

Teen Shelter survey – Borrage green, Ripon

North Yorkshire Council is working to improve the quality of the Borrage green area in Ripon. This survey aimed to gather opinions from local residents and park users to help us decide on a new piece of equipment for the play area.

The money (£9197.16) for this project would come from the S106 money (Commutated Sums) and Capital funding from the former Harrogate district. Commuted Sums is money paid to North Yorkshire Council by property developers when providing residential properties within the council area.

The online survey was open from Thursday 21 May 2026 until Thursday 2 July 2026, available on North Yorkshire Council's consultations web page. Posters were put up locally and paper copies were available at the local library.

Headline Results

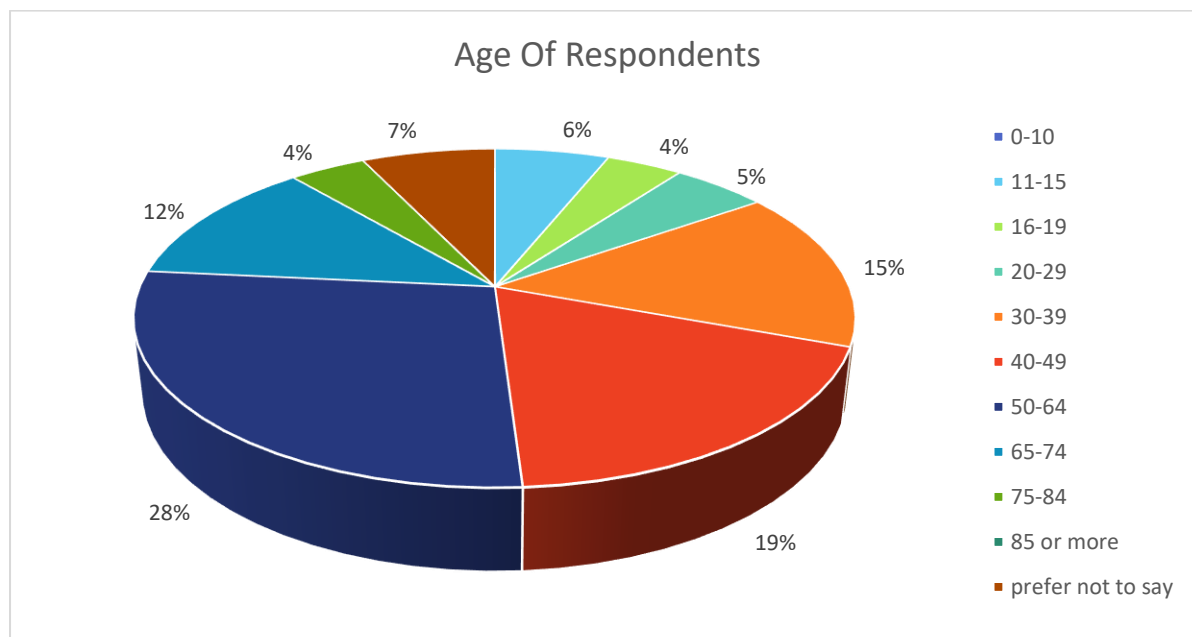
- 100 respondents in total.
- The majority of respondents were aged between 50 and 64.
- Of the 97 respondents that answered the majority of were not in support of the teen shelter.
- 89 respondents indicated they had concerns about a teen shelter being installed.

Highlighted feedback - The consultation responses were overwhelmingly concerned with the potential impact of a proposed teen shelter at Borrage Green. The most frequently raised issues were anti-social behaviour (71 comments), the suitability of the location as a children's and family park (41 comments), noise and disturbance to residents (35 comments), the impact on local residents (33 comments), drugs and substance misuse (31 comments), vandalism and criminal damage (29 comments), concerns that the site is the wrong location (28 comments), and litter or broken glass (27 comments). Many respondents referenced previous incidents in the park, including the burning of temporary toilets, vandalism, drug use, littering, and damage to nearby property as evidence that a shelter could become a focal point for further anti-social behaviour. Concerns were also raised about the safety of younger children, particularly given the proximity of the play area and paddling pool, as well as the potential impact on elderly residents living nearby.

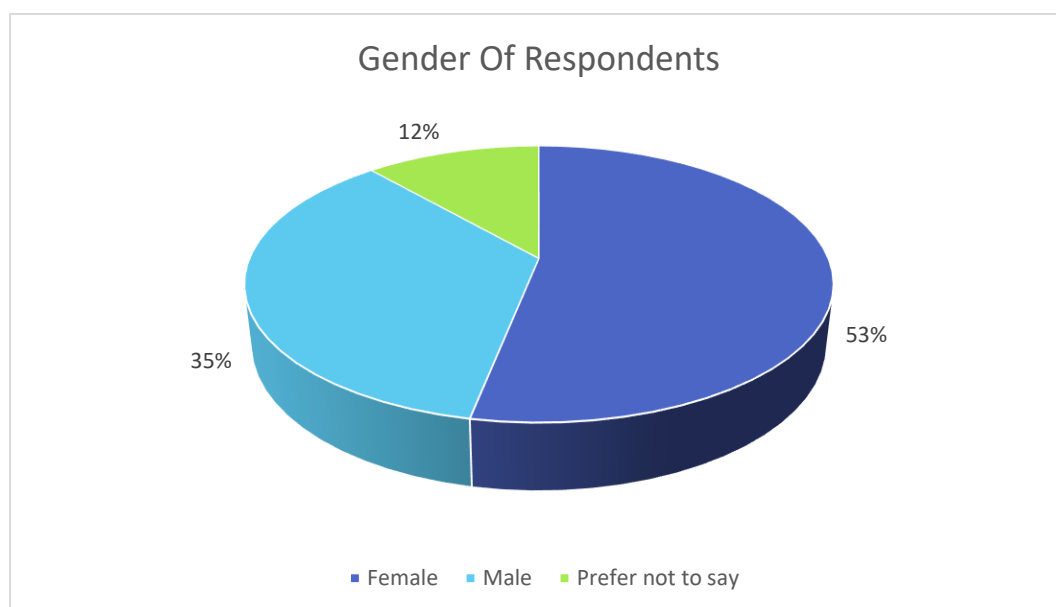
Several respondents expressed support for providing facilities for young people in principle. Thirteen comments specifically supported youth facilities but felt they should be located elsewhere, while 16 comments suggested alternatives such as a skate park, bike park, sports facilities, outdoor gym equipment or organised activities. A small number of comments highlighted that most teenagers are respectful and that concerns relate mainly to a minority who engage in disruptive behaviour. Overall, the feedback suggests that respondents generally support investment in opportunities for young people but believe that Borrage Green, as an established space for young children, families and nearby residents, is not an appropriate location for a teen shelter.

About the respondents

Of the 98 respondents, the largest age group was those aged 50-64 years, accounting for 27 respondents (27.6%). This was followed by respondents aged 40-49 years (18 respondents, 18.4%) and 30-39 years (15 respondents, 15.3%). A further 12 respondents (12.2%) were aged 65-74 years. Younger respondents included 6 aged 11-15 years (6.1%), 4 aged 16-19 years (4.1%), and 5 aged 20-29 years (5.1%). There were 4 respondents aged 75-84 years (4.1%), while no respondents were aged 85 years or over. Seven respondents (7.1%) preferred not to disclose their age.

