



Hornsea Replacement Skate Park 2018 Project Close Out Report

Summary

- This project is the positive completion of another successful Hornsea Town Council community initiative which was finished on budget, on time and ready for the 2018 summer holidays.
- In this case most of the finances have been provided by external organisations and at minimal cost to Hornsea rate payers.
- The facility popularity is demonstrated by the large number of young people (from toddlers upwards) who are enjoying the skate park, both as active users and spectators.
- Regular visits by Councillors confirm that the adjacent playground for small children continues to be exceptionally well used and skate park noise levels have been significantly reduced.
- “Soft” benefits arising from the skate park project include the Hornsea Youth Club and a Youth Worker outreach programme to support young people of the Town.

General

A scheme to start the first skate park began 18 years ago; being so popular it wore out and this current project was to build a replacement that has now been completed. This facility is a huge success, being very well used by the young people of our area and being of a concrete construction it is exceptionally quiet when compared to the old facility. Like all major developments of this type there have been many problems to overcome.

Work on this “youth driven” project started almost 3 years ago in 2015. The first task, as requested by the Town Council who were responding to requests by the public, was to complete a soil survey of Hall Garth Park and find a possible alternative location for the replacement. With this information it was possible to identify the development price of both sites, provide a cost / benefit analysis and then to gauge the opinion of both the user group and also the older generation of residents. This was accomplished in several ways, for example:

- The children from the user Group gave a presentation to the Town Council.
- We collected a lot of written applications during many weeks of consultation, mostly giving support and endorsing the project definition.

Development of the existing site proved to be the most popular option with both our residents and users because the alternative location had a number of serious issues, such as:

- It was on a high and prominent position and would have prevented some of the established activities from continuing in Hall Garth Park.
- The position would have spoilt one of the best sylvan & pasture views in central Hornsea.
- The additional cost was prohibitive, with little possibility of obtaining the extra funding.

Following the successful opening ceremony the public response has been exceptionally positive, examples are:

- Members of the public expressing satisfaction that the new skate park is encouraging additional visitors who will bring trade to the Town

- Hornsea Youth Club members spontaneously suggested and then adopted a project designed to stimulate ownership with the intention to avoid causing litter.
- Outreach work in 2018, supported by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council, has encouraged young people to litter pick.
- Following on from the above the Hornsea Town Council, in partnership with the East Riding of Yorkshire Council are developing a Youth Worker Outreach project to support the young people of our town.

Contractor Issues

There are a relatively few manufacturers of skate parks in the UK who could fulfil our requirements which included:

- Quiet operation with minimal noise generated by the wheeled devices using the ramps.
- Appreciation of the Contractor capability by the Users and skating professionals.
- Design flair.
- Ability to deliver on time and within our budget.

We had a limited number of contractors replying to our invitation to quote and one, who fitted all our criteria, was chosen. The procedure for confirming the delivery of promised capital took longer than predicted and by the time we had access to the funds, our chosen contractor was no longer available. Fortunately some of the staff members (familiar with our project) were able to support a start-up company. Working with this new Team proved to be a great pleasure, they were professional, knowledgeable, obliging, and responded readily to all questions. We now have a quiet, state of the art skate park that is encouraging users from a wide area.

Before the work of casting the ramps etc. could begin it was necessary to clear the old equipment and we chose a local “Groundwork” contractor for this task and for the final landscaping / fencing work at the end of the construction. The value of local knowledge proved useful, for instance we needed to replace far more fencing than originally predicted and this was done within the contingency budget leaving adequate funds to commission the future Sport Development Plan from within the project finances.

Civil engineering projects, of this type, are best carried out in clement conditions. We got our timing wrong and due to funding offers being time limited we started work in early 2018. The beginning of construction work coincided with the weather event called “Beast from the East” when we had snow and freezing storms blowing in from the North Sea. It is worth noting that the ramp contractor was able to manage this work “in his stride” achieving a completion date before the end of March and enabling us to comply with the requirements of a major funding agency.

