

Playground Report for October 2022

The equipment and playground were inspected on 2nd October 2022 and the general appearance is reasonable. All the equipment is aged but safe. During September we had the Delacor Maclaren day when extensive work was done to the playground.

The bench outside the playground has a broken lath that needs replacing. The two new benches have been positioned near this --- the "Queen's" Bench and "Prince Philip". These benches were treated with linseed oil by Eri Bohme during the Delacor day.

Most of the bolt covers requiring replacement were completed during the Delacor day, but there are still a few left and we are out of stock of the replacements. Most of the wood was treated with Danish Oil and the appearance has improved for this treatment.

The south gate is not satisfactory. The slam gap is now non-existent. A major resetting of the gate post is needed. Not a five-minute job.... Still to be dealt with.

The safety surface gaps were filled in during the Delacor day thanks to topsoil gifted by John Miller..

Other than these items identified by ROSPA I am listing the following.

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 climbing wall of the main climbing frame requires tightening as does the back panel of the slide tower of the same frame.

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 (see note above) are all in sound condition, although all the wood is showing signs of age, and the very beginnings of rot near ground level where the strimmer has eroded the wood of both swing frames which needs monitoring.

The weeds under the fencing around the playground was cleared by Delacor and the bottom of the planks need to be clear of the ground. The only practical way of doing this is to cut off the bottom 3 or 4 inches of every panel.

Over the other side of the field, the Picnic area looks reasonable. It was levelled with top-soil during the Delacor day.

The Litter bin in the picnic area was partially emptied.

The fencing needs doing particularly at the South end between our field and Staplehurst land. We need to remove the old and replace. This will be expensive if we do not have volunteer labour, but we need people who know what they are doing.

The "unofficial" footpath along the back of the Church Close housing might affect this as we need a proper gate and way into the field. What are we going to do about this footpath?

Playground Report for October 2022

The pitch has been well used for matches and for football training and is in pleasing good condition at the moment. This was mowed on Wednesday 21st September just in time for a major two matches on Saturday 24 September.

Robin Stafford Allen. October 2022.