

Meeting	Parks & Open Spaces Committee
Date	October 6th 2026
Report Title	Parks & Projects Report
Agenda Reference	13
Author	Mark Weaving / Dave New / Tim Fisher, Technical Officers

Officer's Recommendation

1. To consider removing the low-level fencing along the front edge of Heaton Play Area and removing the existing hedge during the winter period. See image below.
2. To consider a quote for a basket swing beam to be installed at White Eagle Play Area, at a cost of £3,014.31 (manufacture part only) to be met from existing budgets.

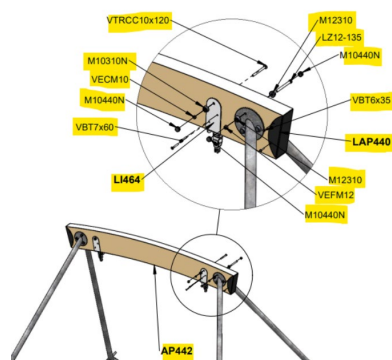
Heaton Close Fence

Approximately 90% of the hedge comprises brambles and creeping bindweed. It is proposed that the cleared area be replaced with grass.



White Eagle Swing Beam

This is a special manufacture part, which the Play Area Working Party has discussed in detail. Following advice from the manufacturer, it is recommended that the whole swing beam is replaced.





General Update

The team continues to support the Office Team with caretaking work and Memory Café set up support at the Bowls Club every other Wednesday.

The programme to adjust bin heights is ongoing, with 36 bins completed to date. These changes are providing ergonomic benefits for the Tidy Up Team, and the remaining adjustments are expected to be completed by the end of 2026.

The team continue to support various events organised by the HWPC offices.

Paperless Reporting System

The team is completing Park inspections using the new app, which is working well and helping to establish a comprehensive database of inspection records.

A new iPad has also been acquired to improve the efficiency of park inspections.

Several play area surface repairs have been completed during the dry weather, and this work will continue until the first frost.

Completed Tasks

Location	Tasks Completed, June/July	Date Completed
Trent Field Summer Event	Set up some of the equipment for the event, arrange the parking, help others where needed. Returned in the evening to clear the site and take back to the GMF.	08/08/26
New Parks & Project electric van	All tools transferred to new electric van which is now fully operational.	21/08/26
QED Play Area	Fit new balance beam	21/08/26
Wick farm Voyager White Eagle Office. Havisham Gaynor Village green	All the listed play areas have received hedge reduction, along with the tree within the office grounds.	13/08/26 14/09/26 15/09/26
Heaton Play Area	Surface repairs carried out due to surface spitting around the basket swing area.	14/08/26
Moulden hill	Two bin repairs carried out, one in the main car park and another located on the bridge towards Purton	18/08/26
Rose Walk allotments	Waste collection generated by new plot owners removed and disposed.	03/09/26
Voyager Play Area	Two new cradle swings installed due to wear and tear.	14/09/26
QED Play Area	Unstable block paving removed from the outside edge and replaced with wood chip.	16/09/26
Various areas of grass	Exposed old posts removed which have become apparent due to ground shrinkage.	07/09/26 17/09/ 26
Luna	New bin installed at the MUGA and bench area.	03/09/26



Working Towards

A schedule has been drawn up throughout Autumn & Winter to allow the Officers to progress with their priorities to put the team in good stead for the projects to be conducted in 2026/2027

Location	Working towards	Time Scale
GMF	To install a bike shelter for all team members to use.	October
Dog bins	Continue to lower bin heights throughout the parish	Autumn / Winter
Thyme play area	Replace the two tyres on the seesaw Replace two rotten posts Wasn't done due to ground shrinking.	October/November 2026
Play Areas	Small surface repairs	Continue until first frost.
Play Areas	Replace gate springs	Autumn
ROSPA	Continue with ROSPA repairs from inspections	Autumn / Winter
Ryse court	Repair bench and put back.	October
Goodearl allotments	To extend the fence at the back to improve security to the site.	October to December
Rose Walk	Build and install new picnic bench for site	October 2026
Ventnor allotments/Tadpole field	Relocate the entrance barrier at Ventnor to tadpole field entrance	October 2026

Looking Forward

Improve the layout in the GMF building with tools on walls and the workshop area set up for future repairs of benches, bins or play area equipment.

Continue Autumn with allotments & park maintenance

Prepare for the Winter Projects.