Financial

When all the legal and public consultation tasks were completed, we started the hard work of locating and securing the required capital. This entailed sourcing £175 637 + VAT before we could start and this proved to be a mammoth task. After much effort, the Capital was secured from the following agencies:

Tribune Trust

Tesco Plastic Bag Community Fund

Withernwick Wind Farm Community Fund

The Humberside Police and Crime Commissioner

Sport England

Persimmon Housing, Commuted Sums Grant via the East Riding of Yorkshire Council

Hornsea Town Council

The replacement skate park, on the existing site, has cost £169 137 + VAT and this includes an allocation for carrying out the Sport Development Plan that was agreed with Sport England. All of this money has been

donated by grant providers; the balance of £6500 for the initial survey in Hall Garth Park was paid by Hornsea Town Council. These additional fees could not be included within the funding bid due to a mismatch of timing etc. and in the future we need to have a single, clear definition prior to writing bids.

Popularity and Sport Development Plan

As mentioned, the grant from Sport England was conditional on the Town Council having a clear plan about how the facility will be used and the need for the users to experience formal training. This aspect of the skate park usage is proving to be extremely successful and is identified by the following:

- Paul Regan, a member of the original (year 2000) project, graduated to become a professional skateboarder who owns a company called Active Sports. He is skilled at delivering the training required by Sport England.
- As part of the opening ceremony Paul organised demonstration sessions and competitions to take place on 26th May 2018. The summary of users who signed up for competition is attached in Appendix 3 and shows that 57 people registered and travelled from over a 50 mile radius.
- Usage of the old skate park and this replacement is summarised in Appendix 3.
- During the 2018 summer holidays the Hornsea Town Council commissioned Paul to organise coaching sessions at the skate park. The first of which was oversubscribed and repeats were conducted regularly during the holidays and into September.
- Events for 2019 include coaching sessions during the Easter and plans are in hand to continue during the summer holidays with the possibility of a “master class” demonstration to be carried out if funding allows.

Side-effect Benefits

All the above represent some of the physical benefits that can be seen and measured; there are however other intangible aspects that, in some cases are even more positive. These include:

- The skate park ethos where the more experienced users support the novice and each awaits their turn. One of the original skate park users was presented with an award at the opening ceremony to recognise his work to encourage and support other users.
- Over the last 19 years I have seen my young friends grow into commercially active citizens and 2 (David and Paul) have returned to help with the current rebuild. Following the successful opening, Paul has returned to give coaching classes for wheeled sports.
- Skate park users are averse to drugs because they are aware that trying to do their tricks whilst befuddled is not a good move.
- The Skate Park was a youth driven project where the original User Group (in year 2000) had an idea and used the skills of adults to bring their wishes to a successful conclusion. This concept of “Youth Action” where young people want to improve their environment has now been formalised by another project that will enable young people to have a voice and follow up their ideas. The new group have called themselves the “Hornsea Youth Ambassador Council” and have given themselves the remit of “Creating a new future for the youth of Hornsea”. Tall oak trees grow from small acorns.
- In recent years Town Councillors have been the catalyst for inaugurating a Youth Club in the town which was a direct “spin-off” from the skate park project. Some of the Youth Club members are active skaters. These young people have demonstrated their positive citizenship by promoting and taking an active part in an anti-litter campaign. This has included an initiative from the children to request a poster competition which promotes keeping the area tidy. Town Councillors were pleased to support this initiative. The winning posters have been weather-proofed and fixed to the skate park, the money for this has been donated by the Hornsea Ex-Servicemen’s Club.
- Following the work to establish the Youth Club, Hornsea Town Council in partnership with the East Riding of Yorkshire Council has recently started a project to provide outreach Youth Workers to support young people of our town.

- The Town Council has employed a Chartered Engineer as the Skate Park Project Manager and this has proven to be a very beneficial decision in that the project has been delivered on time and within budget. See Appendix 1 attached for the financial summary. It is recommended that the employment of an external professional should be adopted as a model for managing future large projects.

