



**MAGHULL
TOWN
COUNCIL**

Maghull Town Hall

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to attend a Meeting of the AMENITIES COMMITTEE which will be held in THE COUNCIL CHAMBER at MAGHULL TOWN HALL on Wednesday 20th September 2023 at 6:30 PM

Note: *DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – If a Member requires advice on any item involving a possible declaration of interest which could affect his/her ability to speak and/or vote, he/she is advised to contact the Town Clerk at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.*

1 Welcome

2 Apologies for Absence

3 Declarations of Interest

4 Public Participation.

5 To Confirm the Minutes of the Last Meeting

Members are asked to confirm the minutes of the last meeting held on 12th July 2023 (pages 1-2)

6 Play Equipment Upgrades for 2024/25

Members are asked to consider the report (pages 3-7)

7 PSPO Dog Control Awareness

Members are asked to consider the report (pages 8-10)

8 Chair's Report

Miss A. McIntyre FSLCC
Town Clerk

Minutes of Amenities Committee Meeting Held Wednesday 12th July 2023 at 6:30 PM

Those present :

Chairman : Cllr Jo Burns

Councillors : Cllr G Birchall, Cllr P Brougham, Cllr J Desmond, Cllr C Parker

Officers : S Lawrence, A Mc Intyre, R O'hare, K Spofforth, D Stephens

1 Welcome

2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies have been received from Cllr J Sayers, Cllr K Hughes, Cllr P Darlington.

3 Declarations of Interest

None declared.

4 Public Participation.

None received.

5 To Confirm the Minutes of the Last Meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting on 23rd November 2022 be approved as a correct record.

6 Play Equipment

Derek Stephens Facilities manager informed members in 2022, MTC finished the £107,000 upgrade of children's playground equipment in six of our 15 parks. The upgrade started at KGV, Hall Lane Park and then included Mersey Avenue Park, Moss Park, Ballswood, Moorhey Park and Lathom Park. The equipment installed at these parks included Activity Trails, Carousels, Junior & Toddler Swing Sets, Seating and Benches to name but a few.

Over time MTC parks have broken or decaying play equipment. Therefore, officers have implemented a PPM schedule to ensure that all play equipment is regularly assessed and items that require remedial works are dealt with as quickly as possible. Due to budget restraints, remedial or full replacement works may need to be carried out over a 2-year period. Work order prioritization at MTC is based on the risk, the severity, the likelihood and cost.

RESOLVED that:

- 1. All members agreed the priority work order for remedial works, the costs to date/future costs and replacement programme;**
- 2. The report be noted.**

7 Green Flag Status

Derek Stephens Facilities manager informed members the Green Flag Award is the benchmark international standard for publicly accessible parks and green spaces in the United Kingdom and around the world. Achieving this status would enhance the reputation of MTC and demonstrate to the community excellence in park management. This would be a 2 year project.

Cllrs comments:

- Dog foul signs on Park notice boards.
- Idea to spray signs on the floor/path ways.
- Look into costs for dog park/sections.

RESOLVED that:

- 1. All members agreed to review and approve the strategy of the management process in how we can work towards achieving this status;**
- 2. Then report be noted.**

8 Tree Management

Derek Stephens Facilities manager informed members to review the current MTC Tree policy. The policy currently acts as a source of information and reference for residents and officers regarding trees on MTC land and as a framework for any decisions with regard to the management of our trees.

RESOLVED that:

- 1. All members agreed the continuation of MTC tree policy;**
- 2. Then report be noted.**

9 Flooding

Derek Stephens Facilities manager informed members flooding issues at Roundmeade park have now been resolved. Update to residents within the Your MAGhull article.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Chair's Report

Thanked members for attending.

CHAIR

CHAIR

Report to: Amenities Committee
Date of Meeting: 20th September 2023
Agenda Item Number 6
Subject: Play Equipment Upgrades
Report of: Amenities Manager
Exempt / Confidential Report: No

Summary

To update Members on the findings of the annual ROSPA report. This report highlights all play equipment that requires replacement.

