



**Tadley Town Council**  
**2 Franklin Avenue**  
**TADLEY**  
**Hampshire**  
**RG26 4ET**

**Tel:** 0118 9813360  
**Email:** [clerk@tadleytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@tadleytowncouncil.gov.uk)  
**Website:** [www.tadleytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.tadleytowncouncil.gov.uk)

5 January 2022

## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESOLUTION TO BORROW**

At the Full Council meeting on 4 January 2022, it was resolved to seek the approval from the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities to apply for a public works loan of £30000 over the borrowing term of 5 years towards construction of the new skatepark. The annual loan payments will come to around £6240. It is not intended to increase the council tax precept for the purpose of the loan repayments.

<https://www.tadleytowncouncil.gov.uk/UserFiles/Files/Minutes/136969-040122FC.pdf>

If you have any views or opinions on this please let us know.

### **Report to Full Council – Public Works Loan**

At the Recreation & Leisure Committee meeting on 6 December 2021, 6 quotations were received for the construction of a new skatepark. The old one has been deemed as almost at end of life and a medium risk by the Play Area Inspector. He has recommended replacement by end of the first quarter 2022. It was recommended by the Recreation & Leisure Committee to accept the quotation of £149,525 from Canvas Spaces.

<https://www.tadleytowncouncil.gov.uk/UserFiles/Files/Minutes/135379-061221RL.pdf>

The existing skatepark is extremely well used by local people, not just residents of Tadley but the nearby villages of Baughurst, Pamber, Silchester and Aldermaston. The other nearest skate parks in the vicinity are Thatcham (no public transport available) and Basingstoke. The facility is greatly appreciated by our community. Young people from a wide age range benefit from the skate park. The younger children use the ramps with their scooters and the older children use their skateboards and BMX bikes. The skate park is located on Tadley Common a well-used community asset, where we also have a zip line, a trim trail, outside exercise equipment and a multi-use games area. The replacement of the skatepark will enable our young people to continue skateboarding which is a great way of exercising outside and also encourages sharing and socialising with each other. We have CCTV at our existing park and lighting which is permitted to be on until 22.00. The CCTV and the lighting make the park a safer place to be and maximises its use. The well-being of our young people is something we passionately care about and we constantly strive to provide them with decent facilities wherever we can.

Grant funding has been applied for from The National Lottery Community Fund, SERCO and Veolia. The Turbary Charity has pledged to meet any shortfall in funding and a grant of £1000 has already been received from County Cllr Mellor.

The Town Council wants to contribute £50000 towards the project and can find £20000 from its reserves. It is therefore proposed to apply for a Public Works Loan of £30000 repayable over a period of 5 years. Using interest rates on the UK Debt Management Office website, as at 20/12/21, this would equate to total borrowing of £31,201, repayable at £6240 per year. The 2022/23 budget includes a line item for this, meaning there will be no increase in the precept.

If Tadley Town Council were in a position where they are looking likely to default on the loan, they would take mitigation action in the form of readjusting their budget to cut back on other expenditure or if this was impossible, they would increase their precept.

Consultation on the project will take place via the process as outlined in the Canvas Spaces quotation and also through the Town Council newsletter, Facebook page and website and press releases.