

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION
COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 9th JULY 2024 AT 7.30PM
IN THE TOWN HALL, MARKET SQUARE, HIGHAM FERRERS**

PRESENT:

Cllr C O'Rourke (Chairman)
Cllr Mrs P H Whiting
Cllr V K Paul
Cllr G Kelly
Cllr N Brown (as substitute for Cllr H L Jackson)
Mrs E M Arrow (Assistant Clerk)

1. **ELECT A CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED:

That Cllr C P O'Rourke is elected as Chairman of the Environment and Recreation Committee.

2. **ELECT A VICE CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED:

That Cllr G Kelly is elected as Vice Chairman of the Environment and Recreation Committee.

3. **APOLOGIES**

Cllr H L Jackson, Cllr P McCann, Cllr P Tomas

4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

5. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2024 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

6. **PUBLIC FORUM**

None.

7. **ANNUAL PLAY AREA INSPECTIONS**

RESOLVED:

That the annual play area inspection reports and summary spreadsheet are received and noted.

8. **BENCHES AT RIVERSIDE PARK**

RESOLVED:

That the existing bench that the council has in storage is reinstalled in the suggested location at Riverside Park.

That the offer of a memorial bench from a local resident is declined due to the unsuitability of the bench for public use, but an offer is made to the local resident to provide a memorial plaque to be installed on another bench at Riverside Park if they wish.

9. **THREE OAKS TREE SAPLINGS**

RESOLVED:

That the offer of 2 saplings from the original Three Oaks tree is accepted. That the following locations are considered for planting: Nightingale Way Open Space, Saffron Road Recreation Ground, Higham Heights and the Dogs Off Lead Area. That specific planting locations are to be decided following consultation with the Tree Warden and research in how best to place the saplings to give them the best chance of survival. That protective guards and stakes are installed to protect the saplings.

10. **PARISH PATHS WARDEN REPORT
RESOLVED:**

That the Parish Paths Warden report is received and noted with thanks to Marion Darnell.

11. **ITEMS TO REPORT**

Cllr Paul commented regarding a community fundraising effort to introduce more accessible equipment at Saffron Road Recreation Ground. Cllr Paul confirms that he is facilitating liaison with the council to ensure the goals between the council and community are clear and aligned.

Cllr Kelly reported on a climate response award scheme he has received information on. Cllr Kelly considers that the council has achieved some of the criteria for the award and wishes for the council to consider application. The details are to be forwarded to the Clerk for consideration.

12. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
10th September 2024

Chairman

Date

HIGHAM FERRERS TOWN COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION COMMITTEE

10TH SEPTEMBER 2024

REPORT: Sports and Hire Fees Review 2025/26

REPORT AUTHOR: Assistant Clerk, Emily Arrow

BUSINESS FORWARD PLAN	N/A	
COUNCIL OBJECTIVES	Yes	
POLICIES REFERENCED	N/A	
FINANCIAL IMPLICATION	There are no financial implications at this stage	
	There will be financial implications	
	There is provision within budget	
	Decisions may give rise to additional expenditure	
	Decisions may give rise to potential income	x
MEANS OF DELIVERY	All Staff	
APPENDICES		

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. To review the sports and hire fees for 2025-26.

2. REVIEW OF FEES 2025/26

- 2.1. The current sports facility fees are detailed below. We currently have a good level of hire, with some frequent use from community and sports groups and the occasional private hire for parties or other events.
Comparisons with sports/hire fees from local councils/organisations are in italics.

Current Sports Facility Fees for 2024/25

Football

Football Pitch only - £16 per match

With Changing Rooms - £25 per match

With access to Pavilion for Toilets - £9.50 per match

Irthlingborough - Football pitch £25 per match for teams based in Irthlingborough and £50 for those based outside.

Rushden - £35 per match (£55 additional cleaning cost). £18 for a junior football pitch (most recent info available)

Cricket

Cricket Pitch - £220 per season

Changing Rooms £300 per season

Tennis

Tennis Club - £162.50 per quarter = £650 per annum

This includes all matches, club and coaching sessions, and use of the cabin.

Tennis Court Hire - £5 per hour. Half price if a Tennis Club Member.

Regular users - seasonal fee of £50 per annum.

Northampton Parks (Abington Park, The Racecourse, Becketts Park, Rushmere) - £6 per hour.

Rushden Town Council – £3 per hour, £30 annual pass. Free sessions offered over the school holidays and at weekends.

MUGA Hire

MUGA - £10 per hour

Brixworth Parish Council - £15 per hour

Grange Park Parish Council – Winter £22 per hour, Summer £21 per hour (is also floodlit)

School Use of Tennis Court/MUGA

Fee for the period for the summer term period, £300.

Sports Pavilion Hire

Category of Hire	Room Type	Price per Hour (£) (Mondays – Saturdays inclusive)	Price per Hour (£) (Sundays/Public Bank Holidays)
Commercial	Hall 1	£12.50	£18.75
Charity	Hall 1	£10	£15
Community	Hall 1	£9.50	£14.25
Under 13's Party	Hall 1	£8.50	£12.75
Private Function / Party	Hall 1	£11	£16.50

If you are a group, individual or organisation offering free health and wellbeing services to residents of the town, the council will consider offering free use of this facility on a case by case basis.

Irthlingborough Town Council: community centre £15 per hour, meeting room £7.50 per hour. Use of kitchen for serving cooked meals £20 per hour.

Irthlingborough Town Council: recreation ground pavilion

Half Day (up to 4 hours) - £40 (£50 deposit required)

Full Day (up to 8 hours between 8:00am and 6:00pm) - £70 (£50 deposit required)

Evening (6:00pm - 12:00 midnight) - £80 (£100 deposit required)

The above rates are inclusive of VAT

Raunds Town Council – Saxon Hall

Hall 1 - £16.25-£38.75 an hour (60 capacity)

Hall 2 - £11.50-£28 an hour (50 capacity)

Hall 3 - £16.25-£38.75 an hour (160 capacity)

Blue room - £7.75-£18.75 an hour (36 capacity)

Green room - £8.75-£21.25 an hour (23 capacity)

Hire of Castle Fields

The use of Castle Fields for fairs etc. be subject to negotiation by the Clerk, with a minimum fee of £500.

Outdoor Events on Town Council owned Open Spaces

- Local Community/Charity based in Higham Ferrers - No charge (but donations accepted for upkeep)
- Local Community/Charity based outside of Higham Ferrers - £50 per day.
- Commercial other – subject to negotiation by Clerk, minimum of £150 per day.
- Corporate – subject to negotiation by Clerk, minimum of £300 per day.
- Local Government events promoting sports, health and wellbeing for the Higham Ferrers community – No charge (but donations accepted for upkeep).

- Fitness sessions/dance/activity classes – If there is no fee charged by the hirer to their participants – No charge (but donations accepted for upkeep). If there is a fee charged by the hirer to their participants - £10 per session held.

3. **FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 3.1. Do the committee wish to amend any of the sports and hire fees for the upcoming period 2025-26?