Recommendations Arising from this Project

During the work to provide a replacement skate park there many interesting experiences and the more important of these can be summarised in the following recommendations:

- 1 The Town Council, taking note of public complaints and in an attempt to circumvent the reported anti-social behaviour, commissioned work that cost a significant sum of money to identify an alternative site and obtain the cost of developing a new location. In hindsight we already had most of the information to make this decision before the soil survey in Hall Garth Park was requested. The additional cost (for the physical survey) was not a good use of resources. In future a “table top” analysis should be carried out by the Town Council, in order to establish project definition, before allocating funds.
- 2 The financial resources of the Town Council are sourced from public money which is limited, carefully allocated and should be used with discretion. There are external funding agencies that will provide capital for large projects, the replacement skate park is but one example, and this should be the route used to pay for such projects. The skate park funding should be used as the model, where the initiator undertakes responsibility for finding the cash.
- 3 The use of an experienced, professionally qualified Project Manager has been extremely beneficial and successful. It has enabled the project to be delivered within the original cost estimate. Access to funding took longer than predicted but the Contractors honoured estimates that were “out of date”. Even so the Project Initiator has spent over 650 hours “nursing this project” and this does not include the hundreds of hours spent by the Town Clerk in managing the financial detail. When other large projects are being planned, the use of a “Consultant” to act as a Project Manager should be considered. If the project is assembled / specified correctly it should be possible to allocate all of the Project Manager’s fees from funds provided by the grant providers.
- 4 By using a “Sports Professional” to deliver the Sport Development Plan it was relatively easy to access one of the funding streams. Future projects should include support from professional organisations who understand the “technology”.
- 5 The Hornsea Town Council staff have been very helpful in providing progress reports, photographs, and “Build details”. Such interaction should continue when other projects are implemented.

Appendices:

1. Financial Summary
2. Photographs from the skate park opening
3. Skate Park Usage

*Issued by Angus Robinson
Chairman, Hornsea Skate Park User Group
14th June 2019*

Appendix 1

Hornsea Skate Park Financial Summary

Hornsea Skate Park Refurbishment Cash Flow Summary for As Built Facility July 2018

Item	Description	Estimated Cost £	Grant £	Final Invoice £	Status
1	Project Manager's set-up fees and feasibility Study	6 500		6 500	Work completed and Paid by Town Council, for "pump priming"
2	Ground-work contractor's tender	17 433		20 146 4042 Total 24188	Paid for Work completed Paid for Work completed
3	Ramp contractor's tender	128 994		125 769 3 237 Total 129 006	Paid for Work completed Outstanding invoice
4	Escalation July 2016 to July 2017	1 860			Purchasing Manager's index to Q2 2017
5	Contingencies	10 500			As defined by Project Manager
6	Signage, for rules and "thank you"	350		600	Complete.
7	Project Manager's fee for "work in hand"	6 000		6 025	Supervision of contracts and resident engineer work etc.
8	Opening event	4 000		3500	See note 1 for details.
8(a)	Refreshments			187	Paid via Town Council
8(b)	Coaching sessions 2018			600	Paid for and complete
9	Project Manager's fees paid by Town Council		6 500		Already paid; See 1 above
10	Grant from Tesco "Plastic Bag" fund		5 000		Paid
11	Grant From Tribune Trust (Police)		2 000		Confirmed; cheque presentation 04-09-2017
12	Grant; Withernwick Windfarm fund		8 000		Paid
13	Grant from Sport England		50 000		Paid
14	Grant from Police & Crime Commissioner's fund		10 000		Paid
15	Grant from East Coast Community Fund		50 000		Application refused

16	“106” money from new housing estate in Hornsea		94 137		Paid
	Total	175 637	175 637	170606	Cash residue for future Sport Development Plan = £5031

Note 1

Breakdown of Original Cost Estimate for Opening Event

Event Management by “Active Skating” (Company owned by our Sporting Consultant)

Original Estimate

Including fees for professional demonstrations	£2 500
Prizes	£ 500
Trophies, 10 at £20 each	£ 200
Hire of PA system with portable generator	£ 200
Hire of marquee (estimate)	£ 500
Refreshments (sandwiches & soft drinks)	£ 100
Hire of Town Hall for presentations (free)	£ 0
Insurance, covered by Town Council	£ 0
Total for opening event	£4 000

Additional notes for Accounts

- 2 Active was commissioned for 5 sessions at a nominal £120 per session. This was part of the agreed Sport Development Plan.
- 3 A successful project that has been delivered within budget.
- 4 Propose using the residue of contingency to implement the Sport Development Plan and the Youth Club anti-litter campaign:
 - 4.1 2 x extra sessions by Active in 2018 (£120 x 2) see 8b = £240
 - 4.2 Youth Club anti-litter competition poster boards paid for by the Hornsea ex-Servicemen’s Club and not from Project funding
 - 4.3 Residue of unused “contingency” will fund coaching 2019 sessions, plus a possible competition / master class demonstration. This will be led by Active and will be part of the Sport Development Plan for the new facility.

