

Email received 7.3.21

Hello, my name is [REDACTED]. Please can it be made sure that this finds the suitable person. I contacted Wem council around 10 years ago to propose a new skatepark to be considered. The response if I remember correctly was there was not enough funding and money was to be spent on street lighting, which is fair enough. However over the recent years, scooters especially have been growing in trend, I am sure as you and your colleagues have children and grandchildren which like to play on scooters/skateboards/bikes.

The park that is in existence on the recreational grounds is beyond dated now and could be considered relatively dangerous as in the cold/wet is incredibly slippery and also in the summer heat can be very uncomfortable to touch with skin. The ramps that were erected are no good for anyone picking up the sport for the first time and can be quite daunting to learn your first tricks on something that is not suited for beginners which then steers the person away for continuing the sport. I have personally been skateboarding for 15 years and have witnessed on countless occasions that it can be so beneficial for kids well being and mental state. This includes overcoming a fear, landing that trick for the first time, exercise, the group of people you hang around with and the amount of troubles kids I have seen steer away from being a nuisance, and most importantly just being outside not on Xbox's and playstations.

I understand funding is not the easiest thing to obtain, however if you'd like to do some research, councils are being offered money for new skate facilities even in the local area such as Whitchurch, Baschurch, market Drayton, Telford, Bridgnorth. I believe that these parks have been built off the basis of that skateboarding is now in the Olympics. These sports are only going to get bigger over the next ten years.

When I lived in Manchester I was part of the youth group that managed to obtain the access to have a skatepark built in our local area that was helped designed by the local kids to see what would be most suited for everyone who would attend and not just a set of obstacles that revolve around one sport and one level of skill.

If this could be taken any further I would love to be part of some of the planning if possible and to have some input on the best decisions that could be made to make the best possible facility for the locals.

Over the past weeks running up to spring there has been an influx of people attending the park and I have asked the question if they would be interested in a new park. If necessary I can open a partition so you can see for yourself how many local children or older kids would like to see this. Not only is this for locals, I myself travel around visiting different parks and am amazed at how far people will travel for a decent skatepark in turn using the local shops, buses and trains. This could definitely put Wem on the map in a unique way and could attract attention. Many children get dropped at these parks by parents, giving the parents the excuse to go for a walk in this lovely town with possible spending on the high street which we could all agree is not a bad thing.

I do hope this can be heavily considered.

Thank you for taking your time to read this.

If I can be of any help please to not hesitate to contact me.

Stay safe

Kind regards
[REDACTED]

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)