

# Playground Inspections

Report to Woodmansey Parish Council

15th February 2016

## 1. Introduction

The Council has an obligation to ensure that the playgrounds that it owns are safe and regularly maintained to ensure that accidents are kept to an absolute minimum. As noted in the draft policy for review, routine weekly inspections and quarterly maintenance inspections are considered to be the minimum to comply with best practice. Listed below are options for the council to consider to resource these inspections. The council will still need to do an annual inspection as they do now; the costs for this have not been included in the options below.

## 2 Options

### 2.1 Option 1

Council trains and recruits a number of volunteers to perform the weekly routine inspections. Recommendation is that there are at least 3 people on the team to ensure adequate coverage for holidays, sickness etc. A routine inspection and submitting the paperwork is likely to take between 45 minutes - 1 hour per play area. In addition, contract Wicksteed or similar to perform maintenance inspections.

#### Costs

	<b>£</b>
Training for 3 people ( 1 day RoSPA ) @ £233 each	699.00
8 Maintenance Inspections @ £80 each	<u>640.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1339.00</b>

#### Considerations

It may be difficult to secure volunteers. Maintaining a trained volunteer group will have on- going costs. Additional effort will be required by the clerk to organise rotas, ensure inspections are done and chase paperwork.

### 2.2 Option 2

Contract local handyman to perform routine inspections & contract Wicksteed or similar to perform maintenance inspections.

#### Estimated costs

	<b>£</b>
48 Routine inspections 2 hours per week (including travel time, both sites)	1440.00
8 Maintenance Inspections (3hrs per inspections)	<u>640.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2080.00</b>

#### Considerations

Would recommend that handyman is also trained to ensure inspections have been done to a satisfactory standard. This could potentially add another £400-500 to cover the cost of the course plus handyman hourly rate

## 3. Decision Required

3.1 To agree on a preferred option to investigate further.

Judith Roberts  
Clerk to the Council  
15th February 2016