HIGHAM FERRERS TOWN COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION COMMITTEE

10TH SEPTEMBER 2024

REPORT: Review of the Free Use of the Pavilion

REPORT AUTHOR: Assistant Clerk, Emily Arrow

BUSINESS FORWARD PLAN	N/A	
COUNCIL OBJECTIVES	Yes	
POLICIES REFERENCED	N/A	
FINANCIAL IMPLICATION	There are no financial implications at this stage	x
	There will be financial implications	
	There is provision within budget	
	Decisions may give rise to additional expenditure	
	Decisions may give rise to potential income	x
MEANS OF DELIVERY	Town Clerk	
APPENDICES		

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. To review the users of the Sports Pavilion where the hire charge is waived.
- 1.2. To review the Sports Pavilion conditions of hire when hire charges have been waived.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. In September 2023 this Committee considered two requests for the free use of the Sports Pavilion. The first request came from AK Fitness Training wishing to provide free fitness sessions. The second request came from the organisation, Streetwise Boxing. It was resolved: *That use of the Sports Pavilion for both requests 1 and 2 is granted with no charge, in recognition of the fact that both requests align with the council's emerging aims to support health and wellbeing in the town.*

That the terms and conditions for hire of the Sports Pavilion are amended to include a section on free use of the building. That these terms and conditions for free use include the following clauses:

- *All requests that are granted by the council are for a maximum of 6 months, with a review prior to the expiry of this temporary period to assess continuation.*
- *That the free use currently given to the Book Exchange is incorporated into this review system.*
- *That the council reserves the right to cancel the free use, given 7 days advance notice in writing, if an individual or group/organisation wishes to hire the space for the same period on a regular basis with a minimum block booking of 6 weeks.*
- *That in the scenario where an individual or group/organisation wishes to hire the building for the same period as someone who has been granted free use, the individual/group/organisation who has been granted free use is first given the opportunity to pay the full relevant hire rate to secure their sessions in the building. If this is not accepted the council will offer free use for an alternative period as close to that as previously held.*
That a £50 indemnity fee will be required in line with the existing hire terms.

Then in March 2024 this committee again reviewed the free usage of the pavilion, with it being noted that:

- AK Fitness training sessions are only held in the pavilion where the weather is not favourable for outdoor sessions on the recreation ground. This usage has only occurred a handful of times since permission was granted.
- Streetwise Boxing have not used the pavilion since approval to their request.
- The other use of the pavilion that is free of any hire charge is the Book Exchange operated by Barry Prigmore.

3. **DETAIL**

- 3.1. Permission currently still remains for AK Fitness Training fitness sessions to be held in the pavilion when the weather is not favourable for outdoor sessions on the recreation ground.
- 3.2. Streetwise Boxing have not used the pavilion in the year since the first approval to their request.
- 3.3. As discussed in March 2024, the other use of the pavilion that is free of any hire charge is the Book Exchange operated by Barry Prigmore. The Book Exchange is currently using the pavilion:-
 - Monday 10am to 2pm
 - Thursday 3pm to 6pm
 - Saturdays 9am to 1pm (last Saturday of the month to coincide with the Farmers' Market)
 - Some additional times over school holidays and bank holidays, as long as it does not clash with any other bookings.

4. **FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 4.1. Do Committee agree to the continued free use of the Sports Pavilion by AK Fitness Training?
- 4.2. Do Committee agree to the continued free use of the Sports Pavilion by the Book Exchange?

5. **RECOMMENDATION**

- 5.1. That the Sports Pavilion 'conditions of hire when charges have been waived' (referred to in the resolution above as 'free use') be approved.

HIGHAM FERRERS TOWN COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION COMMITTEE
10TH SEPTEMBER 2024
REPORT: Larkin Gardens Play Areas
REPORT AUTHOR: Assistant Clerk, Emily Arrow

BUSINESS FORWARD PLAN	Yes	
COUNCIL OBJECTIVES	Yes	
POLICIES REFERENCED		
FINANCIAL IMPLICATION	There are no financial implications at this stage	
	There will be financial implications	
	There is provision within budget	
	Decisions may give rise to additional expenditure	x
	Decisions may give rise to potential income	
MEANS OF DELIVERY	Town Clerk	
APPENDICES	Map of play areas RPII play areas inspection reports plus photos. Play Area 1 (Larkin Gardens 57) Play Area 2 (Larkin Gardens 20)	

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. To consider whether to proceed with negotiations for the adoption of the play areas in the Larkin Gardens estate.
If yes, to consider the proposed commuted sum offered by the developer.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The Larkin Gardens development was completed in excess of 18 years ago. On the estate there are 4 play areas:- 2 in Higham Ferrers, 1 which straddles the border but with the far greater part in Rushden, and 1 in Rushden.
- 2.2. The appendices contain a map to show the 2 play areas in Higham Ferrers (no.'s 1 and 2.) and the 1 which straddles the boundary (no. 3) with the parish boundary shown by the orange dashed line.
- 2.3. The play areas were developed by and are currently maintained by Persimmon Homes.
- 2.4. From a report to this committee in 2017 it was stated that:-
The Clerk was led to believe that they were all to be adopted by Rushden Town Council when she took over as Clerk and has not been involved in any negotiations. Recent correspondence with East Northamptonshire Council, who are acting as liaison with Persimmon Homes, shows that in October 2008 no agreement was made by the former Clerk at Rushden Town Council and Persimmon Homes. At that time negotiations stopped. The s106 agreement states that agreement on the figure should be made within 12 months of the date of the agreement which was 27th April 2000.
- 2.5. In 2017 the council were asked to consider whether they wished to proceed with negotiations for the adoption of the play areas. The resolution from the July 2017 council meeting was:-
That the Council proceed with negotiations for the adoption of play areas 1 and 2 in Larkin Gardens estate, subject to the suggested commuted sums of £15,000 for play area 1 and

£30,000 for play area 2, to allow adoption to a standard acceptable to the Council. That the Clerk enter discussion with Rushden Town Council for play area 3 on the basis that it is preferable that play area 3 be managed by Rushden Town Council given that play area 3 is split by the border with Rushden Town Council and it is the smaller part that falls within Higham Ferrers.

- 2.6. The 2017 negotiations fell through and neither councils were able to progress the adoption.

3. **DETAIL: THE CURRENT SITUATION**

- 3.1. Several months ago Persimmon Homes reached out to both councils again to enquire if they were interested in adoption.
- 3.2. The Clerk has had a site meeting with Persimmon Homes to view the 2 play areas. Rushden have also met with Persimmon Homes to view the 1 site in their parish and the 1 that straddles the parish boundary to which Rushden have indicated they are willing to consider adoption.
- 3.3. Following the site meeting Persimmon Homes have provided copies of RPII play area inspection reports from February 2024 alongside offers of commuted sums as follows:-

Figures based on taking the play areas as they are now and the price reflecting that new equipment will be installed, apart from the timber trail which is relatively new.

Larkin Gardens adjacent to No 57 (Play Area 1)

Replace equipment £9000

Install new equipment £5000, take out existing equipment, old wet pour, supply and replace with new £5350

Grass Cutting/bush trimming for 10 years £10,000

Total £29,350

Larkin Gardens adjacent to No. 20 (Play Area 2)

Timber Trail- Replace or repair railings , fence and path £10,000

Replace seat £1200

Grass cutting and tidy bushes for 10 years £10,300

Total £21,500

4. **FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 4.1. Council has been asked to review the figures and advise if they would consider adoption of the 2 play areas.
- 4.2. Persimmon Homes have stated that *if neither council is interested then as the play equipment gets to a point where it has reached its life expectancy then it will be removed from the play area and not replaced. If the Council later wishes the play areas to be transferred then the equipment that has been taken way will be replaced on transfer.*
- 4.3. Any commuted sum usually covers 10 years projected maintenance.
- 4.4. Play Area 1 considerations:
Budget quotes to take out and install new equipment have been obtained.
Also includes seat and litter bin in play area, metal railings to play area, section of path, perimeter grass area and boundary hedge, 4 trees (1 dead).
- 4.5. Play Area 2 considerations:
Wooden timber trail relatively new, installed April 2021.
Wood is a durable material for playground equipment because it does not corrode or warp in extreme weather conditions. You may have to replace the wood every ten years if you live

in a hot, dry climate, though. If you take proper care of your equipment by applying wood preservatives regularly, it could last for many years.