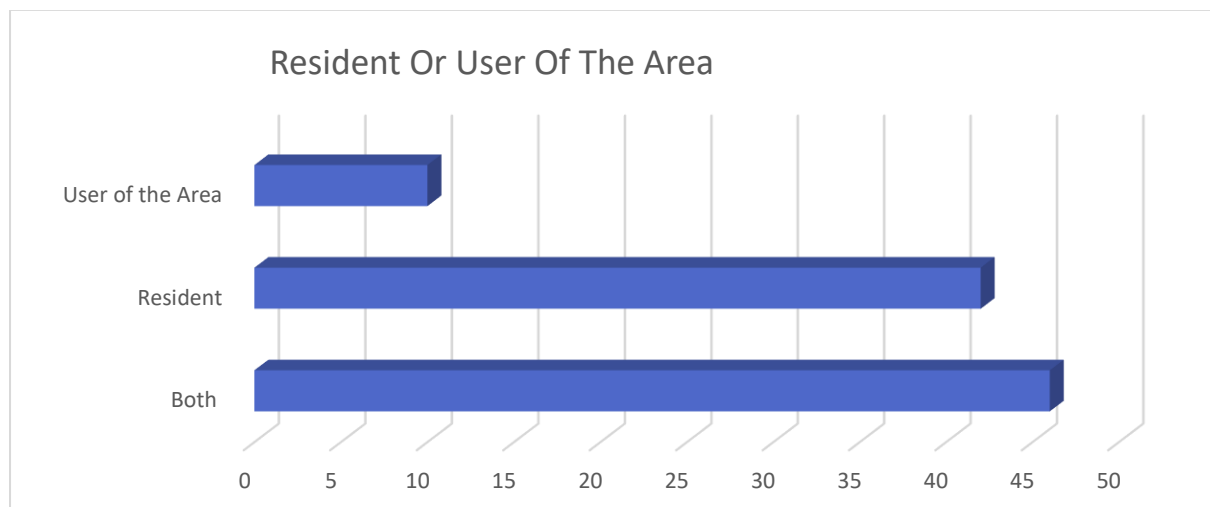


Of the 94 respondents, female respondents form the majority at 53% (51 responses), male respondents account for 35% (34 responses) and 12% of respondents (11 people) chose Prefer not to say.



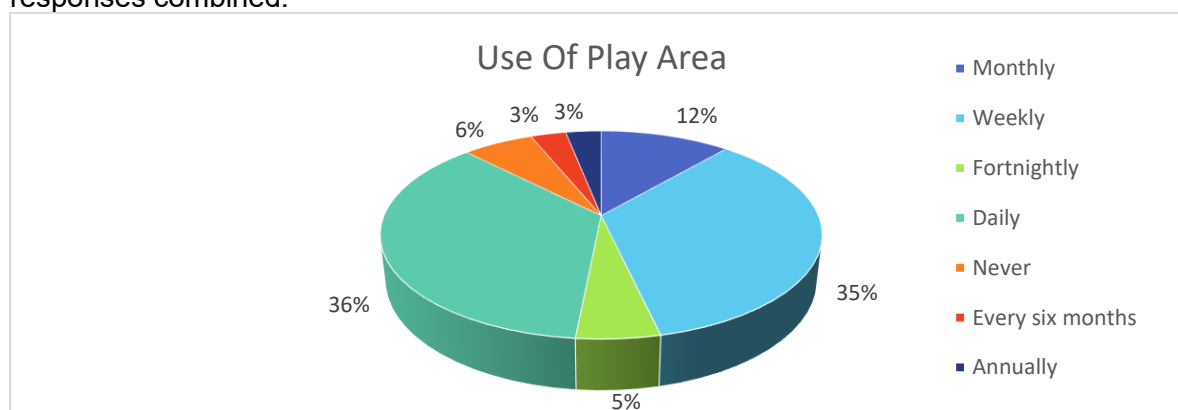
Are you a local resident or user of the area?

The largest group of respondents are those who identify as both residents and users of the area, accounting for 46.9% of responses, residents represent 42.9% of respondents. Users of the area make up 10.2% of responses.



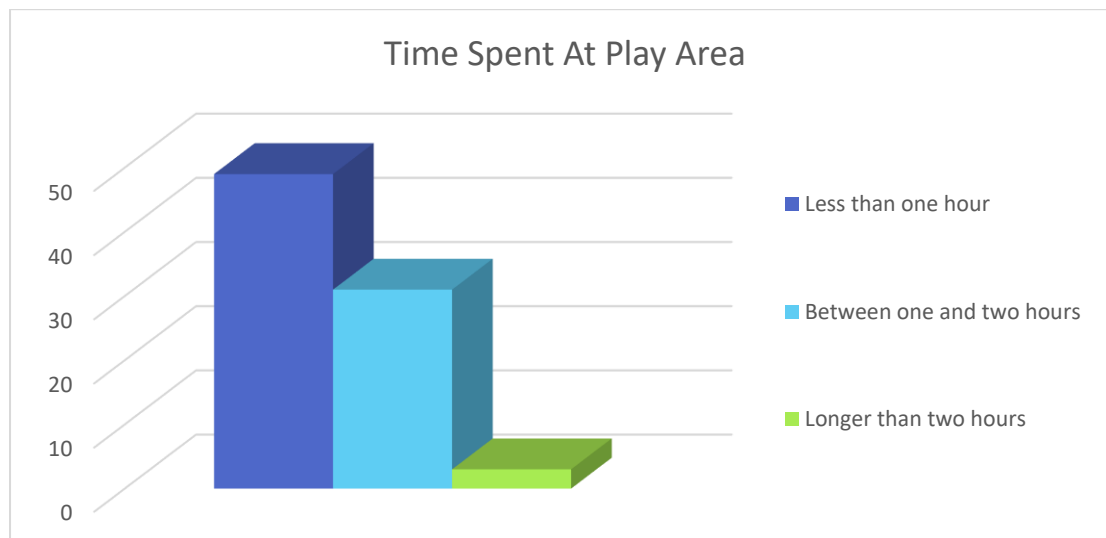
How often do you use the play area?

Of the 97 respondents, daily users are the largest group, representing 36% (35) of respondents, weekly users are a very close second at 35% (34). Monthly users account for 12% (11) of responses. 6% (6) of respondents report never using the area. Fortnightly, every 6 months, and annually make up 11.4% of responses combined.



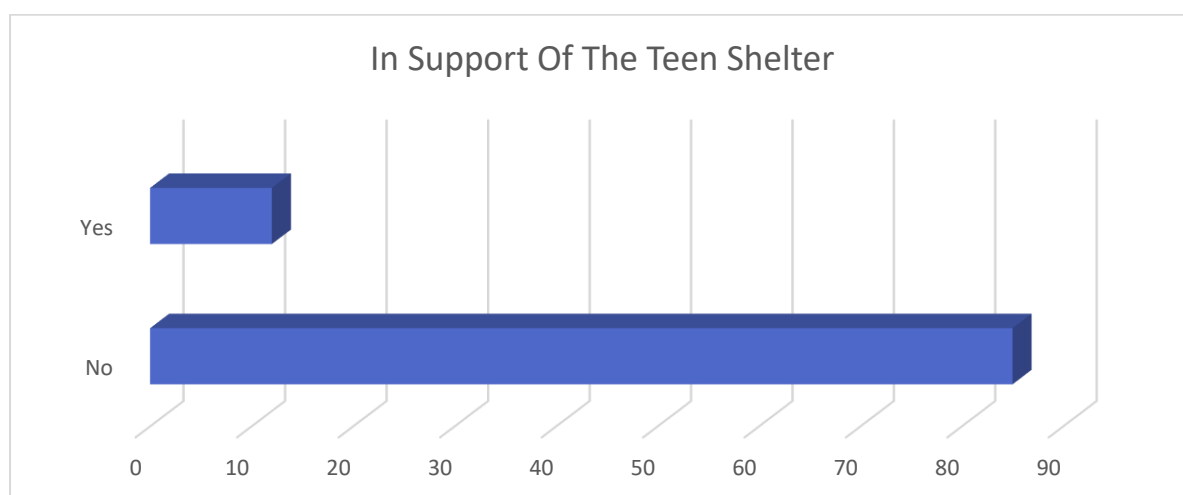
How long do you spend in the play area?

