

Agenda Item 15 – Jubilee Field Play Area Rocker

Damage to the Rocker

On the weekend of the 7th/8th June 2025 one of the toddler rockers in the Jubilee Field Play Area was broken off at ground level, which would have required some force. The damage has been reported to the Police along with other damages occurring over several weekends. The Children's Play Area is too far from the Village Hall for the CCTV to have a clear view of the items being damaged or to identify the perpetrators.

The damage was reported by a member of the public over the weekend and covered in tape to prevent usage.

The Handyman removed the damaged rocker, filled in the hole with sharp sand and stored the rocker itself in the Cemetery Bier Shed.

On her return from leave the Clerk contacted a playground installer, who the Parish Council have used previously, and sent him pictures of the damage.

Repair/Replacement

The installer has advised that the below ground anchor/spring has snapped and this cannot be fixed.

The item is older and there is no information on file for the item or supplier to see whether a replacement below ground spring/anchor can be purchased. The installer advises that he would need to cut out the old rubber, breakout the old foundation, cast the new foundation with the new part (supplied by Willand PC), inlay new wet pour surface to make good, charge a day's labour plus the cost of rapid set concrete and wet pour rubber. This would total £720. It would be the same price if they were to install a completely new springer in this position.

It should be noted that the Parish Council self-insures a large proportion of its play area assets and this could be considered to be an uneconomic repair given the age of the item.

Options

The Parish Council has following options:

1. The item is not replaced and wet pour is laid to level the small area where the spring was attached to the ground for safety reasons.
2. The Clerk tries to find a replacement spring/anchor and obtains costings.
3. The Rocker is replaced by another similar more up to date item or by another piece of play equipment that would fit in the space.

The Parish Council has an Open Space and Recreation Working Group and it is recommended that this group consider the options and obtain necessary quotes, making a recommendation to Full Council to be considered at a future meeting.

**Debbie Bird
Clerk to Willand Parish Council
July 2025**