Also includes knee high wooden rail to perimeter and metal railings, 1.8m close board fence to rear boundary, litter bin, 1 picnic bench, 2 bench seats, section of path, grass area and boundary hedge, 4 trees with metal guards.

- 4.6. Over 10 years the cost to the council will also include:-
 Annual play area inspections by an independent
 Weekly routine inspections by staff
 Bin emptying
 New signage to advise of Town Council ownership and contact information
 Tree inspections and work

5. **DECISION FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 5.1. If the Council want to adopt both play areas?
 If so suggested commuted sums:-
 Play Area 1 – seek increase to £37500
 Play Area 2 – as offered £21500



Annual Inspection Report



20 Larkin Gardens

Client:	Persimmon Homes & Charles Church Midlands
Address:	3 Waterside Way Bedford Road Northampton NN4 7XD
Date:	31st August 2023
Inspector:	Peter Briggs

Assessed site risk at time of inspection

Medium Risk (12)

32 Manor Road Barton Seagrave Northants NN15 6WD

Mob: 07983 339879 Tel: 01536 724034

Email: p.briggs@seagraveinspectionsservices.co.uk

www.seagraveinspectionsservices.co.uk



GENERAL COMMENTS

Monitor area and review all fixings for security. The concept of the Operational/Annual/Post Installation is to assist the customer in providing a programme of works as recommended with any findings or EN failures. Consider a robust maintenance and inspection schedule. Guidance should be given that the installation process has been followed as per the manufactures/suppliers instructions.

The following notes form an important part of the inspection report - The equipment has been assessed to the relevant British version of the European Standard namely BSEN1176 for Playground Equipment, BSEN14974 for Wheeled Sports, BSEN15312 for Multi Use Games Areas and BSEN16630 for permanently installed Outdoor Fitness Gym Equipment. The standards mentioned are minimum standards and are not a legal requirement, where in the opinion of the Inspector compliance failure is noted then there is a risk assessed accordingly. Risk assessment is a legal requirement and should the need arise a court or a Health and Safety Inspector will ask to see the assessment, the level of risk has to be acceptable.

Seagrave Inspection Services Ltd risk assessment is based on Peter Heseltine and Bob Cooks Third Edition Assessing Risk on Children's Playgrounds, this is not a definitive list of terms of all equipment, however; the book principles will be applied, other factors such as accident statistics, Inspectors experience are also relevant.

Inspections are non-dismantling, for equipment that disappears into enclosed fixings dismantling inspection will be advised accordingly. Equipment over 2.5 metre heights are excluded from Seagrave Inspection Services Ltd, for wear parts above this height an advisory note will be provided if felt necessary.

Structural loadings should be provided by the manufacturer for all types of above mentioned equipment.

Guidance should be sought from the supplier for certification that the depth or type of surfacing used meets EN1177 for HIC requirements.

This report indicates the assessed level of risk at the time of visiting and not a given or implied guarantee to the installation process or product warranty. No dismantling of equipment took place or any other general maintenance. This report also does not confirm the playground will remain free from possible product conflict for the period until the next audit. Refer to the owner of the play area for any routine or operational inspections and the manufacturers recommended schedules for ongoing maintenance/inspection requirements before and after this audit.

There are three levels of inspection; Routine, Operational and Annual. The Annual Inspection checks the Operational and the Operational checks the Routine Inspections. A risk assessment is also provided where considered necessary and categorised on a score rating as follows;

Risk rating	Action
1 - 3 Very Low Risk	Monitor
4 - 7 Low Risk	Monitor and take reasonable action if required
8 - 12 Medium Risk	Take action to reduce if possible
13 - 20 High Risk	Take action ASAP to implement control measures
21+ Unacceptable Risk	Remove or immobilise immediately

ANCILLARY ITEMS


Ancillary items such as; seats, litter bins, gates, planting form part of the inspection along with comments relating to the facilities in close proximity to roadways, water courses, electrical substations, overhead cables and any structure considered a hazard i.e. general safety of the area.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Findings</u>	<u>Comments and Recommendations</u>
Access	Monitor	None
Pathways	Acceptable	Monitor
Fencing	Poor	See report
Gate(s)	Acceptable	Monitor use
Sign(s)	Present: No	Consider ownership signage
Seat(s)	Acceptable	Monitor use
Litter Bin(s)	Acceptable	Monitor use
Cleanliness	Average	Monitor use
Planting	Trees Grass	Monitor nearby trees Acceptable
Location	Monitor area	Monitor use


Item EN Compliance	Yes	Surface EN Compliance	Yes
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Findings at the time of inspection with risk number

	Splits/cracks evident in places. Recommendation: Monitor this condition.	5
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	As above finding. Recommendation: As above comment.	5
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	Loose overhead ladder rail(s). Recommendation: Retighten asap.	12
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	Recommendation:	
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Item	Agility Trail				
Supplier	Miracle				
Surface	Grass & Grass Matting				
Risk Rating Overall	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Unacceptable
			12		

Item EN Compliance	N/a	Surface EN Compliance	N/a
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Findings at the time of inspection with risk number

	Fencing damaged in places. Recommendation: Repair as necessary.	4
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	Missing fixings to panel. Recommendation: Replace missing fixings asap.	12
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	Recommendation:	
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	Recommendation:	
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Item	Site				
Supplier	Unknown				
Surface	N/a				
Risk Rating Overall	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Unacceptable
			12		

Item EN Compliance		Surface EN Compliance	
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Findings at the time of inspection with risk number

	Recommendation:	
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	Recommendation:	
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	Recommendation:	
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	Recommendation:	
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Item					
Supplier					
Surface					
Risk Rating Overall	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Unacceptable



Inspection Scope for RPII Annual Inspectors

This document outlines the RPII scope for inspections undertaken by the Inspectors listed as Annual Inspectors on the RPII Register of Inspectors when undertaking Indoor Annual, Outdoor Annual, Outdoor Operational and Outdoor Routine inspections.

Inspections are undertaken with reference to the standards listed in this preamble only; where no date for the standard is given it will be the standard that is current at the time of inspection except where overlap periods are granted by the standards committee when standards are updated. The information contained in reports is provided to assist the owner/operator in fulfilling their responsibilities as detailed in the relevant standard. Other standards referenced within the listed standards do not form part of the inspection, unless they are also explicitly listed here.

The following standards are relevant to all installations of equipment that are publicly accessible to users; this includes public parks, pay and play parks, schools, nurseries, public houses, holiday parks, indoor play centres, farm parks etc. All equipment used or employed in publicly accessible areas should meet with the requirements of the relevant standards (listed below):

BS EN 1176 Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10 & 11 Playground equipment intended for permanent installation outdoors & indoors.

BS EN 1176 Part 7 - 'Guidance on Installation, Inspection, Maintenance and Operation' (this document gives guidance to the owners/operators of the facility on the installation, inspection, maintenance and operation of playground equipment, excluding ancillary items).

In the United Kingdom the National Foreword forms an important part to the understanding and implementation of the recommendations set out in this document. It clarifies the application of the document within the UK as best practice guidance, as the document has been used since its initial publication. Therefore, in the UK this standard (BS EN 1176 – Part 7) contains no requirements and needs to be read and implemented as guidance, with the use of the term 'shall' therefore becoming a recommendation, as in the term 'should'.

