

## Leisure & Amenities Committee

### Play Area Proposal

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| <b>1</b> | <b>PROJECT PROPOSAL</b>  |
| 1.1      | To consider the option to upgrade Bess Road toddler play area and to consider the option of in house installation.   |
| <b>2</b> | <b>INTRODUCTION</b>  |
| 2.1      | <p>Bess Road is a small enclosed toddler play area sitting alongside a junior play area and kickabout. It has a multi play unit, swing, rocker and metal fencing around the perimeter. It was inspected in February 21 and a number of low risks were identified. The team have flagged this play area as the next that requires an upgrade. Issues arising are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the swing is high above the ground to create safety clearance of the fence</li> <li>- concrete around the perimeter fencing is breaking off and gates are missing</li> <li>- the multi play unit is corroding and parts needs replacing</li> </ul> |
| <b>3</b> | <b>PROPOSAL</b>  |
| 3.1      | The Parish Council's team has a range of skills within the team in relation to play installation. It is proposed that the toddler play area is replaced with like for like new equipment with a new fence, gates and bark. Installation by the Parish Council team. An independent play inspection would be secured at the end of the refurbishment.   |
| <b>4</b> | <b>IMPACT</b>  |
| 4.1      | <p>Early discussions with the Income Generation Working Party have identified play installation as a potential income generator. It is proposed that this play area is refurbished by the team. This would reduce the cost of the refurbishment and would serve as a test run both in terms of the skills, time and resources required to complete the task. It is estimated that the installation work with three team members would take around two weeks.</p>   |
| <b>5</b> | <b>COSTS</b>   |
| 5.1      | <p>Multi play unit c.£3,000 to £8,000<br/>         Toddler swing c.£2,000<br/>         Rocker c. £1,000<br/>         Fencing c. £5,000<br/>         Bark replacement/top up c. £2,000<br/> <b>Total equipment/fencing: £12-17,000</b><br/> <b>Possible additions:</b> Plant hire, kit, tools – <b>est. £3,000</b><br/>         Cost comparison – Camden Close toddler fence: £6,000 Uxbridge Road: £13,000 installed.</p>  |

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| <b>6</b>  | <b>BUDGET</b>   |
| 6.1       | <p>The Parish Council has £91,000 for play refurbishment in the annual budget. This is currently earmarked to support the pump track project plus one/two play area refurbishments.</p> <p>An allocation of £20,000 to Bess Road toddler play area would allow for new equipment, flooring and fencing. Play companies could be invited to suggest appropriate equipment options for the space.</p> |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>FINANCIAL &amp; OTHER IMPLICATIONS</b>   |
| 7.1       | Whilst Bess Road Toddler Play Area does not currently have any high or medium risks associated with it, it is reaching the end of its repairable life. It will need removal or replacement in the next 12 to 18 months.   |
| 7.2       | The Parish Council already holds insurance and inspection responsibilities for the site.  |
| 7.3       | There is a risk that the team do not install correctly or that the play inspection report finds fault, however, if the installation instructions are followed and safety clearance zones observed, this should not happen.  |
| 7.4       | There is a risk that this will consume staffing resources that would otherwise be engaged on grounds maintenance activities however it is not anticipated that this will impact on current service standards.   |
| <b>8.</b> | <b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>  |
| 8.1       | <p>That this Committee makes a resolution to approve the upgrade of Bess Road toddler play area.</p> <p>That this Committee notes the information in this report in order to consider the advantages/disadvantages of in-house installation.</p>  |

Paula Harrison, Parish Manager