

KILMINGTON PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE 22.5.22

The Committee has not yet met this year but continues to be grateful to Dill Davis for his weekly reports and to Ruth Burrows, who keep us updated of any issues.

RoSPA Inspection

The RoSPA inspection was undertaken in October, and Ruth Burrows has kindly produced a set of actions which the Committee will use as a basis for action. Most items flagged were low or very low risk requiring monitoring, the exceptions being the following which were classed as medium risk:

- Cableway- the Inspector was unable to inspect for internal wear without dismantling it and recommended consulting the manufacturer's recommendations for dismantling, then to undertake this inspection ourselves. We have been advised by the manufacturer that it was inspected in 2019 and it should be good for at least 5 years until 2024, unless we see it needs attention beforehand
- Skate grind box and ramps- edges are not radiused or chamfered. There is no requirement for us to make retrospective changes. The distance between the top of the platform and the lower edge of the barrier should not exceed 60mm. Again, no changes are required but we need to monitor this.
- The baby swing and the suspended log walk both rely on one post for stability, so it recommends special attention to maintenance, and if necessary, decommissioning them before the end of their operating life

Grass Cutting

Philip Cowell has now taken over as grass cutting contractor and is doing a good job.

Gate & Security

Mr Kingsbury hasn't returned the key to the padlock on the gate so Dill has had a new key cut to give him access. The RoSPA inspection had highlighted that the gate had been left unlocked when they inspected.

RoSPA once again highlighted that minor repairs to the roadside fence are required.



Moles

These have plagued the grass over the last year and Ruth has worked hard trying to source a solution, but no contractor was prepared to compromise the safety of the children when it came to using traps or smoke etc. Instead we're hoping that the moles move on to a neighbouring field, and the unused mole hills have now been flattened with a roller. They aren't hindering the grass cutting.

Repairs to the Shelter

Tony Chubb will repair tears in the roof of the shelter.



Springer Horse

The RoSPA inspection recommended that this should be replaced with a new one from a supplier. Ruth has previously sourced quotes for this so we expect this, with inflation, to cost in the region of £850- £1000. Ruth has very kindly offered to look into applying for a grant to replace it- thank you Ruth.

Climbing Wall

The climbing wall is starting to show signs of rot in both bottom corners. We will monitor this.

Basketball post

This is cracked- Ruth had already obtained a quote but it was very expensive to replace, so we will monitor its condition.

Seating/Bench

The bench is in quite poor condition and requires repainting, which I'll do with child friendly preservative.

Extra Matting Under Swings

Chris has laid extra Safegrass matting under the swings to enhance safety.

Skateboard Ramp Signage

The sign advising safe use of the equipment was highlighted as having come loose by the RoSPA inspection- this has now been secured.

Weekly Inspections

Dill Davies continues to inspect the playing field weekly to highlight any damage or repairs required.

Repair to wet pore flooring perimeter

The RoSPA inspection highlighted algae causing the flooring to be slippery and suggested pressure washing. As highlighted for the past few years, shrinkage and separation of the surface poses a potential trip hazard. The report suggests allowing grass to establish in the gap, which may also help prevent the wet pour from shrinking further. Dill Davies is aware of this.

Safety of Children & Car Parking

This continues to be of concern and we await an update from the Parish Council about the parking situation across and alongside the entrance gate, which we have previously flagged as a concern to children's safety. Children are not seen by cars driving past the entrance which are negotiating vehicles and dustbins, so children aren't seen as they exit the park between parked cars. Access for prams and wheelchairs to use the gate between parked cars is severely limited at times. Whilst not the responsibility of the PC, the parking situation is restricting visibility. We would continue to urge the Parish Council to seek off road parking for the nearby housing so that the entrance to the playing field is left visible to passing traffic.

Thank You

As always, the Committee would like to pass on their gratitude to Ruth Burrows and Dill Davies for their continued hard work and input into all they do towards keeping the playing field safe and the Committee updated.

Gillian Bowles

on behalf of the Playing Field Committee