Domestic play equipment falls outside of the scope of BS EN 1176 and has its own standards (BS EN 71 series – Safety of Toys). Where domestic equipment can be identified this will be acknowledged in the report but any comments concerning compliance will follow the requirements and recommendations of BS EN 1176.

When water play items, including spray parks, are inspected any comments concerning compliance within the inspection will refer to EN 1176. We have not assessed these against the requirements of EN 17232 (Water play equipment and features).

Other equipment that is not clearly identified as unsupervised or domestic (natural play, self-build equipment etc.) will be assessed for compliance with the relevant standard listed below:

- BS EN 15312** Free access multi-sports equipment
- BS EN 14974** Skateparks
- BS EN 16630** Permanently installed outdoor fitness equipment
- BS EN 16899** Parkour equipment (plus RPII/API guidance notes)

Annual and Post Installation inspections will take into consideration compliance with these current standards, and defects related to wear and vandalism. Items not listed in the report have not been included in the inspection. The inspection will cover the playground equipment and the active area (that area which is obviously part of the playground), nominally up to three metres around, the fence line if closer, or other areas as agreed.

Operational inspections only take into consideration defects related to cleanliness, equipment ground clearances, ground surface finishes, exposed foundations, sharp edges, missing parts, excessive wear (of moving parts) structural integrity, wear and vandalism.

Routine visual inspections relate only to the most obvious defects such as broken or missing parts, litter, vandalism and issues created by severe weather conditions (the intention is to identify hazards created by storm damage).

All inspections are non-dismantling, non-destructive and do not include any structural, toxicology or impact assessments defined in the standard; however, the inspector will undertake a manual test for stability and if equipment fails under manual load, or any other hazard is identified as an unacceptable risk, the owner/operator will be notified as soon as practicably possible.

The inspector will access all reasonably accessible equipment and will assess all reasonably accessible parts above the standing surface. Where it is not possible to access parts of the equipment without employing an alternative means of access the report will record the action required by the owner/operator to ensure the continued safe use of the equipment.

Ancillary equipment will be assessed using the inspector's knowledge and experience of the standards named in this document. (Note: Ancillary items are not included in the specific equipment-type parts of the EN 1176 series; hence they are not assessed for compliance with EN 1176 series and are subject to a general safety assessment).

The owner/operator is responsible for the overall safety of the equipment and area.

The inspector will not undertake any of the following works unless specifically agreed in writing at the time of order:

Checking the depth and underlying structural integrity of any surface areas and/or carrying out any testing of the impact attenuating properties of any surfaces; the identification of any corrosion, rot or other deterioration in any apparatus or equipment other than by an external inspection; the inspection of any equipment (or part thereof) that is beneath the playing surface (loose-fill materials may be moved to expose foundations); tightening any bolts, hinges or other fixing devices on any apparatus or equipment; assessing or inspecting any electrical installations contained on any site and/or apparatus and/or equipment; assessing or inspecting any water supplies and/or water features and/or any associated computerised systems (including carrying out any programming); where planting or trees are mentioned in the report no assessments of toxicity, suitability or condition are undertaken – the owner/operator should have suitable inspections provided by a competent person.

The owner/operator should have a 'design risk assessment' provided by the manufacturer/designer of the area for the equipment and location in which the facility is installed.

The operator is responsible for managing risks of their provision and is required by law to carry out a 'suitable and sufficient assessment' of the risks associated with a site or activity. This inspection shall be considered as contributing to the operator's discharge of this responsibility.

The details contained within the report are a snapshot of the condition at the time of inspection only and subsequent events may affect the condition of the facility. Suggested remedial actions are based on the knowledge and experience of the inspector and/or that of the inspection company. The owner/operator should always seek the advice of the manufacturer or a competent person when undertaking repairs and/or modifications to equipment.

Table 1

The operator is responsible for following the guidance of the relevant standards. The standards give guidance on the installation, inspection, maintenance and operation of the various types of facilities. The inspection guidance is listed in Table 1, with an indication of which parts will be included in an RPII Annual or Post-Installation Inspection. The relevant standards also contain additional parts which the operator should follow.

Inspection Recommendations of relevant standards Refer to relevant standards for full text	Annual Main	RPII Annual/ Post Installation Inspection
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of equipment (see note 1)	✓	✓ [1]
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of foundations (see note 1)	✓	✓ [1]
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of playing surfaces (see note 2)	✓	✓ [2]
6.1 d) Compliance with the relevant parts of the standard and or risk assessment (see note 3)	✓	✓ [3]
6.1 d) Effects of weather	✓	✓
6.1 d) Presence of rot, decay or corrosion (see note 1)	✓	✓ [1]
6.1 d) Assessment of repairs made or added or replaced components (see note 4)	✓	✓ [4]
6.1 d) Excavation or dismantling/additional measures	✓	✗
6.2.1 Assessment of glass reinforced plastics (see note 5)	✓	✓ [5]
6.2.1 Inspection of one post equipment (see note 1)	✓	✓ [1]
6.2.4 Undertaking the Operators inspection protocol	✓	✗

NB: The clause numbers in table 1 are taken from BS EN 1176 - Part 7:2020. The content is equally applicable to all other relevant standards listed herein. Playgrounds contain a range of equipment from different manufacturers and installed over a number of years; operators should implement any guidance provided by the manufacturer. Item specific detail is not readily available to RPII Playground Inspectors, whose report contributes to the operator's overall Annual Main Inspection as detailed in the relevant

[1] A manual test only is undertaken for stability. Wear and instability are only detectable where readily apparent without dismantling or destruction and without the use of tools, excavation or specialist equipment. Rot and corrosion are tested or with a hammer and/or steel rod. Decay in timber may exist which can only be found with specialist equipment.

[2] Only the visible condition and dimensional compliance of surface extent is considered. Neither testing of impact attenuating properties nor measurement of the thickness of bound surfaces are undertaken on RPII annual inspections.

[3] The inspection assesses compliance where this can be tested on site using manual methods without dismantling, destruction and without the use of tools or specialist equipment.

[4] The operator should use manufacturer's recommended parts, or equivalent. We are unable to verify if such parts have been used, and any subsequent change in quality or performance.

[5] Visible glass fibres will be noted in reports. The operator is responsible for repairs or replacement.



Annual Inspection Report



57 Larkin Gardens

Client:	Persimmon Homes & Charles Church Midlands
Address:	3 Waterside Way Bedford Road Northampton NN4 7XD
Date:	31st August 2023
Inspector:	Peter Briggs

Assessed site risk at time of inspection

Medium Risk (12)

32 Manor Road Barton Seagrave Northants NN15 6WD

Mob: 07983 339879 Tel: 01536 724034

Email: p.briggs@seagraveinspectionsservices.co.uk

www.seagraveinspectionsservices.co.uk



GENERAL COMMENTS

Monitor area and review all fixings for security. The concept of the Operational/Annual/Post Installation is to assist the customer in providing a programme of works as recommended with any findings or EN failures. Consider a robust maintenance and inspection schedule. Guidance should be given that the installation process has been followed as per the manufactures/suppliers instructions.

The following notes form an important part of the inspection report - The equipment has been assessed to the relevant British version of the European Standard namely BSEN1176 for Playground Equipment, BSEN14974 for Wheeled Sports, BSEN15312 for Multi Use Games Areas and BSEN16630 for permanently installed Outdoor Fitness Gym Equipment. The standards mentioned are minimum standards and are not a legal requirement, where in the opinion of the Inspector compliance failure is noted then there is a risk assessed accordingly. Risk assessment is a legal requirement and should the need arise a court or a Health and Safety Inspector will ask to see the assessment, the level of risk has to be acceptable.

