

Village Hall Bookings and Finances

There hasn't been much to add to last month's report. The hall is booked to Sustrans on Thursday June 5th for a presentation of suggests regarding the Grafham to Brampton Road. The hall is booked for Grafham and Ellington Art Club exhibition on June 28th and 29th and the following weekend for the Grafham Beer Festival.

The booking of the village hall and astro court is now done online via the Grafham website and seems to be working well.

The Village Hall is currently booked on a weekly basis for 10 sessions, being Line Dancing, Pilates (x2) Band practice (2 hrs), Art Club (3 hrs), Little Fishes (2 hrs), Karate (x3), dance class and Tang Soo Doo.

Tea and Chat is still on the last Thursday of the month and is well supported.

The Hall is also used on a monthly basis by the Parish Council and Tea & Chat.

The cost of hiring the Hall from 1st October 2023 is £11 an hour for village use and £16 an hour outside the village. Payment for private events is required when bookings are made.

Village Hall

We continue to bed in the new Hall Master Booking In system

Village Shop

Unaudited reports shows the shop made a small profit for the last trading year.

A substantial turn around against the 2023/24 and also each year since 2021 when we received a substantial grant to help us keep trading during Covid.

The shop committee has agreed that any future development should take place on the existing site.

A meeting took place to discuss detail plans which will be the basis for obtaining a quote for a new building

Playground and Playing field report

I have been to have a look at the children's playground following Hazels recommendations following the ROSPA report and all the recent work undertaken

Hedges - look adequately cut back now with no large branches overhanging any play equipment.

Benches- The old bench has been removed due to wear and tear making it dangerous and the new bench is secure, albeit in need bird dropping removal.

Exercise equipment - all appears secure and in working order, the report mentioned fitting but I can't see an issue, maybe a little oiling? The bike that was broken for many months has now been replaced

Head entrapment- I can't see how this can be resolved without impacting on the amount the swing can swing and if we shorted the chain to the point no head can get through the seat will not swing at all. I'm no engineer so perhaps someone with greater knowledge of the workings maybe able to come up with a solution. I think it very unlikely that it would be possible for a person to get their head that high and at an angle to be able to accidentally get it trapped.

Protective safety ground surface- these all look in reasonable condition, possibly there are some areas where it is getting a little loose, is there a resin that can be put down to secure the loosened areas?

Exposed metal- there is one area on the wooden walk where metal can be seen but this is not frayed at all and doesn't appear dangerous, just unsightly. I fear that if we use tape to cover it up this will become loose with the weather and create adhesive to be left on the rope. As the score is low to medium risk I suggest monitoring the increase in exposure of the metal for the foreseeable future and replacing the entire rope when the time comes that exposure has advanced.

Raising toddler swing- I don't understand why, Any toddler that is small enough to sit in the toddler seats is not big enough to drag their feet on the ground. Also

will it not increase to danger if a toddler should fall out at 500mm as opposed to 340mm? The safety surface looks ok

Bolts- all are secure, thank you David

Finger entrapment- I have had a look and yes there is a potential issue here. Did the climbing wall come with a warranty or guarantee?

Gigabit Broadband

Nothing to report.

MVAS

- Since the 5th April, one MVAS has remained located by the Cinnamon (monitoring traffic towards Ellington).
- Since the 17th May, the other MVAS has been located opposite Chestnut Close (monitoring traffic from Buckden/Perry).

In April, a Bluetooth connectivity problem was discovered on the MVAS by the Cinnamon, preventing the download of data and changing of the display. This is still under investigation with Morelock.

Solar Panels

In April, we were granted permission by CCC to mount solar panels on the lampposts we currently use. And, following agreement at May's meeting, two solar panels were ordered, which are expected to arrive w/c 9th June. They will be mounted on the lampposts where most speeding was observed during the Speed Watch campaign in 2018, i.e. by the Cinnamon and Chestnut Close, both monitoring northbound traffic.