Maghull Town Council Priority	Yes/No
1. Development and Protect the Community	Yes
2. Develop Parks and Green Spaces	Yes
3. Value for Money and Enterprising Council	Yes
4. Develop Leisure and Activity for All	Yes
5. Develop/support Community Services and Groups	Yes
6. Support Culture and Heritage	No
7. Health and Wellbeing Programme	Yes
8. Statutory Requirement	No

Recommendation(s)

Amenities Committee is requested to: -

1. Review findings from the ROSPA report on all play equipment and safety surfacing at the parks stated within this report, costs for replacing equipment and safety flooring have been highlighted in appendix 1.
2. Note the contents of this report.

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

Following the annual ROSPA report in August 2023, the Amenities Manager has met with a variety of contractors to review costs and options to replace/upgrade play equipment and safety surfacing that is now approaching end of life.

Failure to remove or replace this equipment may result in the council failing to comply with the following acts that fall within HSE guidelines:

- [Health and safety at work act 1974](#)
- [Children's act 1989](#)

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue

Planned Asset Maintenance budget for 2024/25

Total Cost £56,845.00

(B) Capital

None

Implications of Recommendations:

Financial Implications	£56,845.00
Resource Implications	Officer time for the maintenance of parks, open spaces and facilities.
Legal Implications	Failure to comply with HSE guidelines would leave the council open to potential claims in the event of an accident/incident.
Equality & Diversity Implications	None.

Implementation Date for Decision

Work to commence from April 2024.

Appendices

Appendix One: Summary of Play Equipment that requires replacement.

Background Papers

1. Amenities Committee Papers, July 2023

Contact Officer	Derek Stephens – Amenities Manager
Telephone Number	0151 526 3705
Email Address	Derek.stephens@maghull-tc.gov.uk

1. Background

In July 2023, Derek Stephens Facilities Manager informed members that several MTC parks have broken or decaying play equipment that, if not dealt with, could potentially result in litigation against MTC. DS confirmed costs and equipment would be identified following the ROSPA review in August 2023.

Recommendation(s): -

Amenities Committee is requested to: -

1. Approve the replacement/upgrade of this equipment.
2. Report to be submitted to the Finance & General Purposes Committee (Budget) in December 2023.
3. Note the contents of this report.

Name of Park	Item that requires replacement	Total cost per site	Work description
Moss Park	Safety flooring under single bay 2 seat swing and multi play area.	£4,435.00	The safety surfacing for the single bay 2 seat swing requires a new wet pour floor base due to the existing flooring showing heavy signs of shrinkage around the perimeter which in turn creates trip hazards.
Glenn Park	Wooden Low Level Trim Trail / Timber A-Frame climber / Timber Basket Swing Set	£14,830.00	Equipment to be replaced with upgraded equivalent – Timber equipment to have galvanised upright protective covering to prevent strimmer damage and rot.
Ballswood	Safety Flooring & Basket Swing seat	£4,285.00	Black Wet Pour Area - To remove & replace Wet Pour surfacing approx 30sqm due to shrinkage & heavy damage. This area will then be used as a seating area. 1 x basket swing seat required to replaced damaged seat.
Dodds Park	Wooden Low Level Trim Trail / Timber A-Frame climber / Swing Bay Safety Flooring	£11,280.00	Equipment to be replaced with upgraded equivalent – Timber equipment to have galvanised upright protective covering to prevent strimmer damage and rot. To supply & lay new Black Wet Pour safety surfacing for the Swing Bay.
Round Meade	Safety Flooring / Bird Rocker	£2,845.00	To remove and replace approx 13sqm of damaged Wet Pour surfacing that is currently a trip hazard. A new Animal Rocker to be installed.
Mersey Avenue	Multi Play Tower / Safety Flooring / Animal Springer	£8,585.00	Multi Tower to be replaced with upgraded equivalent due to corrosion which will lead to structure issues. To supply & lay new Black Wet Pour safety surfacing and install a new Animal Rocker.
Old Hall	Wooden Low Level Activity Trail	£8,995.00	Equipment to be replaced with upgraded equivalent – Timber equipment to have galvanised upright protective covering to prevent strimmer damage and rot