Seagrave Inspection Services Ltd risk assessment is based on Peter Heseltine and Bob Cooks Third Edition Assessing Risk on Children's Playgrounds, this is not a definitive list of terms of all equipment, however; the book principles will be applied, other factors such as accident statistics, Inspectors experience are also relevant.

Inspections are non-dismantling, for equipment that disappears into enclosed fixings dismantling inspection will be advised accordingly. Equipment over 2.5 metre heights are excluded from Seagrave Inspection Services Ltd, for wear parts above this height an advisory note will be provided if felt necessary.

Structural loadings should be provided by the manufacturer for all types of above mentioned equipment.

Guidance should be sought from the supplier for certification that the depth or type of surfacing used meets EN1177 for HIC requirements.

This report indicates the assessed level of risk at the time of visiting and not a given or implied guarantee to the installation process or product warranty. No dismantling of equipment took place or any other general maintenance. This report also does not confirm the playground will remain free from possible product conflict for the period until the next audit. Refer to the owner of the play area for any routine or operational inspections and the manufacturers recommended schedules for ongoing maintenance/inspection requirements before and after this audit.

There are three levels of inspection; Routine, Operational and Annual. The Annual Inspection checks the Operational and the Operational checks the Routine Inspections. A risk assessment is also provided where considered necessary and categorised on a score rating as follows;

Risk rating	Action
1 - 3 Very Low Risk	Monitor
4 - 7 Low Risk	Monitor and take reasonable action if required
8 - 12 Medium Risk	Take action to reduce if possible
13 - 20 High Risk	Take action ASAP to implement control measures
21+ Unacceptable Risk	Remove or immobilise immediately

ANCILLARY ITEMS


Ancillary items such as; seats, litter bins, gates, planting form part of the inspection along with comments relating to the facilities in close proximity to roadways, water courses, electrical substations, overhead cables and any structure considered a hazard i.e. general safety of the area.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Findings</u>	<u>Comments and Recommendations</u>
Access	Monitor	None
Pathways	Acceptable	Monitor
Fencing	Acceptable	None
Gate(s)	Average	See report
Sign(s)	Present: No	Consider ownership signage
Seat(s)	Acceptable	Monitor use
Litter Bin(s)	Acceptable	Monitor use
Cleanliness	Average	Monitor use
Planting	Trees Grass	N/a N/a
Location	Monitor area	Monitor use

Item EN Compliance	Yes	Surface EN Compliance	N/a
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Findings at the time of inspection with risk number

 Rubber buffer damaged.
Recommendation:
 Replace buffer.

5

Recommendation:

Recommendation:


Recommendation:

Item	Gate				
Supplier	Unknown				
Surface	N/a				
Risk Rating Overall	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Unacceptable
		5			

Item EN Compliance	No	Surface EN Compliance	Yes
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Findings at the time of inspection with risk number

 Damaged wet pour.
Recommendation:
 Repair as required.

5

Recommendation:

Recommendation:


Recommendation:

Item	Horse Rocker				
Supplier	Ledon				
Surface	Wet Pour				
Risk Rating Overall	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Unacceptable
		5			

Item EN Compliance	No	Surface EN Compliance	Yes
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Findings at the time of inspection with risk number

 No faults found during the inspection.
Recommendation:
 No action required. Monitor use.

4

Recommendation:

Recommendation:


Recommendation:

Item	Bike Rocker				
Supplier	Ledon				
Surface	Wet Pour				
Risk Rating Overall	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Unacceptable
		4			

Item EN Compliance	Yes	Surface EN Compliance	Yes
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Findings at the time of inspection with risk number

	No faults found during the inspection. Recommendation: No action required. Monitor use.	4
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	Recommendation:	
--	------------------------	--

	Recommendation:	
--	------------------------	--


	Recommendation:	
--	------------------------	--


Item	Spring Seesaw				
Supplier	Ledon				
Surface	Wet Pour				
Risk Rating Overall	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Unacceptable
		4			


Item EN Compliance	No	Surface EN Compliance	Yes
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Findings at the time of inspection with risk number

	Damaged seat exposing metalwork. Recommendation: Replace seat asap.	12
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	Worn chains evident. Recommendation: Monitor to replace at 40% diameter of wear.	7
--	---	---

	Splits/cracks evident in places. Recommendation: Monitor this condition.	5
---	---	---


	Recommendation:	
--	------------------------	--


Item	1 Bay 1 Cradle Swing				
Supplier	Playdale				
Surface	Wet Pour				
Risk Rating Overall	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Unacceptable
			12		


Item EN Compliance	Yes	Surface EN Compliance	Yes
--------------------	-----	-----------------------	-----




Findings at the time of inspection with risk number

	Splits/cracks evident in places. Recommendation: Monitor this condition.	5
---	---	---

	Plastic cap missing. Recommendation: Replace cap.	5
---	--	---

	Wet pour edge shrinkage evident in places. Recommendation: Monitor to repair as necessary.	8
---	---	---

	As above finding. Recommendation: As above comment.	8
---	--	---

Item	Tower Slide				
Supplier	Playdale				
Surface	Wet Pour				
Risk Rating Overall	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Unacceptable
			8		



Inspection Scope for RPII Annual Inspectors

This document outlines the RPII scope for inspections undertaken by the Inspectors listed as Annual Inspectors on the RPII Register of Inspectors when undertaking Indoor Annual, Outdoor Annual, Outdoor Operational and Outdoor Routine inspections.

Inspections are undertaken with reference to the standards listed in this preamble only; where no date for the standard is given it will be the standard that is current at the time of inspection except where overlap periods are granted by the standards committee when standards are updated. The information contained in reports is provided to assist the owner/operator in fulfilling their responsibilities as detailed in the relevant standard. Other standards referenced within the listed standards do not form part of the inspection, unless they are also explicitly listed here.

The following standards are relevant to all installations of equipment that are publicly accessible to users; this includes public parks, pay and play parks, schools, nurseries, public houses, holiday parks, indoor play centres, farm parks etc. All equipment used or employed in publicly accessible areas should meet with the requirements of the relevant standards (listed below):

BS EN 1176 Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10 & 11 Playground equipment intended for permanent installation outdoors & indoors.

BS EN 1176 Part 7 - 'Guidance on Installation, Inspection, Maintenance and Operation' (this document gives guidance to the owners/operators of the facility on the installation, inspection, maintenance and operation of playground equipment, excluding ancillary items).

In the United Kingdom the National Foreword forms an important part to the understanding and implementation of the recommendations set out in this document. It clarifies the application of the document within the UK as best practice guidance, as the document has been used since its initial publication. Therefore, in the UK this standard (BS EN 1176 – Part 7) contains no requirements and needs to be read and implemented as guidance, with the use of the term 'shall' therefore becoming a recommendation, as in the term 'should'.

Domestic play equipment falls outside of the scope of BS EN 1176 and has its own standards (BS EN 71 series – Safety of Toys). Where domestic equipment can be identified this will be acknowledged in the report but any comments concerning compliance will follow the requirements and recommendations of BS EN 1176.

When water play items, including spray parks, are inspected any comments concerning compliance within the inspection will refer to EN 1176. We have not assessed these against the requirements of EN 17232 (Water play equipment and features).