Of the 93 respondents, the majority 53% (49) reported spending less than one hour on the activity. A further 33% (31) spent between one and two hours, while 14% (13) spent longer than two hours.



Do you support the installation of the teen shelter?

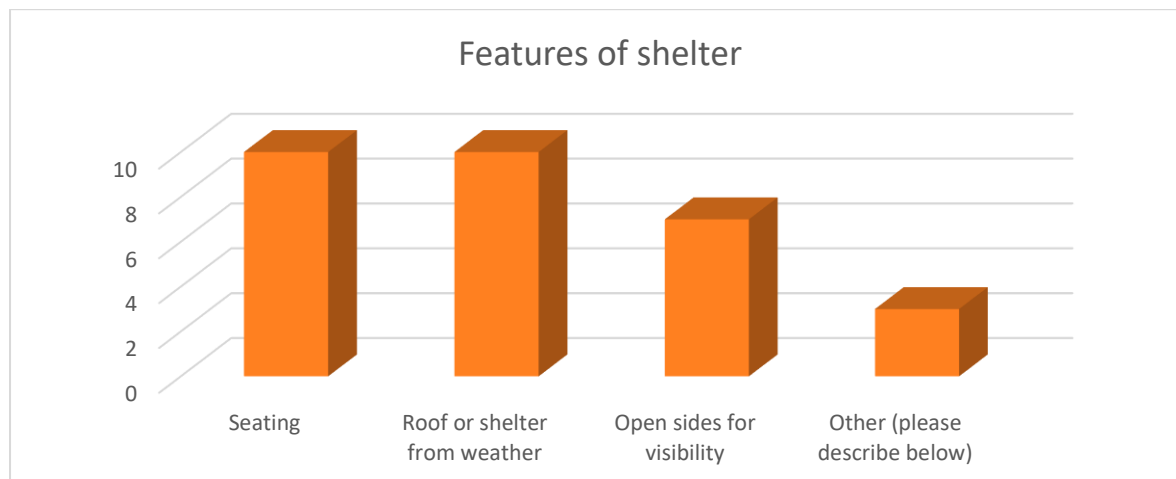
Of the 97 respondents, the majority of respondents selected "No", accounting for 88% of all responses and 12% of respondents selected "Yes".



The next question was only answered by the respondents that selected "Yes".

If you support the shelter, what features would you like?

Seating was selected by all respondents (100%), Roof or shelter from weather was also selected by 100% of respondents. Open sides for visibility was chosen by 70% of respondents. Three respondents (30%) selected "Other".

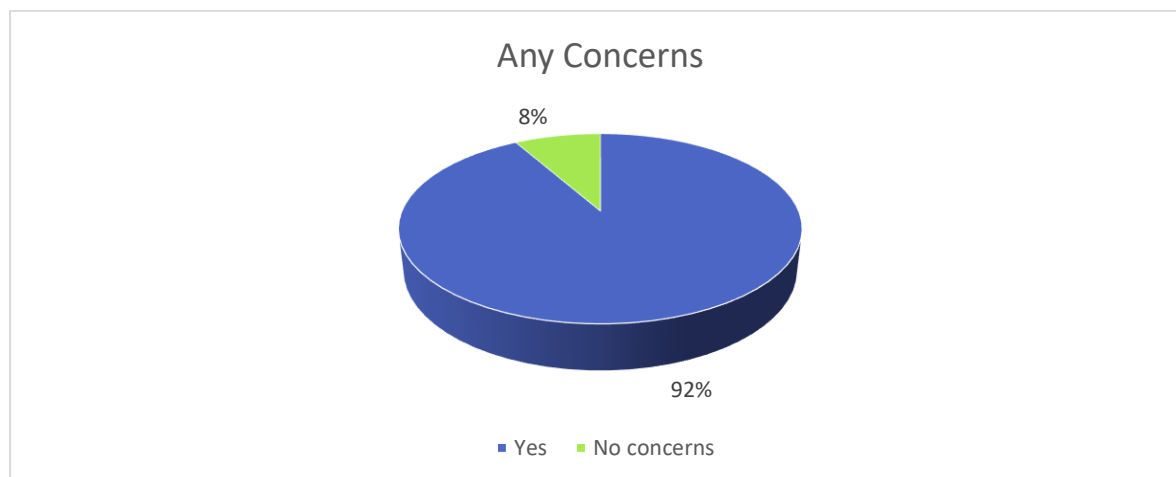


Other suggestions were...

Somewhere for young people to sit and chat would be a brilliant addition
Supervision to ensure that the space isn't abused and that users are safe from bullying from others also there.
I think it's a good idea - but needs careful thought. Concerns it won't be looked after, and might become more of a hindrance than something positive

Do you have any concerns about a teen shelter being installed?

89 respondents (92%) indicated they had concerns and provided or were invited to provide further details. Only 8 respondents (8%) stated they had no concerns.



Comments were...

The term teen shelter is vague. With repeated issues of anti social behaviour, drug consumption and drug dealing in the Borrage green lane park. This cannot be supported unless the appropriate safety considerations are taken to ensure this will not increase ASB but reduce it.
We live in the area. Even now the presence of drug/alcohol fuelled teens is disturbing, and even frightening. You may recall the torching of the temporary toilets a couple of years ago, an instance of what over-excited teens can do. It's the luck of the draw whether it is someone's garden shed. Families and toddlers enjoying the paddling pool on a sunny afternoon is one thing, out-of-control aggressive louts at the dead of night is quite another. I feel we are being used as a dumping ground for other people's problems. Try the residents of High Cleugh, Williamson Square, Cathedral Close or even Lead Lane and you might find them more amenable. Reading your notice it seems as if the installation of the shelter is a done deal. I hope this is not the case. It sounds like something which looked like a good idea in an office in County Hall, but it would be a living hell on the ground. Please reconsider this plan in the light of our concerns, and abandon it before it gets to the design stage.
Anti social behaviour, litter, this is a children's area not a teenage area. The two are not compatible
I am concerned about the noise, unchecked disruptive behaviour, litter and the negative impact on young children and their families. As a local resident I would be afraid of going out after dark near gatherings of unsupervised teenagers. Please reconsider the benefits weighed against the likely negative impact on local area. The area works well for young children and babies please leave it that way.
The area is known for anti social behaviour and for misuse of the area (drinking/cannabis etc) so the installation will only encourage teens/young adults to use the area more for this purpose. This area should be a safe place for parents/ grandparents etc to take their young children to play. I have always had the impression this play park is for young children to play not for teenagers to hang out and misuse the area.
This park has always been a safe space for parents and toddlers not teens, teens have the skate park and other areas to use, please leave this space alone for its intended use
As a resident in close proximity of the park I strongly oppose the development of a teen shelter. I have already experienced issues with teens smashing windows at my house and every weekend teens frequent the park playing loud music and drinking and generally being unsocial. This is disruptive and has the potential for antisocial behaviour as we've already seen. There are numerous elderly people living close to the park and this has the potential to cause them distress. This park is for small children and has been a park for small children for decades I don't believe this should change as the dynamics of the park will completely change. Not to mention the possibility of effecting house prices and the cars parking on the road or worse driving too fast and potentially hitting a cat or dog - there are a lot of pets in this area. Safety and antisocial behaviour is my main concern and I strongly oppose the development of this teenage shelter.
I work as a volunteer with young people in Ripon and know the majority to be good kids. Unfortunately there is a minority who are not. Encouraging teens to use this space where there will be no cameras or adults present will result in the kind of anti social behaviour that severely affects the quality of life for residents. Sometimes older kids use the park in the evening and the noise and aggressive language is dreadful and goes on well into the night. Often the smell of weed is obvious. I can no longer walk my dog down Borrage green lane if youngsters are there after a couple of incidents when I was intimidated and left afraid for my safety. It was only last year that the portable loos were set alight. In addition, who will clear up the mess before younger children and their families come to the park during the day? Most young people will not use this shelter as they will be intimidated by a minority who will abuse it and make the most of a shelter where they can do what they want without being seen. I understand the attraction in taking these kids out of the market square and areas where there are tourists and businesses but the impact on local residents and younger users of the park is unacceptable.
Antisocial behaviour
Many teens already use the park and not just to socialise and have fun. They have been seen drinking and dealing drugs leaving behind rubbish. Having a teen shelter will just put off families with young children frequenting.
The area is currently set up as a playground for sub-teen children and families. I have 2 young daughters who use the area, the elder one unsupervised. I have grave concerns about the usability of this facility for younger children if teens are encouraged to the area. I fully support funding for a teen

