

Members of the Council. Good evening.

My name is Graham Thomas-Widger, and I'm here in capacity as Chair of the Broadmoor Lane Residents Association, Weston.

I am also here as a parent and here on behalf of hundreds of other like-minded parents grandparents and children who use a treasured open space and children's playground in our community.

We have a question.

Will you help us secure the future of our open space and playground?

This is not a request for funds. This is a request for you to work in partnership with us.

We believe it is also an opportunity to develop a strategy and preserve the Council's reputation at a time of cuts.

The Orchard Broadmoor Lane is an extremely popular community and social hub for both local families and WASPS school. Quite rightly you have designated it a Local Green Space and Recreation Area.

Given that status why are we here?

Because its future is uncertain and our play park faces imminent closure.

Why? Because of a planning blunder.

Created 17 years ago as a condition of planning, the Council omitted to stipulate who would be legally responsible for the land when the site's developers' obligations lapsed in 2012.

For over 5 years, residents and the developers have tried to get some clarity from the Council.

Will they honour the spirit of the agreement and adopt the open space? That question has remained unanswered.

Now time and patience have run out. Now our dilapidated playground faces imminent closure on Health and Safety Grounds

So we have taken the initiative. Formed an action group. Offered to raise funds.

Earlier this week we met with the Head of parks and volunteered solutions. At this very moment, a letter with some firm proposals is on his desk for consideration

So please. We need an answer. We want an answer.

I repeat.

Will you help us secure the future of our Open Space and childrens playground ?

Thank you.