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**Improvements to Fairhill Playing Field**

The Town Council in partnership with the Fairhill Community Group have secured funding of £70,000 to make improvements to Fairhill Playing Field in the coming year. Aims are to enhance the children’s play area and provide opportunity for families to increase their health and wellbeing by doing regular physical activity together.

Work will begin in the early summer to provide additional play facilities suitable for children aged 5-12. A clear benefit of play is that all children are enabled to learn if they have suitable equipment. Hence, the Town Council felt it was important to provide equipment suitable for children with different needs. Inclusivity will break down some of the barriers that can sometimes exist and allow all children to play together and learn crucial developmental skills in a fun way.

Connecting paths within the play area will make it easy for users to navigate to each of the new pieces of play equipment. In addition, after the play area is in place, the Town Council will ensure easy access by installing a new tarmac path connecting the play area to the entrance at Salkeld Road.

Safety is another consideration since the field is open to the highway. Therefore, to provide a more secure entrance, fencing and a new gate will be installed at the entrance to Salkeld Road. In addition, new seating will provide an opportunity for residents and users of the field and play area to rest and take in the views across to the Lakeland fells.