shelter, but not at the loss/risk of the kiddies play park. Just look at last summer when a group of teens set light to the porta loos installed there. Also, where is the funding coming from for new facilities, it seems that the lido at the park hasn't been prepped or filled this year. Why don't we concentrate on properly maintaining the current facilities?
We are residents living directly next to the park and wish to formally object to the proposed teenage shelter/hut. Our concerns are based on repeated anti-social behaviour we have already experienced from unsupervised teenage gatherings in the park. Following the installation of temporary toilets, teenagers threw stones wrapped in toilet tissue at our home, smashing two panes of recently restored antique glass windows and causing over £600 worth of damage. We also regularly experience loud music late into the night, shouting, screaming, drinking, cannabis smoking, and damage to park property including the gates. Residents' vehicles have also been damaged, including scratches and trim being pulled off. Elderly neighbours living beside the park are already affected by the noise and disturbance, which is distressing and intimidating. During summer we already accept considerable inconvenience from parking pressures because the park is valuable to families during the daytime and generally peaceful in the evenings. However, creating an unsupervised teenage shelter would fundamentally change the nature of the park and risks creating a permanent focal point for nuisance, vandalism and anti-social behaviour. Given the existing problems, we are concerned that approving such a facility could expose the council to responsibility for foreseeable nuisance, property damage and disturbance to neighbouring residents. We respectfully ask the council to reject this proposal and prioritise the wellbeing and peaceful enjoyment of homes directly surrounding the park.
This is currently a space for families and young children. It is clean, tidy and safe. It can be busy during the day, but then quiets down at night. My concern is that a teen shelter will encourage an increase in rubbish including glass, cigarette butts and possible drug paraphernalia to litter the area, making it dangerous for the children this area is aimed at. As a resident of Borrage Green Lane, I have serious concerns that a teen shelter is likely to increase noise and antisocial behaviour in the evenings. This has happened already at this site with the porta loos being set on fire. A children's area including a paddling pool does not mix with a teen area, they are not compatible.
Yes serious concerns In the past there has been vandalism and arson in the pool area and porta loo was set on fire. Encouraging unsupervised use of the paddling pool and play area by teenagers I feel would impact badly upon the other users of the pool due to potential damage to the pool and surrounding area ie litter including broken glass in and around the pool with a risk to health and also clean up costs for the council It is likely that use of the area by teenagers would tend towards evenings as families use the area during the day time. The surrounding area is residential and potential disturbance caused from loud music And disruptive behaviour would seriously impact on local residents and passers by.
What would it be used for? What do they do there and hours of opening etc
It's a waste of money, it'll be vandalised within days
I think this will increase mess and littering in a space that is mostly used by young children.
This is a paddling pool and young children's play park. A teen shelter would encourage teens into this area and it is likely that some of them would then use the pool and park. I don't feel that this would be compatible with an area designed for and primarily used by preschoolers and primary aged children and worry that these users would end up being intimidated. Many of Ripon's teens are well-behaved and polite but many are not and inviting them into an area designed for young children is not a great plan. Teens need a facility to use but not here at this location.
It will obviously encourage anti-social behaviour, graffiti, littering, drinking and drug use etc. Total waste of money (who actually is asking for this or wants it?) Money could be much better spent on something decent - like an outdoor gym for instance.
To close to domestic housing .the location and nearby area is already used by drug dealers it will only encourage the practice
The area is for young children, teens should not be near that vicinity. Young kids can feel very intimidated by a teens around that area. The area is not appropriate for teens and it would leave a lot of families with young children having to go elsewhere. There are plenty of other places in Ripon that could hold a teen shelter, ideally a Skate park We need to separate families/young children and teens. It is inappropriate to try and use an area designed for young children, to then also have teens there too. It is a safeguarding issue, children under 12 should not be with children of nearly adulthood ages. This is a risk to the safety of all involved. Focus on having a teen shelter in an area designed solely for teens. They will be able to relax more and have more freedom too. It feels like an "ill" thought out plan, with no

real research into what is safe for teens and what is safe for young children. Ripon has a real issue at the moment with teen anti social behaviour; group's of teenagers are intimidating to everyone, regardless of your age, so trying to mix them into an area designed for children will push the community out. Teens absolutely need a shelter and their own area, so find a place away from designated family and young childrens area, find an appropriate place that will benefit the teens. It really is a huge safeguarding issue to try and mix the two. Teens need their own space; their own entertainment where they can feel its their own.. its very uncomfortable for all involved to try and put them in a place that is not designed for them. I am very against this idea, families in this area will stop using that space and it will just divide the community even more than it already is, and the teens will end up being blamed for that divide. Do not incite more anger towards Ripin teens by doing this.
A place for lots of unsavoury teenagers to hang out and will encourage anti social behaviour
Bringing lots of noise and trouble to this area
Borrage Green is an area designed for young children, not for teens. There have been great efforts made already to clear the area near Harrogate Road of the bushes, which previously allowed older people to leave needles etc. As a grandparent who takes his grandchild to play there I would be very concerned about the detritus left behind were a teen shelter to be built. I have volunteered as an Explorer Scout leader for several years and know that most teenagers are kind, vulnerable and uncertain of where they belong in the world. Unfortunately, there is also a minority who will prey on these kids and for whom a shelter as is being proposed would represent a great opportunity for mischief making. This means that ongoing maintenance to ensure that the grass is free of debris, the paddling pool is fit and safe for young kids etc etc. will be significant. So, where will the money come from for that?
This is a play space with equipment aimed at small children, which I use regularly with my grandson. Unsupervised teens bring a risk of noise, rubbish and drug paraphernalia which are incompatible with this park as a space for small children. In addition, it is in a residential area where vulnerable elderly people live. They will be impacted by noise and antisocial behaviour. I am in favour of facilities for teens in well-lit areas with good oversight by eye or camera, which is not the case in this location. Neighbours have already experienced abuse from teens in the park after dark and providing a shelter will only make this worse. We have had long-standing problems with used drug syringes and needles being left behind in the park. This has improved since the large bushes were cut back but a shelter would make it more attractive as a place for drug taking. I would also be concerned that vulnerable young people may be taken advantage of as the oversight and lighting is so poor in this location.
I have concerns surrounding the use of the shelter for anti-social behaviour, and the potential attraction for intravenous drug users. If any needles are left in or around the park it could result in catastrophic consequences. The park as it stands is already a lovely area, that I don't believe benefits from this installation.
Could become a point for local gangs to meet, ostracising others wanting to use the facilities and a target for local drug dealers to visit to either try to sell to kids or "recruit" into selling
Anti social behaviour concerns next to a childrens play area
I fully understand there have been problems with teens in town centre and other areas, but this seems to be pushing the problems our way rather than sorting . It's a quiet children's play area and we don't want it spoiled.
Noise levels , litter, possible broken bottles near the paddling pool, possible anti social behaviour
You haven't explained what it is and precisely where whatever it is is intended. I live here so the question of use is irrelevant. I shall be impacted as I am impacted by informal gatherings of young people already. I don't see that formalising this will reduce the impact they have. It may well give inherent permission for more noise such as music. Mostly there is recognition of respect for the public spaces with occasional annoyance. I think a designated shelter would give a message of "ownership" and that the "owners" rules apply.
I take my little brother there to play. We play together. Having teenagers there would intimidate him. There isn't t much to do for little children like my brother, and a teen shelter would spoil it.
There are no toilet facility and so it is likely defecations will occur in the bush. Also it is very close to near by residents and will feel more at risk
I think it will be a nuisance to people who live locally like my Gran. It will bring trouble to this nice area. I'm in my teens and I'd like you to provide something for us to do thats a bit more imaginative like skateboard park somewhere theres more space, that can be ours. This park is for little kids.

