

Playground Operational Inspection Report
for
Bourn Parish Council Meeting
March 2015

Jubilee Play Field

Repairs/Modifications Completed.

- a. Entrance to Infants Enclosed Play area dug out and a drainage layer with rubber tile surface laid. Cost for ballast £5.90 to LGS Services for reimbursement.
- b. Report on the Sports Pavilion loose tiles to steps and surface to be provided to LGS Services for quotation for re-laying the area.

Embankment Slide. Rubber tiles at the end of the run-out to be replaced.

Rolling Barrel. Ditto to eroded area.

Infant Swings Surfacing. The safety surface to the infant swings in the enclosed area is slippery with dead leaf debris and mould. To be brushed down with a stiff broom and a bucket of water and mould inhibitor (as purchased last year). Risk: M.

Timber Logs. Re-fixing the detached timber log should be undertaken ASP as the attachment bracket in the grass is a hazard. Risk: M

Grounds Maintenance. A plan for the cutting back of bushes and undergrowth should be established to ensure that encroachment is kept in check as a matter of routine and not on an ad-hoc basis as at present. Risk: L

Hall Close Play Field

Safety Fencing to Culvert. One side of this fence requires re-fixing and ideally two additional posts to provide additional support. Risk: High

Gym Rings. As this item is to remain it should be included in the forthcoming re-painting programme.

Wooded Border. The wooded border separating the play area from the bridleway has been partially cleared to provide adventure play area for elder children as recommended by Natural England and CABE. However the job has not been well done and further clearance is necessary if the area is to be properly and usefully developed.

Frank Haxton
01954 718 321; m. (0)7766 704 605

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Bourn Sports Pavilion Remediation Proposal for Paving Hazard

Situation. The paved area to the front of the Bourn Sports pavilion is raised by three steps from the general paved area fronting the tennis courts. The steps extend over 8.5m of the pavilion frontage. The paving is in pressed concrete slabs 450 x 450 x 30mm thick. At least seven of the slabs forming the step treads are loose and displaced and several more are loose and in danger of becoming displaced, as are slabs in the general paved areas. The loose slabs are a serious trip hazard made worse by the sharp edges and corners of the concrete slabs.

Failure Mechanism. Two reasons contribute to the premature failure of the paving. Primarily, the slabs have not been grouted (the joints not filled with mortar) apart from one small area. Additionally, a wet area is caused by an outside tap and boiler outlet spilling onto the area without proper drainage and the building orientation and design precludes proper drying of the area.

Action Proposed. An inspection should be conducted by a competent paver to test each slab in the raised paved area, the steps and the paving below the steps. This will determine whether patch repair is possible or if a complete relaying of the pavement is necessary. In either event, it will be necessary to grout the whole area. If complete re-paving is to be undertaken the area should be screeded and laid to falls.

The wet area may be addressed, ideally, by re-locating the outside tap. If relocation is not possible an Aco Drain (or similar) and catchment basin should be installed. The boiler drain-off should be fitted with an evaporation can. The orientation and design of the building is an architectural blunder that we will have to live with but more regular cleaning of the area is necessary to prevent mould and weed growth causing structural damage.

Frank Haxton
01954 718 321

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