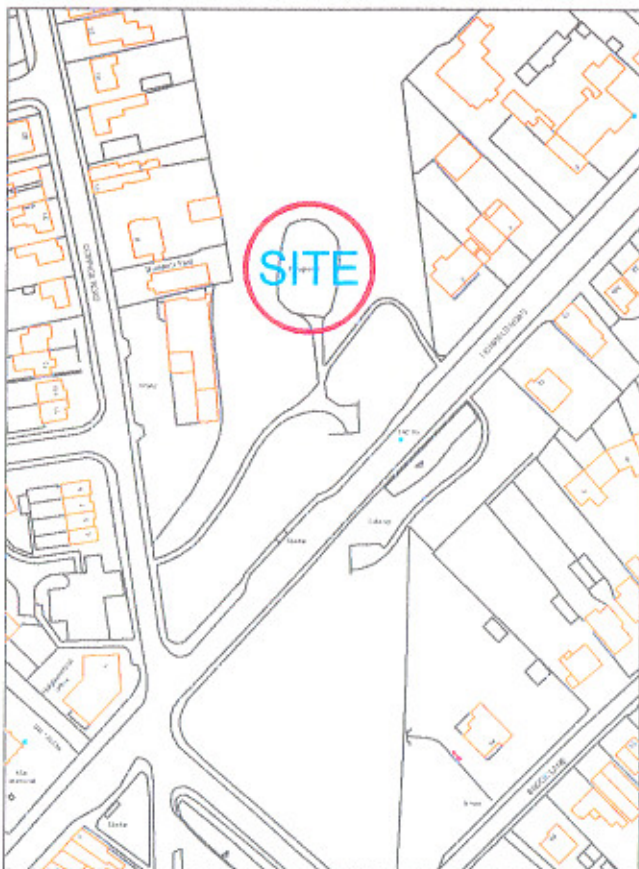
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ETP 41046

TRANSFORMING YOUR SPACE
**COPPICE ROAD PLAY AREA,
 WALSALL WOOD**

LOCATION PLAN



KEY



PROPOSED SPRING MOBILE WITHIN RUBBER SAFETY SURFACING



PROPOSED DISH ROUNDABOUT WITHIN RUBBER SAFETY SURFACING



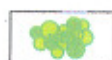
PROPOSED CRAZY SPRINGBOARD WITHIN RUBBER SAFETY SURFACING



EXISTING MOWN GRASS



EXISTING PLAY AREA ; EXISTING PLAY EQUIPMENT TO BE RETAINED



EXISTING TREES AND SHRUBS



PROPOSED PLAY EQUIPMENT TO BE ERECTED WITHIN EXISTING PLAY AREA, WITHIN ASSOCIATED RUBBER SAFETY SURFACING



ENVIRONMENTAL REGENERATION UNIT



WALSALL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
 CIVIC CENTRE, DARWALL STREET,
 WALSALL, WS1 1DG

job **COPPICE ROAD
 PLAY AREA**

title **PROPOSED TYS SCHEME**

drawn JAW

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date APR 2004

scale NOT TO SCALE

Drawing No.

ETP41045