

CODDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Agenda Paper



Tuesday 19th February 2019

Report to Council

Item 12. To **RECEIVE** a report from the Play Area working party concerning repairs and improvements to Recreation Ground and Play Equipment.

1. It is **PROPOSED** that the Play Area working party make necessary repairs to basket swing and replace signage on the recreation ground at a cost of £385.00. To be funded from the District Councillors Locality budget grant of £400.00 and Day Foundation funding for Gym Equipment sign.
2. It is **PROPOSED** that the Play Area working party make repairs to the post and wire fence, Natural history Sign, the trim trail steps and upright posts, Rock and Cross seesaw and net climber at a cost of £665.00. To be funded from the remainder of the £400 grant and Council budget for Play area.

At the PC meeting of 27th November 2018 council received the Annual Play Area inspection report and tasked the working group to

- Take action to address the “moderate” safety issues on the basket swing.
- Signage
- Contact Freshair Fitness to request that adjustments are made to the adult gym equipment to comply with BS EN 16630.

There was also a brief discussion and suggestion that the area closest to the Blacksmiths Lane entrance be “tidied up.”

Budget available

Cllr Soanes applied to the District Councillor Passmore who granted £400 from his locality budget.

The Day Foundation when originally approached for funding for the adult gym equipment agreed to pay for the necessary signage. Confirmation has been received that they will still fund any signage necessary for the adult gym equipment.

There is £2000.00 in 2018/19 budget allocated to the Play Area.

This report is presented with 2 proposals for consideration by the council: -

1.Repairs and improvements as requested by PC on 27th November.

Basket swing. Inspection report identified that the distance between the swing seat and floor level is too narrow and that there may be some rotting at the base of the posts.

A working party of volunteers will remove the matting, reduce the ground level beneath the swing seat and replace the matting. It is hoped – from a test “dig” - that this can be achieved without damaging the matting. This process will also enable a full examination of the posts. Should the matting be damaged replacement costs are £25.50 per mat. Maximum cost of 10 mats £255.00.

Coddenham Parish Council

This is a very well used and popular piece of play equipment and the only fully inclusive piece of Play Equipment on site. It is therefore not only highly valuable to our children...but also for when making possible future grant applications.

Signage. The inspection report recommended that there should be signs advising of emergency contacts at each entrance. There should also be a sign by the adult gym equipment to comply with BSEN16630. The original Play Equipment sign is faded and has incorrect contact details.

To purchase from Hudson signs, Needham Market:

1 x A4 sign to attach to gate from Blacksmiths Lane. Cost £32.50 plus vat

1 x A4 sign for the "through hedge" entrance across road from village hall. Cost £32.50 plus vat

1 x A2 sign to be positioned on a post by the main entrance. £65.00 plus vat

1 x A3 sign to be positioned next to gym equipment. The Day Foundation have agreed to fund this sign.

The faded sign to be removed.

Total cost £130.00 plus VAT. Plus small cost of fittings for 2 A4 signs. Working party to fit signs.

The wording of the signs has not yet been decided. If Council approve it is hoped that the wording can be written by Cllr Soanes and the Chair and Issued to other Councillors for comment and final agreement. This process to take place by e-mail/letter to prevent further delay.

Adult Gym Equipment

Freshair fitness have been contacted and will be visiting the site to correct all equipment so that it complies with BS EN 16630. They will also be advising of specific wording needed for the signage.

2. Further repairs/improvements

As it is the intention for the Play Area to be incorporated into the Village Hall charity at some point in the future, it is considered that the PC should address other areas of maintenance and improvement so that the Play Area is not in a deteriorating condition when becoming the responsibility of the charity.

Additional work: -

Fence on west side. As reported in the inspection report many of the posts have rotted. The fence is no longer fit for purpose with the risk of children falling into the ditch.

Propose to replace loose posts. Cost of posts, nails & staples £105

Natural history sign. To be left where it is as has a "you are here" spot on information. To be treated with wood preservative. Cost £15.00

Jubilee seat. This has been repaired. However, propose to move this to next to hedge behind swings. The present location is too far from the Play Equipment for supervising carers.

Trim trail wooden steps. Wood is splintered and needs replacing. Propose to replace. Cost £40.00

Trim trail upright posts. Rotting timber on one lower post. Propose to remove the stand alone post and use this to replace the rotting post.

Coddenham Parish Council

Rock and cross see saw. This piece of equipment – after 9 years – is finally moving with ease. The rusting paintwork will be treated with Hammerite and the ground matting fixing pins knocked back down.

Net Climber. The inspection report identified that the bark level needs topping up and some bolt cap covers are missing.

Propose to purchase 5 cubic metres of play grade bark chippings. Cost £500

Also purchase 1 set of bolt cap covers from Playdale. Cost £5 plus postage.

The work will be carried out by a team of volunteers. It is hoped that a parishioner will also assist with a digger. It is hoped that a working party day will take place between half term and Easter.

Refurbishment of main entrance

When considering a request for input regarding Play Area improvements Cllr Fowler has suggested Council consider getting a quote for the following work: -

1. Replacement of the trees that are soon to be felled on the left-hand side of the entrance.
2. Extend the hard standing area at the entrance to enable parking of emergency vehicles.
3. Incorporate a new Parish Notice board.
4. Have a smart set of gates.

As this suggestion does not involve works relating to the Play Equipment, the Play Area working party feels that it needs to be addressed separately by the Parish Council. A proposal concerning this suggestion is therefore not included in this report.

Proposals:

3. It is **PROPOSED** that the Play Area working party make necessary repairs to basket swing and replace signage on the recreation ground at a cost of £385.00. To be funded from the District Councillors Locality budget grant of £400.00 and Day Foundation funding for Gym Equipment sign.
4. It is **PROPOSED** that the Play Area working party make repairs to the post and wire fence, Natural history Sign, the trim trail steps and upright posts, Rock and Cross seesaw and net climber at a cost of £665.00. To be funded from the remainder of the £400 grant and Council budget for Play area.

Cllr Jane Soanes. Play Area Working Party

Peter Whitehouse

Parish Clerk