

**RISK /BENEFIT SCHEME AT THE PEDESTAL PLAY AREA AS AT 1ST JULY 2016**

	Possible problem or hazard	Possible result or outcome/worse case	Risk assess for age & ability	Is risk apparent & controllable to children participating	Reasonable & practical steps to avoid or reduce problem	Value of allowing activity	Decision
<b>Cookshall Lane</b>	Narrow lane, residents on the further side, a railway bridge, petrol station and workshop - problems caused by the railway and the petrol station/garage/shop and farm traffic	Issues with alcohol purchased from the petrol station shop; train accident; explosion at petrol station; increase of vehicles visiting garage and petrol station; large farm vehicles causing obstructions to the emergency exit gates. Potential for serious accidents/incidents. . The play equipment is sited at the furthest side of the field which should not cause any noise/vandalism problems for residents and keep the children away from issues related to the garage. The railway line runs behind the whole field but there is a 2m high metal security fence along this boundary	Low to medium. High for teenagers who decide to experiment with alcohol away from the home environment and dare each other re trains, alcohol etc	The risks are only obvious to the 12 plus age group and can be minimised.	The 2m high metal fence to the rear boundary makes access to the railway line extremely difficult. The emergency access gates are in Cookshall Lane. The Parish Council has a comprehensive Emergency Plan and works with Thames Valley Police on the local NAG in case there are issues relating to underage drinking	We live in a rural/suburban community and these are the normal issues to be considered.	The benefit of access to a play area for social skills and health for life.

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<p><b>Bradenham Road</b></p>	<p>The main trunk road to Aylesbury with high volumes of traffic therefore a risk of RTA.</p>	<p>Death or injury</p>	<p>High for all age groups</p>	<p>Not to young children, but obvious to parents. With older children who have been given road sense training they should be able to assess the risk.</p>	<p>The play area is fenced and a double gate system has been created to allow parents the opportunity to 'control' their children before leaving the playing field. The car park has been fenced off to make interaction with children and cars less likely. The car park is on the opposite side of the field to the play area. Younger children should be accompanied by an adult. The Pre School and Toddler Group supported the play area knowing the road conditions prior to us starting the project. There is a clear vision splay for vehicles and pedestrians from the playing field on to the pavement running alongside the A4010.</p>	<p>This is the only area available for a play area therefore we must manage it to ensure that children will have access to play/equipment. Children living in this area close to High Wycombe must develop road sense skills as once they move to senior school they will need these for their safety.</p>	<p>To go ahead being constantly aware of road issues. We have investigated a crossing being erected but we would need to fund it.</p>
<p><b>Playing field boundary</b></p>	<p>Trees, hedging - children climbing the trees and trying to get through the hedge and injury on the thorns within the hedge. Metal gates.</p>	<p>Broken limbs from falling off a tree and scratches from the hedge and access to the road through the hedge. Fingers caught in self closing gate.</p>	<p>Low to medium for all age groups</p>	<p>The opportunities would be seen by older children but not by young children.</p>	<p>Trees and hedges are inspected and cut.</p>	<p>Most of our children have been brought up in the countryside and need to learn what plants have thorns, how thick branches need to be to bear their weight. Children need to accept boundaries are their for their own safety. Trees, hedges and grass as a natural surroundings have been shown to induce calm and reduce stress.</p>	<p>Regularly inspect. All trees have been inspected and works carried out where necessary. Keep the hedge cut and healthy. First aid kit installed for minor cuts/bruises</p>

