

Playground Operational Inspection Report
for
Bourn Parish Council Meeting
April 2015

Jubilee Play Field

Repairs/Modifications Completed.

- a. The bench in Infants Enclosed Play has been re-set and fixed down to eliminate the wobble as reported by a weekly inspector.
- b. The bearings to the Rolling Barrel equipment have been greased.

Embankment Slide.

- a. Rubber tiles at the end of the run-out to be replaced. Risk:L
- b. On top of the bank to the left, at the junction of two fence lines, the corner is seriously littered. The corner has been used as a dump for cuttings with bramble now growing through and is a hazard to children. Risk M.

It is recommended that a volunteer works party is raised to clear the area or we pay to have it cleared.

Chicken Spring Mobiles & Rolling Barrel. Foot areas eroded. Risk:L

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 to cut 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. The growth that is intruding into the play field should be reviewed as a considerable area is in danger of being lost to undergrowth. 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 better support. Risk: M Note: Some re-straining appears to have been done but the fence remains in a poor state and needs to be more robustly constructed.

Ditch. The ditch is in urgent need of clearing. A considerable amount of debris is fouling the channel and stagnant pools are forming. Children were playing in the ditch at the time of the inspection (an activity that is **not** to be discouraged). It is essential that the ditch is seen as an activity area and kept clear and safe. Risk: M

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

Wooded Border. An order has been placed for the proper clearance of an area of woods to allow adventure play as recommended by CABE, Natural England and RoSPA.

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23 April 2015

Addendum to
Jubilee Playground Report
April 2015

RoSPA report that a large proportion of playground accidents occur on the access to the play area. With this in mind a separate inspection has been conducted on the access to both Bourn play areas.

The access on the Right of Way from Caxton road to the Jubilee field is found to presents a serious hazard. Dangerously broken fencing, overhanging branches (lower than 2 metres), intruding undergrowth and trip hazards on the path form the principle hazards.

Much the same applies to the path giving access to Caxton End although this is less used.

It is recommended that these areas are given the highest priority for repair and clearance of the hazards. Our responsibility for the safety of users of the Jubilee field does not finish at the edge of the field.

Frank Haxton
23 April 2015