

Dashwood Playpark

Our modernised Village Playpark has now been a local attraction since end September 2015 and the setting and facilities are being enjoyed by parents and children alike.

We are required to have a Health and Safety Inspection annually and our last report recommended a number of issues that need to be undertaken to ensure continued safety for children. The first and most expensive requirement was to replenish the safety bark underneath the swings and climbing frames. Your Parish Council has purchased and distributed new bark, at a cost of in excess of £705.00. Currently, the Playpark fund is sitting at £1647.47 and these monies are ring fenced for activities of this nature. However, to fully meet the report requirements will need us to approach the supplier of the equipment, and secure a quotation to undertake this work. It may be necessary to have a fund raising exercise in the Village to support this work. We will report further on the outcome of these discussions.

Inconsiderate parking has been raised as a problem for residents who live near the playpark and considered highly dangerous for children crossing Clarks Lane. Your Parish Council has raised the issue of Parking Restrictions with West Northants Council, who are studying possible options and we have requested consideration should be given to double yellow lines to deter parking on the corner of Queens Street/Clarks Lane. This suggestion appears to be under consideration, as we have been advised that before the Council can move to the next stage of advertising the proposals in the Public Domain that Parish Council feedback on the proposals for double yellow lines is required. Closing date for our comments was required by 8th April, 2022. Your Parish Council has responded and provided support for the parking restrictions proposed, using double yellow lines which can then be policed and fines issued if vehicles are parked on double yellow lines.

Any other solutions, we believe, are included in the Interim proposals which we have declined to engage with West Northants Council until they can assure us they will seek a weight restriction on the A422 through Farthinghoe as a realistic interim solution to our Bypass.

A further issue is the inclusion of the family dog that is happy to join with the children in the Playpark. Dogs are not permitted in the Playpark and we would therefore request that dogs are kept out of the Playpark, for the safety of children.

We would ask Adults to respect the Playpark equipment. We appreciate that Adults enjoy the opportunity to revisit their childhood, but the swings and climbing frames are not built to withstand adult attention. Please do not use the equipment.