Other equipment that is not clearly identified as unsupervised or domestic (natural play, self-build equipment etc.) will be assessed for compliance with the relevant standard listed below:

- BS EN 15312** Free access multi-sports equipment
- BS EN 14974** Skateparks
- BS EN 16630** Permanently installed outdoor fitness equipment
- BS EN 16899** Parkour equipment (plus RPII/API guidance notes)

Annual and Post Installation inspections will take into consideration compliance with these current standards, and defects related to wear and vandalism. Items not listed in the report have not been included in the inspection. The inspection will cover the playground equipment and the active area (that area which is obviously part of the playground), nominally up to three metres around, the fence line if closer, or other areas as agreed.

Operational inspections only take into consideration defects related to cleanliness, equipment ground clearances, ground surface finishes, exposed foundations, sharp edges, missing parts, excessive wear (of moving parts) structural integrity, wear and vandalism.

Routine visual inspections relate only to the most obvious defects such as broken or missing parts, litter, vandalism and issues created by severe weather conditions (the intention is to identify hazards created by storm damage).

All inspections are non-dismantling, non-destructive and do not include any structural, toxicology or impact assessments defined in the standard; however, the inspector will undertake a manual test for stability and if equipment fails under manual load, or any other hazard is identified as an unacceptable risk, the owner/operator will be notified as soon as practicably possible.

The inspector will access all reasonably accessible equipment and will assess all reasonably accessible parts above the standing surface. Where it is not possible to access parts of the equipment without employing an alternative means of access the report will record the action required by the owner/operator to ensure the continued safe use of the equipment.

Ancillary equipment will be assessed using the inspector's knowledge and experience of the standards named in this document. (Note: Ancillary items are not included in the specific equipment-type parts of the EN 1176 series; hence they are not assessed for compliance with EN 1176 series and are subject to a general safety assessment).

The owner/operator is responsible for the overall safety of the equipment and area.

The inspector will not undertake any of the following works unless specifically agreed in writing at the time of order:

Checking the depth and underlying structural integrity of any surface areas and/or carrying out any testing of the impact attenuating properties of any surfaces; the identification of any corrosion, rot or other deterioration in any apparatus or equipment other than by an external inspection; the inspection of any equipment (or part thereof) that is beneath the playing surface (loose-fill materials may be moved to expose foundations); tightening any bolts, hinges or other fixing devices on any apparatus or equipment; assessing or inspecting any electrical installations contained on any site and/or apparatus and/or equipment; assessing or inspecting any water supplies and/or water features and/or any associated computerised systems (including carrying out any programming); where planting or trees are mentioned in the report no assessments of toxicity, suitability or condition are undertaken – the owner/operator should have suitable inspections provided by a competent person.

The owner/operator should have a 'design risk assessment' provided by the manufacturer/designer of the area for the equipment and location in which the facility is installed.

The operator is responsible for managing risks of their provision and is required by law to carry out a 'suitable and sufficient assessment' of the risks associated with a site or activity. This inspection shall be considered as contributing to the operator's discharge of this responsibility.

The details contained within the report are a snapshot of the condition at the time of inspection only and subsequent events may affect the condition of the facility. Suggested remedial actions are based on the knowledge and experience of the inspector and/or that of the inspection company. The owner/operator should always seek the advice of the manufacturer or a competent person when undertaking repairs and/or modifications to equipment.

Table 1

The operator is responsible for following the guidance of the relevant standards. The standards give guidance on the installation, inspection, maintenance and operation of the various types of facilities. The inspection guidance is listed in Table 1, with an indication of which parts will be included in an RPII Annual or Post-Installation Inspection. The relevant standards also contain additional parts which the operator should follow.

Inspection Recommendations of relevant standards Refer to relevant standards for full text	Annual Main	RPII Annual/ Post Installation Inspection
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of equipment (see note 1)	✓	✓ [1]
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of foundations (see note 1)	✓	✓ [1]
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of playing surfaces (see note 2)	✓	✓ [2]
6.1 d) Compliance with the relevant parts of the standard and or risk assessment (see note 3)	✓	✓ [3]
6.1 d) Effects of weather	✓	✓
6.1 d) Presence of rot, decay or corrosion (see note 1)	✓	✓ [1]
6.1 d) Assessment of repairs made or added or replaced components (see note 4)	✓	✓ [4]
6.1 d) Excavation or dismantling/additional measures	✓	✗
6.2.1 Assessment of glass reinforced plastics (see note 5)	✓	✓ [5]
6.2.1 Inspection of one post equipment (see note 1)	✓	✓ [1]
6.2.4 Undertaking the Operators inspection protocol	✓	✗

NB: The clause numbers in table 1 are taken from BS EN 1176 - Part 7:2020. The content is equally applicable to all other relevant standards listed herein. Playgrounds contain a range of equipment from different manufacturers and installed over a number of years; operators should implement any guidance provided by the manufacturer. Item specific detail is not readily available to RPII Playground Inspectors, whose report contributes to the operator's overall Annual Main Inspection as detailed in the relevant

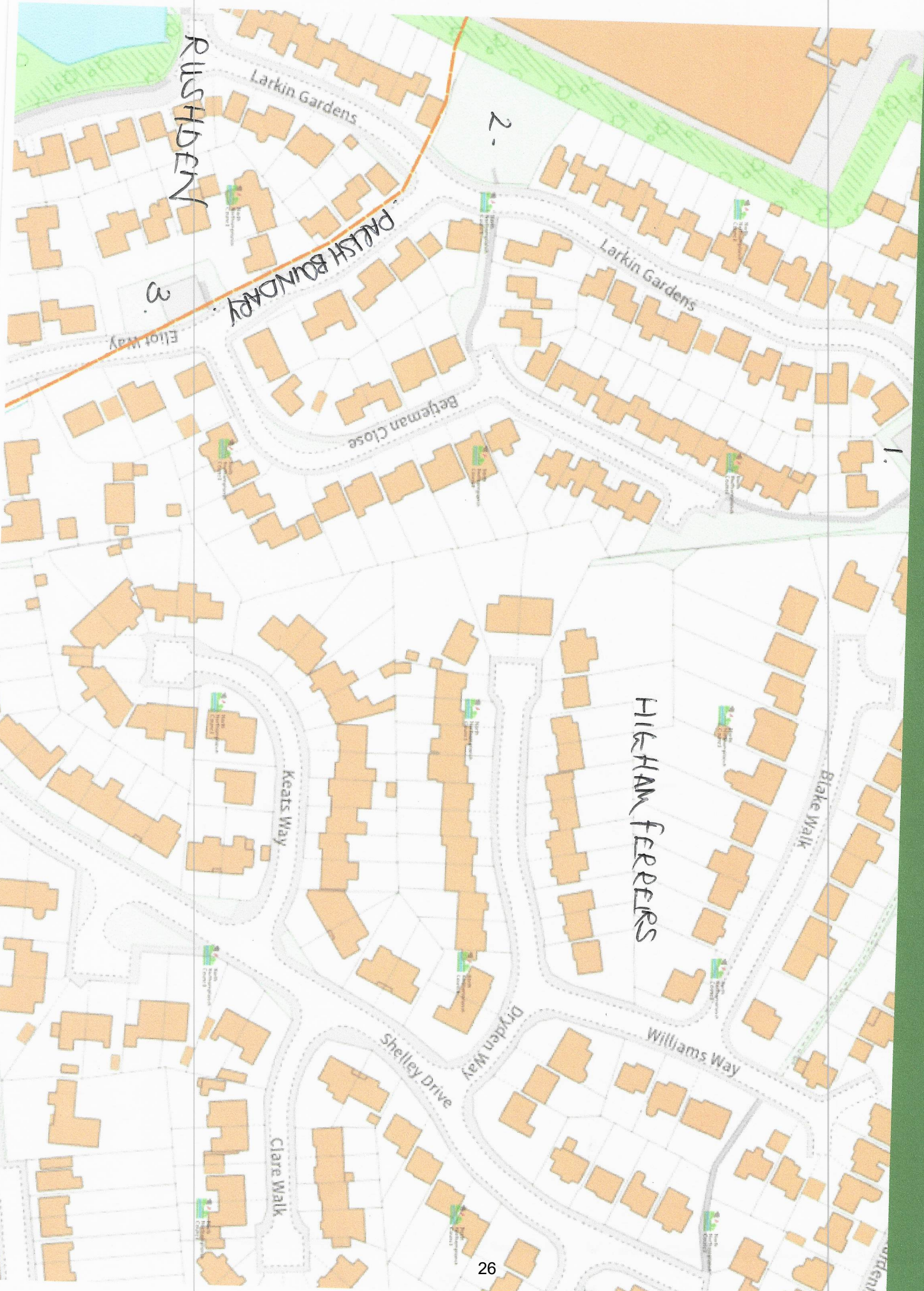
[1] A manual test only is undertaken for stability. Wear and instability are only detectable where readily apparent without dismantling or destruction and without the use of tools, excavation or specialist equipment. Rot and corrosion are tested or with a hammer and/or steel rod. Decay in timber may exist which can only be found with specialist equipment.

