

## COPYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY JANUARY 12TH 2021

### ITEM 12. Initial Report on the Field Access, Sports Wall and Playground Issues

This report was put together following discussions with Parish Councillors, Parish Hall Committee members, users of the playground, users of the football area, and people that upkeep the grounds.

#### Field Access

##### Current situation

There is ground erosion in the gap on both sides of the sports wall due to this being the only access to the field. The areas are muddy and collect water when raining. These accesses are used by both pedestrians and cyclists to access the field as well as footballers retrieving their balls.

##### Proposed solution

- The posts either side of the small oak tree have already been erected so we propose that the wire fencing is now attached to these posts leaving an open area between these posts for access to the field.
- We also propose that this new access area should be reviewed yearly and if felt necessary due to ground erosion, that another access area could be opened up at a different point in the same stretch of fencing.



- The existing access to the field through the gaps to the sides of the sports wall to be fitted with anti-cycling barriers.



## Sports Wall

### Current Situation

Both sides of the sports wall have bad ground erosion with the area in the field side being much worse.



### Proposed solution

- Encourage the use of the sports wall from the field side by concentrating on repairing the ground erosion on that side only
- Moving all existing prints on the sports wall to the field side of the wall.
- Look to repair the ground on the field side of the sports wall. We are looking at 3 options – astroturf; crates with new grass turf on top; and just new grass turf. If grass turfed, the area of new turf would need 3 weeks to take, and then treated yearly.

## Playground

### Current Situation

There have been 3 reported near misses with stray footballs landing in the playground just missing children.

### Proposed Solution

To reduce the risk of harm to people in the playground from stray footballs, we are proposing the following

- Erect a 12 foot high safety net 10.8 meters length in each direction from the corner of the playground nearest the sports hall (as per edited photo below)
- New poles for the safety netting to be placed on the outer side of the existing fence poles.



## Further work

We have received a couple of quotes and are awaiting on several more.

### Quotes received:

#### Safety net installation

##### Supplier 1

- £4034 plus VAT for 868 mesh panels
- £3594 plus VAT for 656 mesh panels
- Start date January

##### Supplier 2

- £1,536 plus VAT to supply and erect 18 metres of 2.6m high netting on 70x70 mm square metal posts painted green netting to be 40 x 40 squares 2.3m thick netting to be above metal railings making it 3.6 high over all. All posts to be concreted in.
- Start Date Spring 2021

##### Supplier 3

- Awaiting a quote

##### Supplier 4

- unable to supply 12ft posts

#### Astroturf/turf

##### Supplier 1

- £3500 for 10m2 Astroturf
- £5300 for 20m2 Astroturf
- Could Start Spring 2021

##### Supplier 2

- Awaiting pricings from suppliers. Awaiting a quote for both astroturf and grass turf

Report prepared by:

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December 23<sup>rd</sup> 2020