Appendix 2
Hornsea Skate Park Photographs



Mayor on Skate Board opens Park



Skate Park Sign Board giving recognition to Grant Providers



Paul from Active Sports giving coaching instruction



Prize giving, after Opening Ceremony Presentation

Appendix 3

Usage Comparison between the Old and the Replacement Skate Parks 2017 & 2018

1 Opening Event 2018

Summary of Entrants to the Hornsea Skate Park Opening Celebration 26th May 2018

Event Organisation by Active Sports

Event Promotor: Hornsea Town Council

	Post Code	M / F	Age	Times participating In sport etc. per month	Parental Authority	How did you learn of Event
1	HU6	M	21	Not recorded	NA	Word of mouth
2	HU18	M	18	30	NA	Word of mouth
3	HU9	M	19	10	NA	Word of mouth
4	YO15	M	27	30	NA	Word of mouth
5	HU18	M	17	Not recorded	Y	Skate Park User Group
6	HU?	M	12	30	Y	Advertised at Rock City
7	HU5	M	20	30	NA	Not recorded
8	HU1	M	24	30	NA	Posters
9	HU18	M	20	3	NA	Facebook
10	HU18	M	20	4	NA	Facebook
11	HU11	M	29	3	NA	Facebook
12	HU5	M	21	30	NA	Word of mouth
13	YO32	M	21	10	NA	Facebook
14	HU5	M	14	10	Y	Instagram
15	HU11	M	15	10	Y	Social Media
16	HU18	M	10	30	Y	Skate Park User Group 2015
17	HU18	M	9	30	Y	Facebook
18	HU18	M	12	30	Y	Local News
19	HU18	M	13	30	Y	Local News
20	HU18	M	13	30	Y	Not recorded
21	HU18	M	11	30	Y	Facebook
22	YO25	M	22	30	NA	Facebook / Instagram
23	HU18	M	20	30	NA	Facebook
24	HU9	M	18	30	NA	Word of mouth
25	HU11	M	14	30	Y	Not recorded
26	HU5	M	21	30	NA	Word of mouth
27	HU9	M	14	Not recorded	Y	Not recorded
28	Yo1	M	34	10	NA	Word of mouth
29	HU5	M	15	Not recorded	NA	Not recorded
30	YO16	M	14	10	Y	Word of mouth
31	HU11	M	11	30	Y	Not recorded
32	HU13	M	25	10	NA	Word of mouth
33	WF7	M	26	4	NA	Facebook
34	DN14	M	34	30	NA	Facebook
35	HU7	M	25	Rarely	NA	Word of mouth
36	HU7	M	24	4	NA	Word of mouth
37	HU?	M	4	Not recorded	Y	Not recorded
38	L25	M	31	10	NA	Facebook
39	HU18	M	31	Rarely	NA	Part of User Group in 2000
40	DN15	M	26	10	NA	Facebook
41	YO17	M	31	10	NA	Facebook
42	HU7	M	36	10	NA	Facebook
43	YO10	M	33	30	NA	Word of mouth
44	HU6	M	29	1	NA	Not recorded
45	YO8	M	23	30	NA	Facebook

46	HU17	M	31	10	NA	Facebook / Part of User Group 2000
47	? 7BY	M	17	10	Y	Instagram
48	? 7BN	M	17	10	Y	Instagram
49	HU18	M	14	30	Y	Skate Park User Group 2015
50	Not recorded	M	31	10	NA	Internet
51	HU18	M	14	30	Y	Word of mouth
52	YO26	M	20	10	NA	Facebook
53	YO12	M	30	4	NA	Word of mouth
54	HU8	M	20	10	NA	Word of Mouth
55	HU5	M	29	10	NA	Word of mouth
56	HU4	M	26	30	NA	Word of mouth