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<b>Field</b>	Cuts from broken glass and litter. Dog faeces.	Cuts and toxacara from dog faeces.	Low to medium	No	Litter bins installed and emptied by WDC every week and area inspected every week. Signs asking people to keep dogs on lead. Signs erected asking people to clear up after their dogs. Two dog faeces bins installed and emptied weekly.	Children must learn to be tidy and put away their own litter and to learn that sometimes other people can leave dangerous items on the ground	Learn for life skills. We have not banned dogs as many families take their dogs with them. Children must learn that dogs should be approached with caution.
<b>Goal posts</b>	Running into them; swinging from them	Broken limbs from dropping of them or a bump on the head from running into them	Low to medium	Yes - too tall for young children to swing from them. Everyone could run/walk into them.	Highly visible and extremely well installed in the ground	Football is a good team game allowing social interaction and a competitive spirit. Excellent activity for young people for fitness.	Maintain goalposts to a safe standard/ Long term replace with a ball wall if it is felt that insufficient children are available for a team game.
<b>Tables and seats</b>	Running into them and falling off them	Bumps and possible broken limbs.	Low to medium	Yes	Highly visible and maintained all made from enviropol so no risk of splinters	Seating allows social interaction and encourages parents to watch their children for safety and supervision. Encourage family eating.	Maintain and watch for deterioration of material.
<b>Routes around equipment</b>	Bumping into each other and running into swings	Bumps and possible skull damage	Low to medium	Yes	All equipment is highly visible and installed by an experienced play equipment company who took children's routing into account. Barriers have been erected between each set of swings.	Make children think about their own actions and those of other people.	Keep play pathways clear.
<b>Safety Surfacing</b>	Injury caused by falling from equipment with inappropriate surface installed	Possible broken limbs and cracked skull	Low to medium	No - need to learn to assess the dangers of falling form height	Safety surfacing appropriate to each piece of equipment has been installed.	Teach children to assess the dangers	Maintain safety surfacing and keep grass cut short.

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<b>Wooden Trail</b>	Falling off and losing balance	Possible broken limbs/twisted ankle	Low to medium	No - basically safe and the children must learn to assess their own ability.	All on a low level and installed in grass	Teach children to assess their own ability and to challenge themselves and to achieve. Improve balance.	Inspect regularly and maintain the wood to ensure no potential for splinters.
<b>Basket Swing</b>	Standing and not holding on. Running in front and behind it.	Bumps and falling off if standing in it without holding on possibly causing broken limbs. Being knocked over by the swing causing at worst a skull fracture.	Low to medium	Basically safe unless used incorrectly .	Properly installed and safety surface installed	Make children aware of their surroundings and use their judgement of distance and consequences of walking in front or behind a swing. DDA accessible.	Inspect regularly.
<b>Two flat seat swings</b>	Falling off and running in front and behind	Bumps and falling off if standing on it without holding on possible broken limbs. Being knocked over by the swing causing at worst a skull fracture.	Low to medium	Basically safe unless used incorrectly .	Properly installed and safety surface installed	Make children aware of their surroundings and use their judgement of distance and consequences of walking in front or behind a swing.	Inspect regularly
<b>Cradle Swings</b>	Running in front and behind and older children balancing on top of it	Being knocked over or falling off by older children. Possible broken limbs or skull fracture	Low to medium	Basically safe unless used incorrectly.	Properly installed and safety surface installed	Make children aware of their surroundings and use their judgement of distance and consequences of walking in front or behind a swing.	Inspect regularly.
<b>Multi play</b>	Running in front and behind and older children balancing on and jumping off it. Smaller unsupervised children falling off it	Possible broken limbs or fractured skull	Low to medium	Basically safe unless used incorrectly.	Properly installed and safety surface installed	Make children aware of their surroundings and use their judgement of height and distance and consequences of walking in front or behind equipment	Inspect regularly.

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<b>Pavilion</b>	Not the Parish Council's responsibility but potential for vandalism and issues with the actual structure. Working with West Wycombe Estate to decide what action should be taken to either the building or the area it is sited in.						Inspect regularly.
<b>Basket Ball pole/hoop</b>	Ball coming down from the up throw	Being hit on the head	Low to medium	Basically safe unless used incorrectly. Height makes it impossible for small children to use. Sited a distance from the main play equipment	Properly installed and appropriate bouncing surface surface installed	Make children aware of their surroundings and use their judgement of height and distance and consequences of walking in front or behind equipment. General fitness for all ages.	Inspect regularly.
<b>Table tennis table</b>	Walking into the concrete structure. Climbing onto the table top	Cuts to head. Broken limbs is jumping off the table top	Low to medium	Basically safe unless used incorrectly. Height makes it impossible for small children to use. Sited a distance from the main play equipment	Properly installed and appropriate safety surface surface installed	General fitness for all ages	Inspect regularly.