Small children use the park and teenagers will cause issues for the area.
Young children use the area as it has a paddling pool. There are better sights to use such as near the skate park by the leisure centre.
This is a park for younger children, facilities have been vandalised regularly. We have also had experience of teens gathering in the area, drinking, taking drugs, shouting into the early hours of the night. Bottles were broken and left strewn about.
Teens already use the park area even without a shelter, loud noise and the smell of cannabis is general so I believe that a shelter would just make the situation worse and not address the problem of misuse. I believe they had the temporary toilets set on fire as a recent example of teenage rampage. The park is well used especially during the warmer weather by families who really don't need to be wading through McDonald's wrapper & drug/alcohol paraphernalia. So without being a killjoy it's a NO from me.
As a resident of the area I don't think this is a good idea, Why? there has been vandalism in the park on a number of occasions and when toilets were introduced they were set on fire, The park is used by some youngsters late at night and often make a disturbance late into the night, much to the annoyance of the residents. The introduction of a Teeny Shelter will possibly encourage those who are there for other reasons and as this will be a location which is not monitored it will be open to abuse. I don't have anything against teenagers for I was once one myself, but I think it would be the wrong location for such a "Teeny Shelter"
In this area most of the residents are elderly, we are all scared of them safety and for property damage, the residents left the cars on the road because it is not another alternative
I understand the paddling pool is no longer being maintained for the little ones to play in during the hot weather. How come you can afford a teen shelter? The local families seem happy with things as they are. The area has been used for families since I was little. There has been trouble in Harrogate this weekend with violent teenage jobs. There has been trouble in Ripon town centre. Why push the problem into a small children's play area in a residential area? Can't they be provided with actual activities to keep them occupied so they don't get bored and start causing trouble, maybe in a larger non residential area.
Has anyone thought what might happen if you stick teenagers in a group with nothing to do? This is a quiet residential area, and the park is used by families and the community to walk through and to spend time in. More imagination is needed in finding more exciting activities to involve teenagers and to help them achieve, improve their self esteem and make friends. A teen shelter will just create problems in our area similar to those seen in Harrogate recently. It will spoil it for existing users
Having unoccupied and unsupervised teens hanging around the small children's play area would impact the happiness and mental health of local residents. I realise there are problems with feral teens in Ripon, but don't feel this is going to help. It's just going to move the problem from a to b.
It's a dark area in the winter and I don't feel safe with loads of kids hanging around.
My family lives in the area and we're worried about the problems that having kids hanging out together there will cause. I'm in my teens but I wouldn't use it because I'm already busy with other stuff and homework. Some of the kids at school are intimidating and we don't want them round here.
I feel that any money spent on a teen shelter would be better spent on renovating the infants paddling pool and improving the equipment in the surrounding children's playground.
Most people in Ripon are excellent. Polite friendly help each other. A handful of teens aren't. I fear these are the people who will be attracted to a teen shelter. They need things to do instead like skate and bike park or sports. What do you expect the behaviour of unoccupied teens to be like? It will spoil it for the other users in our community.
1. In Valley Gardens I've seen members of the public sweeping up broken smashed glass, beer cans and cigarette ends left by teens who gather there late evening unsupervised. We don't want this in our community spaces. 2. The violent actions towards innocent people seen in Harrogate at the weekend will be repeated here if you put teens in a shelter with nothing to do. Surely someone has a more imaginative idea for activities or sports for older kids to do without putting them in a lovely area much used by families and children. Keep jobs out of our lovely residential area.
I like to see people of all ages integrating into society. Many sports and activities like football, cycling, golf, swimming etc can be done by people of all ages. Why put teenagers in a shelter with nothing to do. They'll spoil it for the regular users.

The development of a teen shelter is totally unsuitable for the local area and for a park which is clearly designed for the use of young children. A youth shelter will attract groups of youths creating elevated noise levels due to loud music, shouting and anti social behavior. As a local resident we have lived with this in the park for over 20 years. There are residential properties in very close proximity many with elderly residents. A youth shelter will create unacceptable levels of noise and disturbance especially in the evenings. This contradicts local planning policy regarding the protection of residential amenities from noise and disturbance. Parks should be welcoming spaces for all the community. Based on research and experience unstaffed youth shelters quickly become a focal point for alcohol use, drug use, littering and vandalism. The park and nearby bridge is already used as an area to sell and take drugs. The temporary toilets placed there last summer for families to use were destroyed in an arson attack. Why is this antisocial and criminal behavior being rewarded by the council in providing a youth shelter? This behavior is not acceptable and should be punished. Why should the local community live with an increased fear of crime and feel unsafe in their own homes? A youth shelter will lead to a loss of amenity for the wider community who use this play park. Having a groups of youths congregating will deter other members of the public from using the park. This is simply not fair. The park was designed and equipped for the use of young children not youths/ teenagers. This can be seen by the choice of equipment and the padding pool. Why would the council put at risk young children's safety by building a shelter where drug equipment, used syringes , litter, broken alcohol bottles etc will be thrown and left? From a health and safety point of view this would be a dangerous and frankly irresponsible decision. It would be endangering young children's safety.
I have noticed a sharp increase in anti social behaviour from teenagers during the 11 years I have lived in Ripon. I feel strongly that this would become a focal point for teens to congregate and it is unfair on residents and on families with young children who use the paddle park
Like many in this area, we are elderly. This shelter would inevitably cause lots of noise and disturbance. Especially during summer evenings. The toilets in the park were vandalised- who did that, I wonder? This is not the right location, too near a children's play area and paddling pool. It would become a focus for bad behaviour and drug offences. Why do teenagers need a shelter? I was a teenager in this area, and nobody built us a shelter!
Ripon already has enough issue with groups of teenagers indulging in anto social behaviour without giving them a focal point to congregate. They are hardly likely to be having picnics and making daisy chains more likely drinking and taking drugs. This will be intinidating for local people and young children using the play area.
There are few places for little kids to go without being intimidated by older kids. This park has served the community for many years. Don't spoil it. We don't want broken glass and rubbish where the kids play. Inviting teens to use a shelter while not providing things to occupy them is asking for trouble. I know that cameras in Ripon town centre have pushed the problem further out of town, but this is just transferring the problems rather than solving them.
I don't think a teen shelter is a great idea because all the decent kids already have stuff to do, so a teen shelter would in my opinion attract the king of kids who covered the bus station in blue paint last year. We don't want that kind of trouble in our area
That it will attract anti-social behaviour that has already been experienced here
Teenagers have been a cause of disruption after dark in this area on and off for the last 16 years I have lived next to the park, and I called the police at least 5 times, including 2 years ago when the portaloo was burnt to the ground. The day after seeing your post I discovered an empty vodka bottle and other litter at one of the picnic tables - i have a photo if needed. 90% of the time teens loitering in the park after dark are of no concern at all, but having a specific, most likely ugly shelter that as a permanent fixture is a poorly thought through and rather naive idea. Why not provide it closer to more densely populated areas, like the parks on Lead Lane or Balmoral Road, where these teens would not need to walk so far? In addition, this is a lovely area, pleasant park with nice riverside walk, adding a shelter that will likely get vandalised and attract litter is not a good look. Why not just get the paddling pool sorted in time, cut the grass, and have light in the park so that activities at night can be seen from the road? Basically, have a bit of common sense eh?
On many occasions I have witnessed antisocial behaviour of teens in the play area. Intimidating for small children , littering , abusing the equipment. I bring my small grandchildren here. I have had three teenagers myself and this area is for younger children to enjoy without the fear of the teen brigade. It is no place at all for such a shelter. Try Paddies field where it's not enclosed. I have picked up so much rubbish , vapes cigarette ends it goes on