2 Usage in 2016

Hornsea Skate Park Usage Survey 2016

Date	Time	Skaters Present	Antisocial	Comment	Observer
June '16					
04-06	13.00	10	No	Warm dry Saturday	Angus Robinson
July '16					
18-07	21.30	??	No	Warm dry Monday	Harry & Viki
22-07	14.45	8	No	Warm dry Friday	Angus Robinson
24-07 (Sunday)	15.00	7	see note	Warm, light drizzle. Skate Park quiet but loud electronic music from Carnival could be heard on Ashcourt Estate	Angus Robinson
27-07	09.15			David Bond phoned to complain about skate park use; see note 1	Angus Robinson
27-07	11.00	zero	No	Warm and dry after an early morning shower	Angus
29-07	17.10	Zero	No		Viki
30-07	09.30	Zero	No	Warm & dry	Harry
30-07	11.30	6	No	Warm & dry; delightful children 8 to 13 years	Angus
August					
04-08	11.00	2	No		Angus
06-08 Sunny Saturday	15.15	11	No	The noisiest that I have noted in the play area. One skate boarder quietly demonstrating his skills whilst several tiny children were squealing with excitement on zip wire and in the "under 14" area	Angus
08-08	11.00	3	No	Quiet except for little girls on swings squealing	Angus
10-08	14.30	8	No	Quiet, at least 20 children also playing near-by	Angus
16-08	14.15	21 (lots of Circus children)	Yes	Spoke to a local, elderly couple (my age) who were sat watching the children play. They were keen about the skate park and its current location saying that they did hear a skater using bad language (once). He was from the Circus and soon stopped when he realised his error.	Angus
27-08 Saturday	12.15	7	No	Spoke to ex- teacher & resident of The Leys; he had heard swearing some time ago – but not as bad as from the sports field behind his house.	Angus
Sept. '16					
02-09	14.20	12	No	Lots of small children on swings, very quiet	Angus
23-09	17.30	8	No	A lot of very charming skaters including one 28 year old man who drives in from Hull. An intelligent young man who appears to be a "born again skateboarder" who loves Hornsea	Angus

Oct. '16					
26-10	12.45	15	No	Skater's voices could be occasionally heard giving each other encouragement. Squeals of delight from "weenies" on the "under 14" equipment.	Angus
27-10	12.00	19	No	Skate park had sound of children enjoying themselves; however "wheels on ramps" were quite noisy. Little sound coming from "under 14" park.	Angus
29-10 Saturday	15.00	16	No	Skate park quiet except for noise of wheels on ramps. Squeals of enjoyment from the "under 14" playground.	Angus

3 Usage in 2018

Hornsea Skate Park Usage Survey 2018

Date	Time	Skate Park Users Present	Antisocial	Comment	Observer
July '18					
21-7-18	10.55	6 + 4 spectators	No	Warm dry light cloud; skate park users do not "do early".	Angus Robinson
22-7-18	13.45	10 + 4 spectators	No	Sunshine & very hot. Quiet even Carnival loud speakers were quieter than last year	Angus Robinson
23-7-18	15.30	15 + 5 spectators	No	Very hot, cloudy. Quiet: Jack, a User Group member, said that 30 minutes ago there were at least 30 users.	Angus Robinson
24-7-18	10am to 12	27 participants Signed up	No, children's playground full & making more noise	Hot & sunny; Active Sports leading coaching class. Some children were asked to return next week because numbers exceeded the coach's expectations. Well organised with children paying attention	Paul Regan Angus Robinson
25-7-18	1200	16 + 6 spectators	No	Warm & sunny; big age range. Skaters do not get up early, midday seems to be OK.	Angus Robinson
28-7-18	14.15	14 + 4 Spectators	No	Thunder showers, warm & sunshine. At least one girl using a scooter. Skaters quiet and more noise coming from adjacent children's playground	Angus Robinson
31-7-18	11.55	22 + 10 spectators	No	Wet turning sunny; Active Sports coaching class. Another successful event	Angus Robinson
August 2018					
02-8-18	16.30	11 + 8 spectators, some were resting Users	No	Very hot, sun + cloud. Adjacent children's playground being well used	Angus Robinson
04-7-18	11.15	15 + 6 Spectators	No	Cloudy, cool sea breeze. 3 girls using scooters; lots of children in children's playground, zip wire & playing football	Angus Robinson
06-8-18	11.00	12 + 6 Spectators	No	Warm sun; 4 girls with lots of children using adjacent amenities	Angus Robinson