Playground Report for 9th January 2020.

The equipment and playground were inspected on 8th January 2020 and the general appearance is that the grass is a little long, as would be expected and sensible at this time of year, but generally the condition was acceptable.

There are some actions, none of which is classed as major. One of the half-round steps on the infant climbing frame and one on the junior climbing frame area showing signs of splitting due to age or rot, and will need replacement later this year. The picnic table in the middle of the playground still has two bolts that need tightening on one of the benches (not urgent). The wood for the swings is looking very dry. I did consult with Playdale by phone as to what is acceptable in play areas and effective a preserving wood and their reply was that if applied anything it would invalidate their warranty! Apparently there is a 15 year guarantee on the wood not rotting!

There are a few more bolt covers needed for the infant climbing frame (in stock). The Northern gate works fine, but the South gate does not close under its own steam quite. The post for this needs a little realigning. The grass in the area is generally a bit long, but this is OK this time of year.

The mole activity was back on the playing field during December, but after my ten-day campaign and the consigning of three moles to the giant molehill in the sky we seem to be rid of them for now.

As to the rest of the equipment:-

The spinner, bouncing horse and Infant climbing frame are all in sound condition

The Junior climbing frame, swings and bouncer are all in sound condition.

The significant general problem is the safety surfacing as this is shrinking away from the wooden edging to the surfacing and this still needs repair.

Over the other side of the field, the Picnic area tables are fine having survived the flood without problem. The Mud Kitchen and equipment has just been added to this area to give some good play value thanks to the efforts of Ruth.

The gate from the footpath at the back of the spinney onto the road could do with a spring return as this has not got a working latch, and is frequently left open. This has been added to the list of jobs to be done.

The pitch grass is a little long, but again this is better in the winter.

The Galosbrook Way planter/notice board was installed last month and is in use for the Against the Wolf Campaign, and has been planted with Christmas theme plants and looks good.

End of report. Robin Stafford Allen. January 2020