



# Wokingham Town Council

Town Hall, Market Place, Wokingham, Berkshire RG40 1AS  
Tel: 0118 978 3185 [www.wokingham-tc.gov.uk](http://www.wokingham-tc.gov.uk)  
Town Clerk: K. Hughes

**This Council Meeting is open to the Public and Press**  
**Please notify the Officer or Chairman if you wish to record the meeting**

Wednesday, 26 April 2023

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend the Extraordinary meeting of the **Amenities Committee** to be held in the **Diamond Jubilee Room, Town Hall, Wokingham** at **7.30pm** on **Wednesday 03rd May 2023** for the purpose of considering and resolving upon the subjects and matters set out in the agenda below.

Yours sincerely

**K Hughes**  
Town Clerk

**Contact Officer:** F Sleaford, Amenities Officer  
Direct line: 0118 974 0886; mobile: 07592 579112; email: [amenities@wokingham-tc.gov.uk](mailto:amenities@wokingham-tc.gov.uk)

## AGENDA

### 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

### 2 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

To receive any declaration of interests from members on the business about to be transacted.

### 3 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OR PUBLIC

The Chairman to answer questions raised by members of the council or public.

*This is an opportunity for the people of Wokingham to ask questions of, and make comments to, the Town Council. Members of the public are requested to restrict their questions and comments to three minutes. Questions which are not answered at this meeting will be answered in writing to the person asking the question. To ensure an informed response, please send your questions to the Town Clerk at least three working days prior to the meeting.*

### 4 ELMS FIELD TRAMPOLINE

To receive, consider and resolve upon the Amenities Officer's report 07/2022-23 dated 26 April 2023 (copy attached).

**Amenities Committee:** Cllrs R Bishop-Firth, N Campbell-White, P Dennis (Vice-Chair), M Ferrai, L Forbes, D Hinton, T Lack (Chairman), P Lucey, M Malvern  
**Copy:** Cllrs M Gee, I Shepherd-DuBey

*In order to comply with the Data Protection Act 1998, all persons attending this meeting are hereby notified that this meeting will be recorded. The purpose of recording proceedings is that it acts as an aide-memoir in assisting the clerk of the meeting in the compilation of minutes. The recordings are held in a secure location and deleted once it has been resolved that the minutes are a true and correct record.*

*In accordance with The Openness of Local Government Bodies regulations 2014, persons attending this meeting may make their own recordings of the proceedings subject to the Council's Policy on Filming, Recording & Reporting on Council and Committee Meetings (copy available on request).*



# Wokingham Town Council

## Amenities Officer's Report 07/2022-23

<b>To:</b>	<b>Amenities Committee</b> – 3rd May 2023 extraordinary meeting
<b>Date:</b>	26th April 2023
<b>Council Principle:</b>	Inclusivity, Service and Distinctiveness
<b>Amenities Service Area:</b>	Parks & Playgrounds
<b>Subject:</b>	Elms Field Play Area Trampoline

### 1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1. To advise Councillors about the ongoing situation, concerns, and consideration, in response to investigation into repairing, replacing, or relocating the trampoline.

### 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1. An inspection of the play area, in January 2023, identified an issue with the trampoline at Elms Field. The inspection identified damage to the mat which has required the piece of equipment to be taken out of action to prevent injury from use. The trampoline is currently closed-off from use with Heras fencing.
- 2.2. A repair was deferred in February 2023, after the manufacturer identified that damage had been caused by third party customization of the trampoline during the original installation by All Play.
- 2.3. Discussion between the Town Clerk, Grounds and Bloom Officer and Amenities Officer, identified that there were multiple options that could be considered to resolve the issue, and as such, we should source quotes for repair, replacement, and re-location.

### 3. CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1. Due to timing, costs for resolving the trampoline issue were not factored into budgets for the current financial year.
- 3.2. Following an investigation into options and costs, a request for advanced funding was made by the Town Clerk to the F&P Committee at their meeting of 25th April 2023.
- 3.3. The F&P Committee have approved the funding request for the trampoline, and as exact costs were not known, have allowed up to £25,000 (resolution 30610).

### 4. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

- 4.1. Considering the pros and cons of the options:

<b>REPAIR</b>	
	Discussion with playground providers, regarding repair or replacement, has identified that the original manufacturer, Huck, no longer produces a mat of this size, and so a repair is not possible.

<b>REINSTATEMENT</b>			
	<b>PRO</b>		<b>CON</b>
1	New equipment, with a warranty that WTC hold (we have been unable to source warranty details on the existing playground from WBC, despite many, many requests!)	1	We may not be able to source an accessible trampoline the same size. The original manufacture does not make this size of equipment anymore.

2	Can potentially source a trampoline that is designed to be inclusive (rather than a standard trampoline that has been customized)	2	Going bigger will mean the trampoline has a reduced 'safe zone' around the edge, and so may fail annual inspections
		3	The trampoline is currently located in the toddler zone within the park. A larger trampoline is likely to attract more non-toddler users, and this could potentially cause increased conflict.

<b>RELOCATION</b>			
	<b>PRO</b>		<b>CON</b>
1	New equipment, with a warranty that WTC hold (we have been unable to source warranty details on the existing playground from WBC, despite many, many requests!)	1	The more expensive option, with the jumping mat surface being slightly larger than the existing trampoline
2	Can source a trampoline that is designed to be inclusive (rather than a standard trampoline that has been customized)	2	The additional cost to back fill and resurface the existing area
3	A location can be chosen that has sufficient safe zone around the edge of the trampoline to reduce any likelihood of claims of injury caused by coming off the trampoline and landing on another piece of equipment or furniture	3	Relocation requires using more of the natural space around the play equipment (the likely location would be in the space behind the wooden climbing frame and the rope net tower)
4	We can free up the existing space allowing more room for buggy parking (that users have regularly requested)		

**5. CONSIDERATION**

- 5.1. The value of having a newly installed piece of equipment, continuing WTC's ongoing commitment to installing quality inclusive play equipment.
- 5.2. With a relocated trampoline, the improved annual inspection for the play area.
- 5.3. That new equipment will come with a full warranty.

**6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1. Relocation will have a greater cost implication than reinstatement.
- 6.2. Both options are expected to come in within the budget allowance made by the F&P Committee.

**7. RECOMMENDATION**

- 7.1. For the Committee to resolve upon whether to replace or relocate the trampoline.
- 7.2. Amenities Members are recommended to make the decision based on the optimum outcome for play area users, rather than specifically on cost.
- 7.3. Giving Officers the ability to action this work as a matter of urgency utilising the provided budget.