Name of Park	Item that requires replacement	Total cost per site	Work description
Lathom Avenue	Safety Flooring	£1,590.00	To remove and replace approx 13sqm of damaged Wet Pour surfacing that is currently a trip hazard

Combined Total Cost to Replace Equipment and Flooring £56,845.00

Please note, all equipment and safety surfacing that requires replacement is in excess 12+ years old.

Example of Safety Flooring and Timber Activity Trails requiring replacement



Report to: Amenities Committee
Date of Meeting: 20th September 2023
Agenda Item Number 7
Subject: The PSPO for Dog Control
Report of: Amenities Manager
Exempt/Confidential Report: No

Summary

Public Space Protection Orders are powers that are available to local authorities to deal with anti-social behaviour and to ensure that communities are great places for everybody to live or visit.

The PSPO for Dog Control aims to help dog owners behave responsibly in areas that are enjoyed by many other user groups. It outlines requirements and restrictions to encourage responsible dog ownership and to ensure that shared spaces are usable and accessible for all of Sefton's residents.

Maghull Town Council Priority	Yes/No
Development and Protect the Community	Yes
Develop Parks and Green Spaces	Yes
Value for Money and Enterprising Council	Yes
Develop Leisure and Activity for All	Yes
Develop/support Community Services and Groups	Yes
Support Culture and Heritage	Yes
Health and Wellbeing Programme	Yes
Statutory Requirement	No

Recommendation(s)

Amenities Committee is requested to: -

1. Review and approve the strategy for raising awareness to dog owners on their responsibilities when walking dogs in MTC Parks.
2. Note the contents of this report.

Reasons for Recommendation and plan of action(s)

MTC have received many complaints over the last few months regarding irresponsible dog owners visiting our parks. Complaints received include dog fouling, dogs off leash and dogs in children's play areas. This is an issue that has been brought to several Cllrs attention and seems to be escalating via social media.

Therefore, to alleviate this issue, the following action plan will commence over the coming weeks: -

Plan of Action: -

- Additional signage will be installed that prohibit dogs from entering enclosed playgrounds, multi-use game courts and bowling greens.
- “Keep Dogs on Lead” signage will also be sprayed on pathways in parks that have enclosed playgrounds.
- Amenities Manager to write an article on this subject in the next edition of “YourMAGhull”
- Sefton’s PSPO policy to be displayed on the MTC website and via noticeboards.

The PSPO dog control order states the following:

- Failure to remove your dog’s fouling forthwith.
- Restrict the number of dogs that can be walked by one person to a maximum of 6 dogs on or off the lead.
- Prohibit dogs from entering enclosed playgrounds and fenced sports pitches, including multi use game sport facilities.
- Prohibit dogs from entering marked sports pitches during specified times.
- Dogs to be kept on a lead within defined picnic sites and family areas in parks.
- Dogs to be kept on a lead within all designated carriageways (A and B classified Road) and footways.
- Dogs to be kept on a lead within all cemeteries and crematoria.
- Dogs to be placed on a lead when directed by an authorised officer to prevent a nuisance or behaviour by the dog likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to members of the public.
- Dog leads must be no greater than 2 metres in length when used in the locations specified above.
- A £75 fixed penalty notice (£50 if paid within 10 days) will be issued if you fail to comply with the requirement / restrictions within the Order.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

NA

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

All costs associated with this project currently come from the Amenities core budget.

Cost £300

Implications of Recommendations:

Financial Implications	£300
Resource Implications	Officers time
Legal Implications	None
Equality & Diversity Implications	None

Implementation Date for Decision

Immediately following the conclusion of Amenities Committee.

Appendices

None

Background Papers NA

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