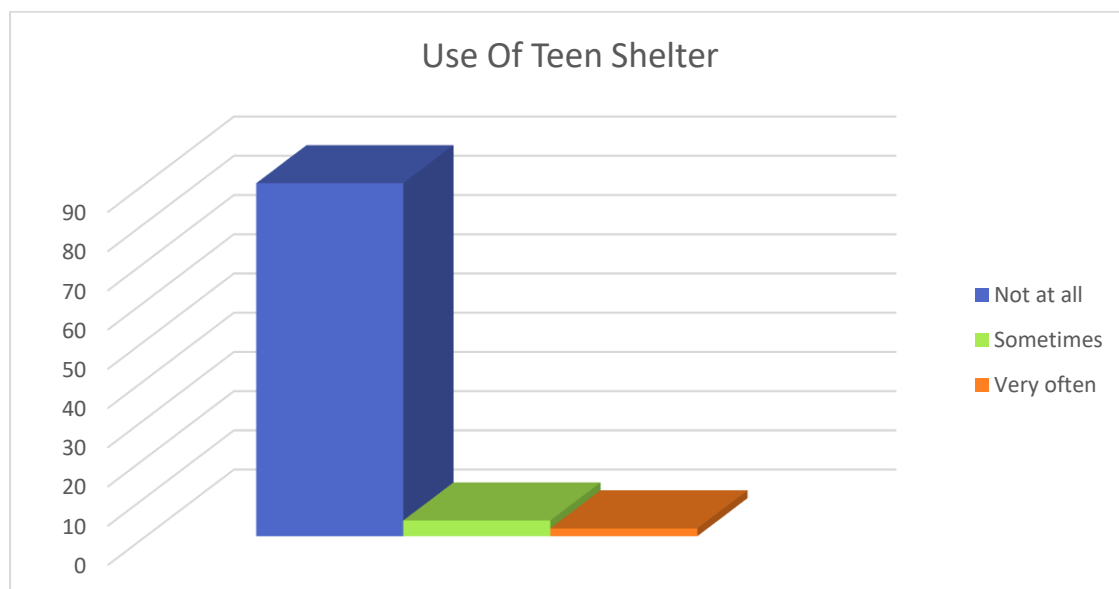
We live opposite Borage Green and frequently come across delinquent behavior; anti-social behaviour; drug taking under the bridge close by and lack of police presence. Concerned about increased damage to paddling pool through dangerous litter, broken bottles and associated misuse of children's play equipment. Unfortunately needs of younger children, which are currently provided for by the paddling pool and play equipment, are not compatible with teenage needs. A potential teen shelter, will potentially lead to further anti social problems. I cannot find what such a shelter will look like. Concerned at disturbance to residents who live close by, some of whom are very elderly. We live directly opposite and are affected when anti social behaviour takes place.0
There is already a level of anti social behaviour on an evening and has been vandalism, encouraging congregation of teenagers will potentially increase these issues
I am concerned that attracting teenagers next to the playground will intimidate my young children using the playground. It is likely to lead to anti social behaviour such as drug use and drug supply. It is likely to cause and increase in litter. There is no safe place to cross the road near the playground and this needs to be addressed. Teens would also be put at risk at night if a shelter is created without creating a pedestrian crossing.
This is the wrong location for a teen shelter. There is considerable risk to teens due to the proximity of the river and the lack of safety. There is a real danger from teens being close to fast flowing and in places deep water, steep banks and a lack of safety features. It would be unsuitable due to the proximity of the playground. This already attracts youths who misuse the equipment. It would cause conflict with the young children who use this area. There are also a large number of elderly residents who live in this area in Borrage Lane Care home, and the riverside apartments. The potential for noise, litter, antisocial behaviour and intimidation would create an intolerable and dangerous environment for residents, the young children who use the area and the teens themselves. It is the wrong facility in the wrong place. The current playground should be maintained and improved for the young children and their carers who use it now. The paddling pool should be refurbished, painted and filled as a matter of urgency. There are no public toilets in this area which again makes it unsuitable for a teen shelter.
Firstly i would worry about teens intimidating younger children which the area is primarily geared towards. As a resident across the road i would also worry about noise from teens lingering into the night. Sound travels very well and with virtually no traffic in the evenings the area is normally deathly quiet. I would be concerned about this being a drug free area. This could be intimidating for residents and dog walkers in the area late at night. A shelter might encourage misuse for alcohol and drugs and anything left would be a danger to younger children. I would suggest less cover. Perhaps resilient group seating, a basketball hoop etc if a teen area was decided on. Not a shelter of any kind. I have frequently seen evidence of drugs and alcohol in nearby woods and experienced intimidation by youths on bikes as well as experiencing my own garden being used to drop drugs packages that were removed later by someone else. This information was given to the police by residents in my area on numerous occasions and disregarded .
It will encourage teens to congregate and possibly intimidate the younger children
This is an established SAFE well used area for parents and young children why introduce teens? The Teens would have to access the area one of which is through the paddling pool park. Incidents in recent times: I have reported incidents of young people engaging in full blown sex in the area where the bushes are. This area was recently cleared and does not provide any cover. Drug dealing to school kids on their way home from school. Toilets and benches set on fire. Criminal damage to nearby property. Litter, I have photos of discarded vapes, drug bags, tinfoil, and general litter plastic pop bottles etc. The demographic Teens (13 - 19) a vast difference in maturity levels. A lack of any facilities, toilets, lighting, IT. CAMERAS the local residents have requested cameras. ACCESS. There are three ways to access this area 1. Heckler Lane and under Glovers bridge . This is frequently inaccessible due to the level of the river. 2. Down the steps from Harrogate Road. These are very narrow and at times slippery and 2 or 3 teenagers could be dangerous. 3. Through the gate on Borrage Green Lane (paddling pool park area), which might encourage them to stay in that area using the picnic tables swings, slides etc. which is what they do now. The path from Glovers bridge to the park railings is used by dog walkers who let their dogs off the lead to play ball etc. the steps down from Harrogate Road are narrow and require care when using them. I would not want you to think I am against all schemes to help teens, BUT, I would ask you to think back to your teens. Teenage years are by their nature rebellious; corralling them into a thin strip of land will not suffice, they want freedom to explore and whether we like it or not (and we don't) do stuff we don't want them to do. On a positive note it might become a meeting

