



Report by Frances Taylor
Play and Physical Activity Officer
Boston Borough Council
March 2018

Theme 2 Creating a more attractive environment

Priority 3:1 Improve local amenities and open spaces in Boston Big Local Area

Activity - Continue to improve and increase play opportunities

2:3:1

£19,000

Areas of work:

Woodville Road Play Area and Central Park

Woodville Road Play Area – Lay new surface under swings to allow safe play for the community

This work was undertaken in October 2017 and paid in October 2017 - £2872

Leaving a balance of £16,128

Central Park Play Area – Provide an inclusive swing and four flat seats to enhance play for disabled children in a wheelchair and allow them to swing beside their siblings.

The first bay of the swing area allows, with the use of a radar key the base to be unlocked, dropped down and the wheelchair to be pushed onto the swing base and locked into position. This can be used by children and adult, bringing a whole new opportunity for the community of Boston.

Alongside this swing will be 4 flat bed swings.

Local Hope – A local group of caring residents came together to help fund the project and have pledged an additional £12,000.

This along with the remaining funding from Boston Big Local will now provide the swing area and also an inclusive roundabout and connecting footpaths to allow central park to become a play area inclusive to all.

After consultation and several visits to the play site by various play providers the contractor for the specialised swing equipment will be G L Jones and the contractor for the Inclusive Roundabout will be Kompan.

Cost of this project is £28,659

Funding from Local Hope towards Swings £12,000

Funding from Boston Big Local towards swings and roundabout £16,128

Funding from BTAC £531



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Work beginning in Central Park

Old swings not in use due to being unsafe



These swings were removed ready for new installation.

Work in progress

Site being prepared



New safety surfacing laid over complete area



Laying the access path to the swings for easy access for wheelchairs



New 4 bed swings no in place alongside the wheelchair swing



Opening of the new swings in Central Park



On Thursday 3rd May Little Miracles – a group newly formed in Boston for families with children that have disabilities and John Fielding School were invited to come along to the opening of this amazing piece of equipment.

A demonstration was given by Fran Taylor as to how the wheelchair can be safely secured onto the swing base

Josh enjoying the first swing on this amazing piece of equipment

Funders from Local Hope and Boston Big Local attended the opening and were really pleased with the result.





Staff and children from both groups were thrilled to have this equipment in Central Park and were overwhelmed to see children experience their first swing ever!!!

The Children's faces said it all, smiles and laughter, arms up in the air.

What an amazing project to work on and what an amazing result!

Next, came the wheelchair friendly roundabout, slide and goal posts.

Connecting path to roundabout area to allow easy access for wheelchairs



New surfacing to incorporate the roundabout





Completed project – Central Park Play Area is now complete with wheelchair friendly play equipment.

Users of this equipment said:

“I can’t believe a little town like Boston has supplied such fantastic equipment for families such as mine that have children that are wheelchair bound. I am absolutely amazed, it is brilliant. It means I can now come into the park and instead of my child just watching she can play as other children play”.

“This is great I can put my child on the wheelchair swing and his brother and sister can all swing together”.

Staff from John Fielding Special School said “These pieces of play equipment will really encourage us to bring the children more often to the park”

Another fantastic project to have been involved with and another great result!

Additional equipment added in Central Park

This slide was a result of consultation with the community.

Children said they were able to swing, climb, rock and spin but not slide so this has given them that additional play experience.



The goals were another request from the community.

Children love to play football on an open space and often use their jumpers for goals!

As soon as the goals were in place children came to use the area and already the goals have had to be moved because of the amount of usage!

Two sets of sockets have been set into the grass area to enable the goals to be moved position to prevent wear in the same place on the grassed area.

They are also lockable post so they can be moved when an event is taking place in Central Park.



COST

Equipment	Cost	BBL Funding	Other grant funding
Surfacing under swings on Woodville Rd Play Area	£2872	£2872	-
Swing area in Central Park	£20,840	£8840	£12,000 Local Hope
Roundabout, Slide and Goal Posts in Central Park	£17,728	£7288	£10,440 BTAC
Total	£41,440	£19,000	£22,440

I am sure it will be agreed that these additions are all great for the community and give added play value to our lovely park areas.

Once again I would like to thank Boston Big Local for the grant that was awarded to enable these improvements in our green spaces and play areas.

These works complete this project.

Frances Taylor

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2018