[2] Only the visible condition and dimensional compliance of surface extent is considered. Neither testing of impact attenuating properties nor measurement of the thickness of bound surfaces are undertaken on RPII annual inspections.

[3] The inspection assesses compliance where this can be tested on site using manual methods without dismantling, destruction and without the use of tools or specialist equipment.

[4] The operator should use manufacturer's recommended parts, or equivalent. We are unable to verify if such parts have been used, and any subsequent change in quality or performance.

[5] Visible glass fibres will be noted in reports. The operator is responsible for repairs or replacement.



HIGHAM FERRERS TOWN COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION COMMITTEE

10TH SEPTEMBER 2024

REPORT: Biodiversity Action Plan

REPORT AUTHOR: Assistant Clerk, Emily Arrow

BUSINESS FORWARD PLAN	Yes	
COUNCIL OBJECTIVES	Yes	
POLICIES REFERENCED	Biodiversity Policy	
FINANCIAL IMPLICATION	There are no financial implications at this stage	x
	There will be financial implications	
	There is provision within budget	
	Decisions may give rise to additional expenditure	x
	Decisions may give rise to potential income	
MEANS OF DELIVERY	Town Clerk, Assistant Clerk	
APPENDICES	Biodiversity Policy Biodiversity Action Plan	

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. To approve the Biodiversity Action Plan as drafted.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. In April 2024 the council adopted a Biodiversity Policy and reviewed the model Biodiversity Action Plan. As a council we have a statutory duty to consider and promote biodiversity and the action plan allows us to establish a set of goals and work towards greater promotion of biodiversity and protection of habitats in Higham Ferrers, whilst delivering the projects on the forward business plan.

A Biodiversity Action Plan for Higham Ferrers Town Council has been drafted based on the model Biodiversity Action Plan.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1. That the Biodiversity Action Plan is approved as drafted.

HIGHAM FERRERS TOWN COUNCIL
BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

SITE/ OBJECTIVE	ACTION	OUTCOME	TARGET (years)	REPORTING/ PUBLICITY
Whole council area	Raise local awareness of biodiversity	Gain local support for action	Ongoing	Newsletter, social media, website, app
Protect and support biodiversity	Encourage suitable planting to support biodiversity	Connect and diversify habitats to meet the needs of a variety of wildlife species	Ongoing	Newsletter, social media, website, app
Cemetery	Adopt a plan to support wildlife and diversity whilst maintaining the site in a way which enables visitors to experience quiet and calm remembrance Leave leaf litter and dead vegetation wherever possible as a habitat for invertebrates	Increased diversity of habitats and food sources Increased cover for invertebrates, reptiles, amphibians and small mammals Encouraging insects, particularly butterflies and bees	Ongoing	Newsletter, social media, website, app, noticeboard at cemetery
Recreation ground(s)	Sympathetically maintain hedging Leave some areas unmown Only use environmentally friendly pesticides where absolutely necessary and only in ideal weather conditions	Food sources and cover Encourages insects Sustains and enhances natural habitats	Ongoing	Newsletter, social media, website, app, signage/noticeboards
Other open spaces	Adopt a management plan Encourage residents to remove litter and pick up after their dogs Work with the unitary authority on verge management, favouring biodiversity but noting which areas may need cutting for highway safety Encourage residents to adopt areas to look after, making it clear what is expected (e.g. peat free compost and no chemicals)	Sustains and enhances natural habitats Protects habitats Ensures regular attention is paid to biodiversity and it is considered in all relevant decisions	Ongoing	Newsletter, social media, website, app, signage/noticeboards
The Built Landscape	Ensure that planning consultations are considered against the requirements of the Neighbourhood Plan	Protects and enhances habitats Extends habitats	Ongoing	Neighbourhood Plan consultation

	Encourage hedgehog/small animal highways with permeable boundaries			
Increase community awareness of biodiversity	<p>Ask residents for their views on what they would like to be done to conserve biodiversity within the parish</p> <p>Raise awareness of the importance of gardens as habitats for wildlife, with possible actions highlighted in the town newsletter/social media</p> <p>Create a page on the parish council website for photographs/information/links</p> <p>Encourage local farmers to contribute</p> <p>Provide seeds for resident's use (e.g. Bee Squared project)</p> <p>Discourage floodlighting. Explore red light in future street lighting</p>	<p>Engagement/ownership of biodiversity</p> <p>Promoting biodiversity</p> <p>Extending habitats</p> <p>Protecting nocturnal animals</p> <p>Promoting 'at home' efforts to promote biodiversity and diversify habitats</p>	Ongoing	<p>Newsletter, social media, website, app, noticeboards, signage, farmers market, school engagement, public consultation</p>
Support community projects	<p>Support hedge/tree planting in any appropriate areas</p> <p>Work in partnership with the school to develop young people's awareness of the environment around them</p> <p>Consider events and offer volunteering opportunities to support biodiversity, working with local organisations</p>	<p>Extending habitats</p> <p>Promoting biodiversity</p>	Ongoing	<p>Newsletter, social media, website, app, school engagement, farmers market/events</p>

HIGHAM FERRERS TOWN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION COMMITTEE

10TH SEPTEMBER 2024

REPORT: Proposal for new tree planting, Saffron Road Recreation Ground

REPORT AUTHOR: Assistant Clerk, Emily Arrow

BUSINESS FORWARD PLAN	N/A	
COUNCIL OBJECTIVES	Yes	
POLICIES REFERENCED	Tree Management Policy	
FINANCIAL IMPLICATION	There are no financial implications at this stage	
	There will be financial implications	x
	There is provision within budget	
	Decisions may give rise to additional expenditure	
	Decisions may give rise to potential income	
MEANS OF DELIVERY	All Staff	
APPENDICES	Saffron Road Recreation plan showing existing planting locations and proposed new planting locations	

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. To consider a proposal for the planting of 2 Swedish White Beam trees on Saffron Road Recreation Ground.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. In November 2020 the council considered a proposal to plant 5 ‘Swedish White Beam’ trees on Saffron Road Recreation Ground.

Ultimately this proposal was agreed and 5 trees were planted – 3 along the Saffron Road border and 2 between the bowling green and the play area.

Swedish White Beam (*Sorbus Intermedia*) trees were chosen as they are considered to be a compact tree casting a good shadow; a more established version of which can be seen on the corner of Saffron Road and Vine Hill Drive opposite the cemetery gates.

