



Public Open Space FAQs

Following a number of queries from residents regarding the Public Open Space and in particular queries surrounding the layout of the basketball court, please see below for a number of questions we have passed to Crest Nicholson and have received answers on.

1. Has planning been granted for the ball court and its location?

Yes, planning was granted in January 2018 for the whole of the POS area following a consultation process. Details can be found under planning ref S.17/2143/REM on the Stroud District Council planning website. The ball court area comprises single basketball hoop set within a hardstanding area of approx. 14m x 12m

2. Will there be any flood lights around the court?

No lighting is proposed within the POS

3. Residents have expressed concerns over balls leaving the court and damaging property as well as children running into the road to retrieve their ball with this being a health and safety issue. There is also a concern over noise from the bouncing of the ball. Is there an option to change the court layout slightly so that the net is at the furthest end away from the road and homes?

The ballcourt will be 25m away from the nearest road and approximately 35m from the nearest property (in accordance with planning guidelines). A timber knee rail is proposed adjacent to the road to prevent people from running on to it.

Crest are reviewing the potential to change the location of the hoop to the opposite end of the court area to be further from the road and properties.

(Please be advised that the Parish Council at the time of writing this document had not received confirmation on whether the hoop can be moved from its original planned location at the residential end of the court)



4. How far from the nearest property is the basketball court? The plans appear to show this at the edge of the Public Open Space and therefore very close to properties?

Standard guidance requires a minimum 30m buffer zone between play areas and the nearest residential property. As noted above, the ball court will be approximately 35m away from the closest property.

5. Will the court just be for recreational use? Are there any plans for it to be used for matches or in conjunction with sporting events held at the community centre?

The ballcourt is for informal recreation use only. It does not meet the requirements for a formal basketball court.

6. There is mention of sitting hills on the plans. Do you have information on sizing with regards to height and shape?

The 'sitting hills' refer to informal 'natural' mounds surrounding the NEAP play area. They help to define and enclose the play area, provide separation to the adjoining properties and act as informal features to play on and sit.

The mounds vary in shape and size. Typically, they are 0-3m high and 10-30m in diameter.

7. In some documentation received by residents historically there is a tree line shown around the Public Open Space, will this still be the case?

The play area will be surrounded by scattered trees. These are not intended to act as a barrier but will provide some visual screening. Tree/shrub planting is not proposed along the edges of the POS area. A network of paths will be created across the POS area (see visual), and these will be linked to pavements in the residential areas to create more formal access points.

8. Are there any plans to prevent vehicles being driven onto the Public Open Space such as fencing, ditches or large logs?

Vehicles are not expected to enter the POS except for maintenance purposes. Timber knee rails are proposed along adjoining access roads near to the proposed play areas. Ditches are proposed in some locations but for drainage purposes only.



9. What plans are there for parking for anyone visiting Hunts Grove. Residential streets are narrow for anyone who doesn't already reside in the development?

There is no additional parking proposed as part of the POS proposals. This is in line with usual planning policy to encourage a walking community.

10. What is the timetable for creation/completion of the POS?

Work is beginning to start on the POS. It is a large area and is likely to take between 12 and 18 months to complete because of the planting schedule. Crest will be keeping the Parish Council updated on progress.