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Meeting	Parks & Open Spaces Committee
Date	1st December 2026
Report Title	Parks & Projects Report
Agenda Reference	13
Author	Mark Weaving, Parks & Projects Lead Operative

Officer's Recommendation

1. To note that the Play Area Working Party Meeting took place on the 23rd November 2026.
2. To approve the replacement of the rotator spinner and the climbing net on the unit at KGV at a cost of £2,970.36 + VAT to be met from existing budget 4305/302.
3. To approve the cost of repairing of the two sides of the slide in Gaynor Play Area at a cost of £1,275.04 including the teams time + vat to be met from existing budget 4305/302.
4. To approve the purchase a stock of wet pour surface rubber and binder to prepare for the next repairs with larger repairs required under swings and around edges of equipment, this could cost £1,000 to £1,500 from the existing surface budget code 4518/302.
5. To note the Play Area Working Party's Aspirations for 2027/2028.





Background

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

Work to adjust bin heights is ongoing, with 36 bins adjusted to date. These changes are providing ergonomic benefits for the Tidy Up Team. The team aims to complete all adjustments by the end of March 2027, subject to other higher-priority work.

The team has completed some surface repairs, although unpredictable weather has slowed progress. Emergency repairs will be carried out as required.

Completed Tasks

Location	Tasks Completed, October/November	Date Completed
Trent Field Doyle, Village green, White eagle, Brookfield,	New cradle swings installed	October/November 2026
Basil Play area	Cut back brambles and tree line at the rear fence of the play area	06/10/26
Tadpole field entrance	The team relocated the red barrier gate from the Ventnor Allotments to the road entrance at Tadpole Field, providing a more secure and practical access solution. They also carried out repairs to the adjacent fence, further improving the security and appearance of the site.	12/10/26 13/10/26
Ryse court	Removed, repaired and replaced the bench at Ryes court.	09/10/26 – 13/10/26
Hp1 /white eagle bridle path	Temporary repairs to the fence along the bridle way section of HP1	15/10/26
White Eagle Play Area	Repaired the edging around the snakes and ladders on the surface entrance to the park.	15/10/26
Rose walk/ furlong hedge	Height reduction to a manageable level on both sides.	19/10/26
Galloway Play Area	Repaired the surface edging around the toddler swings	22/10/26
Mazurek	Removed loose block paving from the outside edge and replace with wood chip.	02/10/26
Allotments	Turned the water off on all sites and drained the water from the troughs ready to clean them out. The last cut of the grass.	30/10/26 04/11/26
Rose walk allotments	Built & installed a picnic bench	09/11/26 10/11/26
Brookfield Play Area	Removed over hanging branches along the back fence of the Play Area.	18/11/26
White Eagle Play Area	Fitted new beam to basket swing	24/11/26
Christmas parade set up	Erected Christmas tree, fence and lights installed outside st John's church.	26/11/26 27/11/26

Working Towards

A schedule has been drawn up throughout August & September 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 arrange equipment storage, tools etc at GMF	Ongoing
Dog bins	Continue to lower bin heights throughout the parish	Ongoing

Thyme play area	Replace the two tyres on the seesaw Replace two rotten posts was not done due to ground shrinking.	December/March 26/27
Play Areas	Urgent surface repairs	Winter
Play Areas	Replace gate springs	Ongoing
Thyme Play Area.	Replace the nest with a lower platform and remove the nets to build a climb over A frame	December -February
Goodearl allotments	To extend the fence at the back to improve security to the site.	December onwards
Play Areas	Continue jet washing surfaces	Ongoing
Heaton Play Area	Remove front hedge and lower fence	December – March 26/27

Looking Forward

To continue with the list of winter projects and Play Area repairs, sorting out hedges to a high standard as to reduce maintenance over 27/28.

Play Area Working Party Budget Aspirations for 27/28

Those present at the working party on Monday 23rd November 2026 (Councillors L Jackson, J Jackson, S Heyes (remotely), N Bradley, R Hailstone and V Manro) discussed budget aspirations for the next financial year. Early ideas include:

- Heaton Close Play Area £60,000.00 for resurfacing
- Gaynor Close Play Area £35,000.00 for new slide unit
- 1/3 cost of SEND (with caveat of match funding, fundraising, or accruing 1/3 annually) £100,000.00 (this can be flexible +/-)
- Skate Park graffiti £2,000.00