point, before they go off to do other stuff. "I'll meet you at the shelter at 7" Please do not fall into the trap of we have this money we must spend it.
I wish to object to the proposed youth hut in the local park on the basis of material planning considerations relating to crime prevention, public safety, amenity impact and conflict with national and local planning policy. There is a clear and evidenced pattern of vandalism and antisocial behaviour in the park, including a porta-loo being burnt down, the paddling pool being smashed and repeated damage to swings and other equipment. This demonstrates an existing risk environment that must be considered under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, which requires local authorities to exercise their functions with due regard to preventing crime and disorder. There is also a relevant local precedent for facilities being misused for criminal activity. The former old people's home on South Crescent became a known location for county lines drug dealing and associated antisocial behaviour. This history provides a reasonable and evidence-based concern that an unsupervised youth hut could become a focal point for loitering, drug activity, vandalism and increased police demand. The proposed location has limited natural surveillance, poor lighting and several concealed areas. This conflicts with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Section 8 and Secured by Design principles, which require developments to create safe, well-overlooked environments that reduce opportunities for crime. The introduction of a structure likely to attract antisocial behaviour would negatively affect the amenity and sense of safety for existing park users, including families and children. Protecting public amenity is a material planning consideration, and this proposal risks deterring legitimate use of the park. No evidence has been provided to demonstrate a need for this facility in this specific location, nor has any management, security or maintenance plan been presented to address the high likelihood of misuse. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the application refused
This is a nice relaxing area for families to bring their young children to play and relax with other young families alike. I do not think installing a teen shelter would be appropriate and rather off putting for people to bring there young children to play and enjoy. There are not many areas now that isn't over run by teens / young adults and i personally think this would really hinder the area and possibly make it unsafe. I for a fact would not use this area any more if there was a shelter installed and know of many people that feel the same. I can not understand why they want to mix teenagers and young children, noise levels will increase taking away the enjoyment of the children's play, litter will definitely become an issue. Unsupervised teenagers are likely to be participating in unsociable activities and possibly vandalism.
Unfortunately, teens often smash glass when socialising which is dangerous on the grass but particularly when thrown in the paddling pool. I have personally picked glass out of the pool myself and seen children get cut, I fear that encouraging teens in this park would increase these incidents.
I would be concerned about noise, liter and possible antisocial behaviour especially at night effecting residents of Borrage Lane and surrounding area
The play area is very popular with very young children, particularly the paddling pool in the Summer months. I fear that some teenagers will spoil the playing area with items that are dangerous to the young children such as broken glass, smoking/drug taking waste. Some will also see the opportunity for damaging the play equipment. The area is very dark at nighttime and I think this would make some teenagers feel unsafe there.
I believe there will be drinking/vaping/takeaway wrappers and general mess left for other people to clean up. A danger to young children and dogs/pets.
Why is this necessary as we have already had problems with youths inhabiting the area around the paddling pool
I've been informed that a teen shelter was put up at skate park and that it was quickly taken down due to anti social behaviour. It would not be fair to the residents to attract anti social behaviour to this are. I Aldi believe it's a safe guarding concern for the younger families that use the play park. It would be interesting to find out what teens will be using this shelter
The effect on the residents adjoining the site must be borne in mind when deciding the exact site of the shelter
There is already broken bottles and other damage their regularly. I dont disagree with the odea ofna teen shelter completely but tgere are other more suitable areas available locally.
I think it's a bad idea because no bigger kids want to hang out in a kids playground. It will be better if we could have more space and exciting stuff to do
As before

The area on an evening is already frequented by undesirables, sometimes in balaclavas and hoodies. The smell of marijuana is a regular occurrence that accompanies the undesirables, a very bad idea. Refill the paddling and give all young families carefree inexpensive day to enjoy.
I have witness a drug overdose in the park last year, that required the police and ambulance to attend the incident, The park often has undesirable youths using the park for smoking and drug use. I feel it would get cause disruption to the residents and generally cause bad vibes in the area that is frequently used by young families
I think the park is more suited to younger children, teenagers already take over and stop younger children playing. They leave rubbish, broken glass, rude to others. There is not enough room in my opinion for the shelter and it would just encourage the older ones to take over even more. I think the money to build the shelter would be better invested elsewhere. I have teenage children and I would not want them to hang out in the shelter and I am disappointed you are thinking of encouraging teenagers to use this space that is not really for them.
There are already teens using this area who are loud and stop little kids using the equipment and I think that it will just encourage bad behaviour in a place where kids are ment to feel happy and safe
This area is a lovely green space for children and families to use. We use the play area and paddling pool with our grandchildren. I am concerned that a teen shelter will bring antisocial behaviour to the area and may make it unsafe for children. It would be so sad to see this area spoilt. We also walk along the river here and I do not think a teen shelter will enhance the area. This consultation gives people very little time to respond. Who will monitor this teen shelter and what is the aim of it? I am all for young people having appropriate facilities but I am not sure that a teen shelter is the way to deal with this. I would personally feel more vulnerable walking into town in an evening if a teen shelter was built here in what is essentially a residential area with a green space for children and families. We have already seen fire damage to the toilet provided when the paddling pool was open. I cannot but think that a teen shelter might encourage further similar damage to the area.
Cannabis is regularly used by teens mainly under the bridge at present but i guarantee the teens would move to the shelter, I have seen litter but worse still broken bottles etc, this shelter will be way too close to the childrens play park/paddling pool and although there is a river between it will effect the residents on Borrage Lane as it will look straight into their rear gardens, please trust me on this, there will be so many complaints to not only yourselves but to the police.
Not suitable
have completed the anonymous survey on line but because our property adjoins the paddling pool I feel I must make a personal submission. I'm very unhappy about the proposed teen shelter in the park, which can only be a magnet for bad behaviour. From time to time there are outbreaks of noisy and threatening activity, but these groups usually move on. A shelter will provide a focus for repeat offending, unlikely to be confined to the shelter. I am not alone in thinking that this is a bad idea - objections to the cans, bottles and detritus of drug taking so near to a toddlers' play area and pool have been well rehearsed elsewhere. However, ourselves and our neighbours who live on the lane are likely to suffer nights of significant disturbance. We have the option of confrontation, but facing large, aggressive teenagers in the middle of the night could be tricky - and of course they would know where we live! (I can't remember when I last saw a policeman). As residents we vote, pay our council tax, pick up litter and we're here 24/7 - for that we must be due some consideration, perhaps more than some random 15-year old. I'm dubious about the wisdom of a shelter anywhere, but the Leisure Centre would surely be a better bet where there might be the prospect of some oversight. I appreciate that the consultation is anonymous but seem to have no other option than to give my name and address to make a direct appeal Pat Lee, Borrage Green Lane, HG4 2JH.
Anti social behaviour possible when inviting unsupervised teens together with nothing to do.
Vandalism, broken glass and rubbish
Disruption to residents. Potential for vandalism. Antisocial behaviour

How often do you think you will use the teen shelter?

The majority of respondents (90 people, 94%) selected "Not at all".
 4 respondents (4%) selected "Sometimes".
 Just 2 respondents (2%) selected "Very often".



Do you have any additional comments or suggestions for Borrage green area?

A full description of what is meant by a teen shelter would help residents to assist in supporting this. More information was provided on data protection than this scheme.
Refurbishment of the paddling pool.
Grass to be kept short during summer months
That is mowed area regularly, that the restriction on dogs fouling is enforced and the pool is filled more often.
Spend my council tax on something else, pot holes, reduced parking fees, regenerate town centre, The list is endless
Please keep this park as a children's park as it was designed for. This is not the right location for a teen shelter- somewhere with more space and not as close to residential homes would make much for sense. There are plenty of those open spaces in the city for this.
Putting portable toilets there in the summer was a great initiative. More bins would be useful during busier times
A pedestrian crossing on the Harrogate road for better access
Update the park equipment, maintain the paddling pool. The park is meant to be a safe place for parents to take their young children and I don't believe it should be aimed at teenagers. It was teenagers that last summer set the porta loos on fire! I agree that the teenagers need somewhere to go and be teenagers but I don't think the paddling pool park is it. It is currently a wonderful space for the younger children. I currently feel happy allowing my children to go there alone but I wouldn't let them if there was a teen shelter.
Yes. Please fund the cleaning and filling of the lido. Get the facilities there working properly. If there is funding available, I would like to see more general playground facilities installed.

