

Meeting	Parks & Open Spaces Committee
Date	Tuesday 4th March 2025
Report Title	Parks & Projects Report
Agenda Reference	15
Author	Mark Weaving (Technical Officer)

Officer's Recommendations.

1. To proceed with Supplier A to conduct the play area inspections at a cost of £1308.00 + VAT to be met from existing budgets.

Play inspection companies

The team has been tasked with getting quotes for the 2025/2026 play area inspections. Supplier A is the preferred supplier locally and has availability to conduct the inspections within the month of March ahead of the new financial year.

A	£1,308.00 + VAT
B	Were unable to compete with other companies as would have to outsource this service.
C	Were only able to quote for each piece of equipment within each play area. This would work out very expensive for 24 Play areas.
D	£1,250.00 + VAT, report is not to the same standard as Supplier A

Background

The team continues to assist in other areas of the Parks & Open Spaces Team with the emptying of public litter and dog waste bins and Graffiti.

The team has now taken ownership of the Community Gardens and the grass outside the Office. This is up and going and all areas that fall into this separate schedule for push mowing have been cut twice. The team will keep an eye on the grass in case there is a growth spurt. There will be some winter works going on over the winter.

The team continues to help the Office Team with any care taking work and set up the Memory Cafe at the Bowls Club every other Wednesday.

Paperless Reporting System

The team has been looking into using a post report system and changing it to support the play area inspections. Councillor V Manro has been asked to work on a system that may be suitable.



Works Completed

Location	Work Completed, January/February	Date Completed
Various		
Wick Farm play area	Removed broken spinning bowl and fitted new spinning bowl	13/01/25 -16/01/25
White Eagle play area	Removed broken spinning bowl and fitted new spinning bowl	20/01/25 – 23/01/25
Doyle to Gaynor play area	Removed rocker from Doyal play area and fitted in place of broken one at Gaynor play area	27/01/25
Bowls green play area	Hired a small petrol jet wash to try out on Play area surfaces. It worked very well. Only issue is supply of water.	28/01/25 29/01/25
Doyle play area	Dug out old rocker base that went to Gaynor and fitted a new spinning bowl in its place.	03/02/25 – 06/02/25
Doyle play area	Removed old broken seesaw and fitted new one	11/02/25 – 26/02/25
Dog bins	Reduce the hight of dog bins to help prevent back strain lifting bags out. X4 bins reduced so far and trying to do one per week or possibly more.	January/February 2025 x 4 finished
High Street	Refit barrier on green open space.	17/01/25
Seven Fields	Refitted the seven fields map at ray close	10/02/25

Working Towards

A schedule has been drawn up throughout November/ December 2024 to allow the Officers to progress with their priorities to put the team in good stead for the projects to be conducted in 2024/2025.

Location	Working towards	Time Scale
Bus stop opposite Morrisons	To cut the hedge away from the Bus shelter so to stop the hedge and ivy growing through	March/ April 2025
Dog bins x 8	To reduce Hight of dog bins	March / April 2025
Village Green Play Area	To remove old seesaw and fit new one	March for two weeks

Looking Forward

At the previous working party meeting the Parks & Projects Team stated that all new equipment would be fitted by April, the team would like to inform that it may take longer due to discovering very stubborn concrete from old equipment that is proving difficult to remove.

Generally, the park equipment replacement is proceeding very well with three spinning bowls relocated along with the installation of a rocker and seesaw.