

Meeting	Full Council
Date	26 th April 2022
Report Title	Parks & Projects
Agenda Reference	12A
Author	David Hunt, Head of Parks & Open Spaces

Play Area Working Party's Recommendations:

1. To proceed with the purchase of a fire engine themed unit for Brookfield Play Area at a cost of £3,000.00 to be met from [4316/302].
2. To note that a see saw part for King George V has been purchased at a cost of £1,346.00 using last year's existing budgets.
3. To purchase 'anti-vandal paint' signs for King George V Play Area at a cost of £100.00 to be met from [4412/402].

Play Area Working Party

The Play Area Working Party met on Thursday 17th March 2022 and discussed remaining budgets within the 2021-2022 financial year and plans for the upcoming financial year. The Play Area Working Party received updates from the Parks & Projects Team and a site visit will be arranged at some of the identified play areas for possible part refurbishment, ready to bring proposals back to a future Committee meeting.

Current Status of Play Areas

- White Eagle Basket bolt missing repaired within 24 hours
- No graffiti in parks at present
- Still a few medium risks that need to be looked at, but the new 22/23 inspection will have picked them up. The new inspection report was received this week and the Head of Parks & Open Spaces will discuss findings with the Parks & Projects Team.
- White Eagle Play Area unit has been taken down; volunteer has been painting in their spare time. Panels shaped and decorative holes have been put back in – a quality job done well by the innovative Parks & Projects Team
- CCTV has been put on up on Luna Close & Gaynor Close Play Areas
- Gaynor Close Play Area, benches hidden by shrubs this will be reduced by the Parks & Open Spaces Team
- Voyager Drive Play Area Swing Shackles has been fixed
- Panels of the multi-unit have been replaced at Luna Close Play Area
- Voyager Drive Play Area has now been resurfaced and the contract ran professionally with no issues, the opening event will be part of the Council's Easter Egg Hunt taking place on Saturday 16th April 2022
- Replacement seats for swings at Doyle Close Play Area have been ordered.

Brookfield Play Area Boat

This item of equipment has been repaired several times, but this has been vandalised further and is now beyond repair. A new piece of equipment could be purchased to improve the play area, options presented for a boat or a fire engine. The options were displayed on Facebook asking the public to vote for their preferred item. The equipment is for 3 – 7-year-olds. The winning vote was the fire engine.



Basil Close Play Area Fence

One of the budget aspirations out of the 2022-2023 refurbishment budget was to add fencing to Basil Close Play Area, this is frequently picked up in the annual RoSPA Inspection as it will separate dogs from the open space and the playing field. Costs were received to give the Working Party an estimate.

A metal play area type fence would be in the region of £6,175.00 and last for the duration 25 years +.

Budget for the fencing was set to £5,000.00 but it was acknowledged that money could be taken out of other project costs as some of the larger proposed projects have been deferred until 23/24.

KGV See Saw

Barriers to prevent out of hours access have been damaged, anti-vandal paint will be put on the top of the wall the other side to assist with the barriers when repaired/replaced. Signs to be purchased confirming 'anti vandal paint is in use'.

Working Towards

A schedule has been drawn up throughout March and April to allow the Officers to progress with their priorities. Due to sickness and annual leave some of the projects have been delayed.

Location	Working towards	Time Scale
Council Offices	Building maintenance and finalising items from the Office Move Project.	End of May 2022.
Various Play Areas	Play Area floor repairs and painting of equipment.	This is ongoing weather permitting.
Various Play Areas	Working on any actions required from this year's annual external play area inspection.	These are ongoing as unable to put time scale and will be put in works completed in future reports.
Queen Elizabeth Play Area	Repair to surface around the toddler unit.	During March/April.
White Eagle Play Area	To rebuild the slide and unit with new boards.	To be completed by the end of April beginning of May
Luna Close Play Area	Fix new panels (when received) to the unit to complete the refurbishment project. Purchase and fix a plaque to the slide unit confirming Oakhurst Community Primary School raised funds for the unit.	To be completed by the end of May 2022.