It's a walking area and a daytime space for families nearly all year round - if you improve any facilities to keep it clean and tidy. Ideally the pool gets tiled and safety improves. At some point in the evening the park should be closed off to people and patrols possibly to move people on. Teens need supervision / space and freedom and supervision or you're going to get antisocial problems.
I am so surprised that North Yorkshire Council would even consider this site a suitable for this use alongside its current use. There must be other more suitable sites in Ripon.
I think the pool is a great benefit to the community and I want to allow ongoing use of the pool by families And not create unnecessary disruption to this excellent facility.
The area is fine as it is, no more building on our green spaces please 🙏
Teenagers need local amenities to get affordable and youth clubs.
The portaloo is an eyesore - something better is needed.
The area concerned is only feet away from private housing and because of its discreet location especially in the evenings and nights attracts anti social behaviour and drug use. On numerous occasions I myself have had to call the police in the early hours to report anti social behaviour.. personally I can't think of a worse location to have this especially next to a Public Paddling Pool for young kids..In summer I've witnessed on many occasions council workers having to pick up broken bottles, needles and the like before the paddling pool can be safe to open for the kids., this will only get worse with a Teen Shelter., in fact last year the Portable Public Toilets were totally destroyed by Arson (fire) late at night , this may give you some idea of our genuine concerns.
More things for children and families, that can go to even when its raining. Something to sort i side, maybe toys or educational things that kids can enjoy. Ripon lacks two major things: 1. Teen areas as we know. 2. Spaces for families and young children, especially for bad weather. We need more space for families to go in winter weather, the city is full of things for adults, but nothing for families. Try using the space for a indoor area with things to do for kids.
Make sure that whoever is appointed to paint the paddling pool this year does a proper job!
Get the contractors who made such a terrible job of repainting the paddling pool last year to come back and sort it out at their own expense.
I think this is a great idea. I wouldn't use it myself but I think the teenagers need somewhere to go. The park itself only really caters to younger kids and so this would help
Climbing/zipline for older kids ? Treehouse and supervision to allow for all to use safely without fear or bullying or misuse of the area by groups/ganhs
It's a great facility as it is. Why do we need to develop everything up.
Leave it as it is!!!!
The footpath running from under Borrage Bridge to the play area should have a fenced, allocated line allowing dog walkers to stay on the level. It would take a small area from the playpark. I'm requesting this because not all dog walkers or, indeed dogs, are able to use the steps to the main road. It is an access issue!
Keep it as a peaceful safe area for children.
Do not open the teen shelter
Leave it for the younger kids and give us somewhere of our own.
Concentrate on improvement for young children, I.e fixing the seesaw.
Fill the pool in time for the holidays and maintain it.
Better location would be by the leisure centre. It can be monitored by staff /cctv and is not so close to residential homes.
If there is a need for a safe space for TEENS then I would suggest doing something in the area of the leisure centre were it can be easily monitored and there are facilities if needed i.e toilets, cctv, vending machines etc
None just leave it as it is, a place for small children to play in safety and also somewhere for Mum's to gather with there children.
Keep it as it is. It's a lovely green space for youngsters. They don't have many places to go. The paddling pool should be fixed up properly as a community facility.
Fix the paddling pool then more families and children will use it.
It's a lovely peaceful green area. It's quiet and unthreatening for small children. Start something else for teens where there's more space.

Put it somewhere else!!!!
My family have visited the park for years. We like it as it is. Most of Ripon is being built up with new houses and there's lots of traffic so we like the park next to the river. It's fun so leave it as it is
fix the paddling pool. dont develop it. its too small.
Ignore all the "do gooders" and jobs worth's that'll moan about this, they moan all day about kids being inside yet refuse to give them space because of course to them they're all bad eggs
Can you find some cash to fill the paddling pool with water, then it will be as well used as before by children
What's happened to the paddling pool. It used to be busy especially during school hols.
The park area needs to be left as play area specifically for young families. It should also be constantly well maintained by the council. There is no benefit whatsoever to anyone in building a youth shelter there. I believe that the council needs to think carefully how it can provide safe areas for the youth of Ripon. If the council is serious about this, money needs to be invested in a youth centre where young people can get together in a safe environment staffed by volunteers or paid staff and engage in constructive activities that will be enjoyable and helpful for young people. This means they could attend all year round and not be forced to hang around in public areas in the middle of winter where they are cold, possibly unsafe and being encouraged into anti social behavior through boredom etc. There is absolutely nothing positive that can come from groups of youths congregating in an open park, under a shelter in the dark with nothing to do. These young people are our future. Please think carefully about providing them with appropriate and constructive activities, not ones that encourage and reward bad behavior and disrupt the lives of local residents.
This is a pleasant open space. The paddling pool is an important local resource and much loved. At the moment it is closed. If the council want to improve the area they should ensure that necessary maintenance is done promptly.
Maintain it properly for children ie cut the grass repair the paddling pool.
Paddling pool repairs More things for young kids. Planting.
We walk through on our way home and my younger brothers play there. We re not happy that the paddling pool is not being looked after.
Rabbits in the hell wath area are damaging the vegetation and ecosystem severely.
Get the paddling pool sorted for May bank holidays in future, and cut the grass!
Abandon this ridiculous idea
Improve the maintenance of the current play equipment, get the paddling pool open and cut the grass. Get the basics right, before considering other things. I would suggest if you are going to build a teen shelter, do it close to the Ripon police station
What's wrong with a play park/football area?
Open the paddling pool. Mow the lawn in the playground more. Invest in better play equipment. Create a pedestrian crossing.
The current playground and paddling pool should be maintained and improved. The grass cut and facilities for young children and parents and carers improved.
I have already expressed my thoughts earlier
As a younger child's play area it needs nothing added, although the grass could be cut and the area maintained better. The toilet should be in place even if the paddling pool is not operational yet
Lighting along the foot path under the Harrogate road bridge
For these reasons I have outlined I respectfully request that the application be refused. This will be a magnet for County Lines and a disaster for the area.
No suggestions I think this area is a nice relaxing and enjoyable area for children to play and be safe the way it currently is. Installing a teen shelter would definitely hinder the area. I think the area should remain the same for young children to enjoy without the risk.
The paddling pool needs properly sanding back and painting with textured paint which will last and be safe for children to play in. This work should be done in good time before the summer half term. The seesaw needs replacing too.
Maintenance of existing paddling pool
It is an ideal facility for young children but if a teenage shelter is deemed necessary it should not be placed in that play area.

Just to be left as an open space. If it isn't broken then don't fix it.
Just where do you call the open space .?
Mend the paddling pool and leave it as it is it's a perfect spot for walker's and families playing at the park
Just that dogs are kept out of it and where possible its kept clean and tidy for the enjoyment of everyone. I really dont think its the right place for a teen shelter especially being so near to the river lower down.
My little sister plays there. Why do you want to change it?
During hours of extended darkness (winter etc) this will become a hive for more and more feral teenagers who will Leave rubbish and other items creating mess and making the place unattractive for all who transit through ior around it. Worst idea I have heard in a long time.
The paddling pool has been part of Borrage Green an open space for many years. It is a cheap, busy and happy space for many young families and it would be a great shame to see it lost for the young children of Ripon. These space's need to be treasured by the community not lost to them. KEEP THE PADDLING POOL!!! PLEASE
Leave it as it is, it is liked by the younger children. Create a space for just teenagers in a bigger space so they have room and don't interfere with the younger children.
Leave it has it is and I rather you spend the money on things that will want kids to go there more often and not feel like they can't use the space
Please, please , please restore the paddling pool for children. It is a lovely atmosphere there when it is open in the summer as families bring picnics and the children enjoy simple fun in the water. Regular maintenance of the area would also enhance it. The area is basically lovely as it is allowing people to walk by the river and on through Borage Green Lane. I cannot see that a teen shelter could in any way improve it.
I see many dog walkers using this area, maybe it is best left as is and spend the money saved on refurbishing the paddling pool properly
Put some concentrated and immediate effort into renewing the paddling pool so that at the very least the council does not have to apply a hasty veneer of paint every year.
It's a small space but when paddling pool is fixed, it will be used regularly.
Please cut the grass - like a jungle. repair toddler swing - split base of metal sea-saw - repair or replace please.
This play area is neglected compared to others in Ripon - Ripon - broken / damaged equipment. Grass left uncut and don't get me started on the paddling pool. Look after what is there before you add anything else to be neglected!
Positive that the local authority are promoting spaces for youths. Many get a bad reputation but behaviour is most often due to boredom or lack of facilities or places to congregate. More of this is required - Consider open air gym or other robust installation.