



# CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

**Darlington Borough Council is considering what could be done to improve the children's play area in Sadberge. Sadberge Parish Council would like your help to gather relevant data and opinions.**

Following complaints about the state of the children's play area off Abbey Road, Ward Councillor Brian Jones has met senior officers in Darlington Borough Council to explore about what could be done about it.

The main problems with the play area are that the ground frequently gets waterlogged and the play equipment is in poor condition.

The Borough Council has identified the following options:-

- Improve the existing play area by providing better drainage and new play equipment.
- Set up a new play area in a more central location in the village; e.g. Town Farm Field or Hampass.

The Borough Council has also indicated that it currently has no money to relocate and renovate the play area, but that one way of raising the necessary funds would be to sell the existing play area site for development. As the site is outside the Sadberge limits to development, there would need to be an identified need for affordable housing in Sadberge and at least half of the new dwellings built on the site would need to be classed as affordable.

Sadberge Parish Council would like to gather (a) data on how many children there are in Sadberge, (b) residents' views on the best location for the play area, and (c) residents' views on whether affordable housing development should be allowed on the existing play area site. To assist with this, please fill in and return the questionnaire.

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## **STOP PRESS – Message from the Clerk to the Parish Council**

Since the Parish Council approved the text of this flyer, I have received notification of an application for planning permission to build 25 houses on land between the children's play area and Stockton Road.

If this development goes ahead, it may provide "section 106" funding to improve the children's play area.

Further information about the proposed development can be accessed via the Sadberge web site ([www.sadberge.org.uk](http://www.sadberge.org.uk)).

Both the future of the children's play area (including the results from the enclosed questionnaire) and the proposed development between the play area and Stockton Road will be on the agenda for the Sadberge Parish Council meeting in the village hall at 7 p.m. on Tuesday 11-Dec-2018.

