

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Play Area Inspections Report

1. Update

- 1.1 During the last week of September 2019, West Swindon Parish Council commissioned the Independent Play Inspection Company to undertake a full safety inspection of all 21 play areas in the Parish.
- 1.2 The Inspector reviews the whole site including access, fencing, surfaces and play equipment. A summary of the reports findings are set out in the table below.

Play Area	Issues Arising	Risk Report
Bess Road	Missing bolt caps and other finger traps, aerate bark surface, corrosion to repaint, review springer bearings, some surface erosion to review (activity trail), excess thread on Muga, monitor wear on chains.	Overall Low Risk
Bloomsbury Park	Toddler – straighten fence panels, tighten gate fixings, tighten loose fixings see saw. Grass embankment slide remove grass fixing pins. Youth shelter secure fixings, Check all wood structures and remove any sharp edges.	Overall Moderate Risk from Crows Nest timbers (to be addressed by refurbishment)
Camden Close	Toddler – tighten gate fixings, missing bolt covers. Loose timber post, rotator grass mats need reviewing, cable way seat/cover,	Moderate risk associated with loose timber post. Play team to review.
Clayhill Copse	Exterior fencing fixings, palisade log edging to review/replace	Moderate risk associated with timber posts.
Claypits	Toddler: review gate closure, top up bark levels. Sand and repaint train. Kompan seesaw review foundations, palisade log edging repairs.	Moderate risk associated with seesaw stability.
Eastleaze field	Finger entrapments, shrunken wet pour surface, rotor spinner check fixings, ropes or net are worn in places.	Overall Low Risk
Elm Ridge	Monitoring	Overall Low Risk
Mead Park	Minor corrosion, safety surface under swing requires repair.	Overall Low Risk
Middleleaze	Check gate closure timing, secure handgrips on rocking car, tighten swing seat connectors, top up bark under swing.	Overall Low Risk
Nine Elms	General timber decay – monitor. Signs of wear and tear on ropes and nets.	Overall Low Risk
Oliver Close	Check gate closure, algae and moss on safety surface, wooden bench showing signs of rot. Consider treating and repainting equipment.	Moderate risk due to condition of bench.

		Arrange removal/replacement.
Rivermead Skate Park	Condition of wooden bench and molehills. Monitor other surfaces.	Overall Low Risk
Shaw Ridge	Surface reinstatement around slide, play surface trip hazards, rot in timber, top up loose surfacing	Overall Low Risk
Shelfinch	Missing toddler gate, tighten loose fixings, some signs of wear on ropes and net,	Overall Low Risk
Sparcells	Check gate closure, wear and tear on ropes and net.	Overall Low Risk
The Chesters	Improve fencing from watercourse, replace rotten timber.	Overall Low Risk
The Holbeins	Trip hazard by gate, top up bark levels, cover exposed foundations.	Overall Moderate Risk due to exposed concrete foundation.
Tumpy Field	Check gate closure, worn shackles on swinging tyres, rotting timber on activity trail.	Overall Moderate Risk due to shackles and timber condition.
Uxbridge Road	Check gate closure, monitor fence posts,	Overall Low Risk
Westlea Park	Top up loose fill bark, remove rotten timber edging, tighten loose fixings,	Overall Moderate Risk due to broken spring bike (already on repair).
Whitehill Park	Check matting under rope swing, activity trail – parts of timber rough and splintered, surface under swings is damaged and needs replacing	Overall Moderate Risk due to grass mat safety surfacing.

1.3 There are no high risk factors identified by the Independent Inspections however there are some moderate and low risks. A number of these will be resolved as part of the planned play area refurbishment and the others should be managed through the general play maintenance repair budget over the next few weeks. The most likely high cost item is the repair of the safety surfacing for the swing at Mead Park. No quotations are available currently. The Parish Council should also budget for a top up of bark across the sites that need it. This is likely to be in the region of £4,000.

2. Recommendations:

2.1 The Leisure and Amenities Committee notes the summary of findings and tasks the Parish Manager to progress action on any outstanding issues.