Maintenance of Play and Skatepark Equipment

The parish council has an existing service level agreement with West Suffolk Council (running to 31st March 2022) for the monthly operational play area inspections and independent annual play area audit. This service is provided by West Suffolk and is part of the council's risk management system.

The monthly reports identify any items of equipment which require attention, replacement and allocate a risk rating to them. Recent items which have been identified as low risk include:

- 1. Wear to surface on half pipe at skate park
- 2. Upgrading matting at pedestrian entrance to Cemetery Road play park & backfill.
- 3. Replacement of damaged palings to fence at Cemetery Road
- 4. Replacement of chains for swings at cemetery road
- 5. Replacement of bushes to basket swing at cemetery road
- 6. Replacement of bearing to Rotor Play Spinning Pole in play park at cemetery road.
- 7. Monitoring of swing posts at Bury Road
- 8. Monitoring of fence at Bury Road

Excerpts from the reports detailing these items are set out at **Appendix A**.

The legal basis for the parish council to maintain play areas is contained in:

- Public Health Act 1875, s.164
- Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19

Remaining funds in the parish council's revenue approved budget for 2021/22 are:

Playground Cemetery Road
£663.68 against £750.00 (play areas maintenance)
£250.00 against £250.00 (play areas maintenance)

The parish council approved the following revenue in the its budget for 2022/23:

Playground Cemetery Road
Playground Bury Road
£750.00 (play areas maintenance)
£250.00 (play areas maintenance)

• MUGA & Skate Park £1000.00 (includes £750 bi-annual zip wire inspection)

The parish council holds earmarked reserves for play equipment maintenance of £1775.00. Any spend from reserves would need to be authorised by full council.

Costs of replacement equipment (bearings, bushes, chains and surface for quarter pipe at skate park) have been requested from four play companies, but there has been a significant delay on responses from companies approached. In order to ensure that the work identified for Cemetery Road Play Park (2, 4, 5 & 6) can be addressed from funds in the current revenue budget councillors are asked to authorise the cost of purchasing and fitting materials up to £663.68 plus VAT.

An advance authorisation for the clerk to purchase replacement equipment identified under the inspections (including, where necessary, the cost of fitting replacements) carried out as part of the service level agreement (low risk or greater) would ensure that any issues arising can be dealt with in a timely manner, in accordance with the parish councils Risk Management Policy.

Recommendation:

The Estates Committee authorise the purchase of replacement equipment (2, 4, 5 & 6) and fitting for Cemetery Road Play Park, as identified in report WPC.EC.22.02.03, to a maximum of £663.68 plus VAT; and

The Estates Committee authorise the clerk to purchase replacement equipment as identified under the monthly inspections undertaken in accordance with the service level agreement (low risk or greater) with West Suffolk Council during the financial year 2022/23 upto:

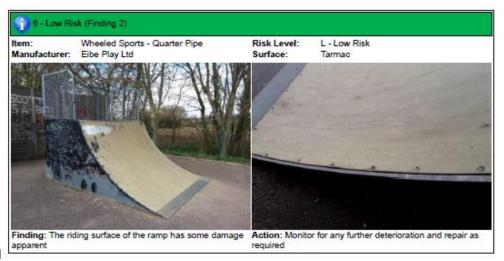
• Playground Cemetery Road £750.00 plus VAT (play areas maintenance)

Playground Bury Road £250.00 plus VAT (play areas maintenance)

• MUGA & Skate Park £1000.00 plus VAT (includes £750 bi-annual zip wire inspection)

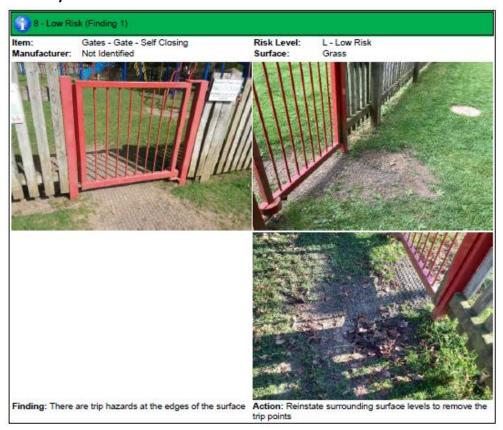
Appendix A

Skate Park:



Fenland

Cemetery Road Pocket Park:

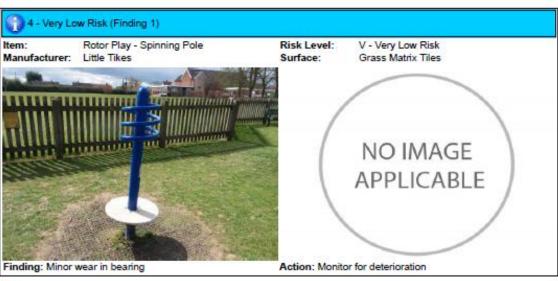


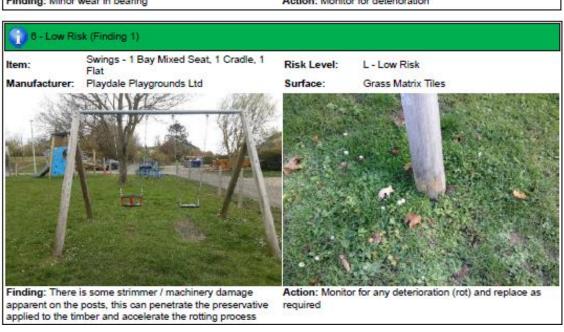
WPC.22.02.03 - Play Equipment Maintenance











WPC.22.02.03 - Play Equipment Maintenance