The cost at the time to plant all 5 Swedish White Beam trees at approximately 12-14ft tall, including compost, stakes and tree ties was £1,381.25. Some vandalism did occur to the trees after they were initially planted which led to a further expenditure on metal tree guards to protect the specimens as they grow. No further issues have been reported.

3. FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1. The Tree Warden has been consulted and has no objections to the planting of 2 further Swedish White Beam trees on the Vine Hill Drive/Recreation Ground border, and recommends that they are planted with enough space from the road border to ensure shade cover in coming years would benefit the recreation ground and not encroach on the road/pathway.

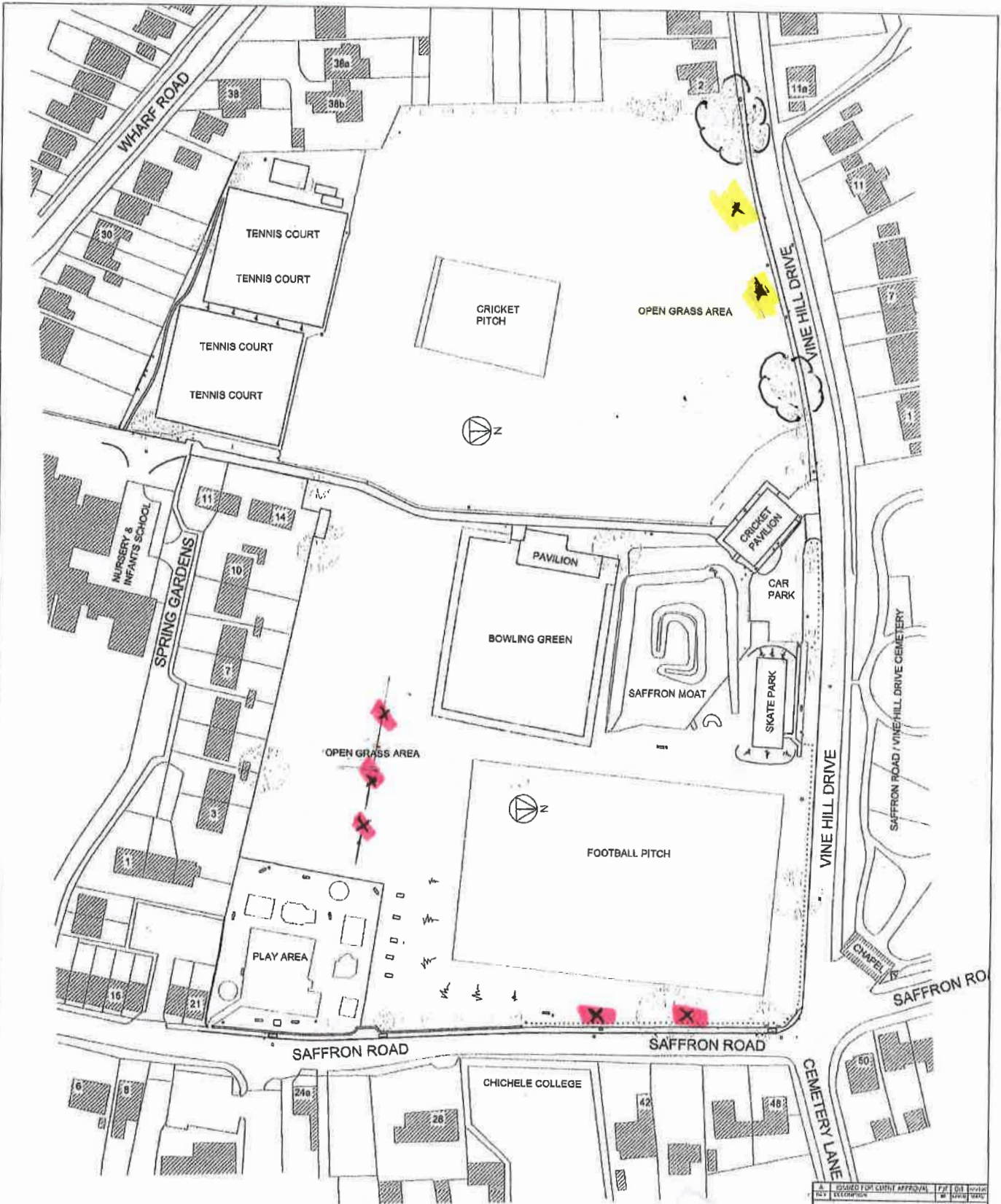
- 3.2. The committee are asked to consider the proposal for the planting of 2 further Swedish White Beam trees.

If the proposal is agreed, quotes will be sought for the sourcing of 2 Swedish White Beam trees at around 12-14ft tall, and associated stakes, tree ties and metal guards.

SEPTEMBER 2024 - NOTE THIS PLAN IS FROM 2020. THE PINK HIGHLIGHTS ARE WHERE THE ORIGINAL 5 SWEDISH WHITE BEAM WERE PLANTED IN 2021 - ALBEIT IN A SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT CONFIGURATION AS ULTIMATELY 3 WERE PLANTED ALONG THE SAFFRON ROAD BORDER AND 2 BETWEEN THE BOWLING GREEN AND PLAY AREA

THE TWO YELLOW HIGHLIGHTS ALONG THE VINE HILL DRIVE BORDER ARE WHERE THE TWO NEW SWEDISH WHITE BEAM TREES ARE PROPOSED TO BE PLANTED

X PROPOSED LOCATION FOR SWEDISH WHITE BEAM TREES.



SAFFRON ROAD RECREATION GROUND

THE TWO YELLOW HIGHLIGHTS ALONG THE VINE HILL DRIVE BORDER ARE WHERE THE TWO NEW SWEDISH WHITE BEAM TREES ARE PROPOSED TO BE PLANTED

NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY
1	DESIGNED FOR CLIENT APPROVAL	12/10/20	MM
2	FOR APPROVAL ASSOCIATES	12/10/20	MM
3	SI LINES	12/10/20	MM
4	CIVIL ENGINEERING	12/10/20	MM
5	PLANTING	12/10/20	MM

Telephone: 01480 353010
 E-Mail: info@pfa.co.uk
 Web: www.pfa.co.uk
 REGISTERED CIVIL ENGINEER NO. 123456789
 REGISTERED PLANTING DESIGNER NO. 123456789

Higham Ferrers Parish Path Warden Report September 2024

Path VC6 walked 9.7.24. The collapsed wall was not a problem any more but no more information on FixMyStreet number 5529094.

Reported to Emily Arrow that the "Path Closed" closed sign, barriers and cones from the collapsed wall repair were still laying in the wayside.

27.8.24 The "Path closed" sign and barriers have been removed, well done Emily!

Two cones remain, but they may be from another incident.

Path VC9 walked 25.8.24. No path through crossfields but field edges good. Waymarkers not done yet.

Path VC15 walked 26.6.24. Too overgrown to walk further than behind 18 Blake Walk in shorts and T-shirt.

Reported on FixMyStreet the next day number 6165517. "on mowing programme for October"

Path VC26 walked 18.7.24. A wheelchair had been flytipped near to the play park in Stanwick Road prior to the footbridge over the bypass. Reported on FixMyStreet number 6245502.

I received an email from FMS asking me to check if it had gone, so on 20.8.24, I returned to find it was clear. Good service!

The part of VC26 alongside the dog park was really overgrown again with wild roses and brambles so I reported this on FixMyStreet number 6245553. When I returned on 20.8.24 to check, the entrance on Stanwick Road was improved but the rest was horrible and won't be tackled until October, after the nesting season.