

Agenda Item No 6
Full Council
28 September 2022

Under and in compliance with Standing Order No 7 (2) the following Question has been received and will be considered as urgent business under paragraph 4(5) of Schedule 12 to the Local Government Act 1972

Received from Mr Mike Jewkes

“Around 6 months ago I came and spoke here about the decision and impact of the closure of the Atherstone public toilets on the local disabled community since then I have also found other issues relating to disabled people where we have been promised resolution, or mitigations have been extremely poor, lacked consultation or dismissed what was promised at consultation. I, therefore, feel it would be extremely useful for you and the disabled community if you follow through with your promise of examining and possibly testing a disability forum so that should issue that directly impact disabled people need mitigation due to accessibility or any other disability issues, we can advise on the best route based on experience and would help thus in creating a middle ground with our local authority. In Polesworth the things promised were a disabled accessible roundabout, swing, and a NEW park basically, and whilst yes it looks reasonable the promises by far exceeded what was installed. I received an email from an upset parent on the subject of this week

To Mike

Thank you for reaching out about the parks in the village.

I have a five-year-old autistic stepson and we can never really bring him down to any of the parks as there is nothing for him there. There is one swing we can put him in, but it's always taken up with toddlers (nothing wrong with that) he is very unsteady on his feet so has to be supervised all the time. It's not big enough so it's so busy. Also, the older children vandalize it as it's so close to the skate park and he has sensory issues with loud music, and people who let their dogs off the lead all the bloody time scare the hell out of him.

I know that you can't do things for just one child but when planning these things it should include all children!

We take him to Leicester as the parks over there seem to do just that including all children but it should be we shouldn't have to put him in the car to take him to the park.

Instead of the ridiculous waste of money on pink whatever it is. Maybe a little sensory garden that can be a little bit of quiet for the kids that are not just autistic but feel like they need a little bit of quiet and calm?

Please tell the powers that be from me that they are wasting so much money in this time of need for free things for all children to do in their villages! And they should take a leaf out of Coalville Park.

Thank you for listening.

(don't alter)

Now I am pleading for you to please instigate the preparations for a disability forum as nothing has been heard of this in the last 6 months when it was promised, with our assistance there could be much less of an issue with all of the above after all since we are the best people to advise on the issues we face in everyday life it surely would be logical to have our input to mitigate issues that we as disabled people face every day. Without listening to our concerns there is no guarantee that the attempts you may try to make will be effective or even that any attempts will be made.

Thank you all for listening, and I hope we can all work together to improve our constituency”.