

Playing Field Report for RSPC Meeting 26 June 2023

I met Ben Jones of Proludic at the **Outdoor Gym** as Councillor Friar had reported some damage to the stepper and kindly made a temporary repair. Once I had established contact with Ben, he agreed to attend as I had recently taken on responsibility for the Playing Field. He was very affable and practical and repaired the end plates on the stepper with no charge for which I thanked him.

I discussed with Ben how we (the PC) can ensure good maintenance of the equipment moving forward. Ben is going to send me a quote for an annual maintenance contract whereby he or his team would spend half a day on site to strip down each machine to ensure their ongoing good health. He did suggest that we could do this ourselves and gave me the security TX screw adaptors that we would need to remove covers and gain access to moving parts that may require greasing or tightening etc. I have a 'Maintenance and Inspection Checklist' that details how we could maintain the machines ourselves.

With required repairs, Ben is happy to talk over solutions which may mean sending out parts we can replace ourselves or a technician visiting to install if more complex. For example, one of the foot pads on the Elliptical Trainer is missing. Ben is having a replacement sent out to me which I can install myself.

I met with Brian Follett at the playing field and we had a discussion regarding the **wild flowers on AC Lloyd side of western border hedge**. The strip of land between the hedge and the track is PC land and it appears that AC Lloyds contractor may have strimmed the verge. Henry Marriot says that the wild flowers will recover no problem as they were cut quite high. Duane Wagstaff states that it wasn't them who strimmed that verge. I have asked David L-H to contact AC Lloyd to ask them not to strim the land between the track and the hedge as Brian stated that David had a good relationship with them. Brian has handed over the zip wire adjuster! I can monitor the zip wire periodically to ensure it is in good working order.

Following the recent movement of Travellers in the area in May, PC members surveyed the playing field to check for vehicular access points, potentially leaving the field vulnerable. I have consulted with Bishop's Tachbrook PC who recently had travellers on their playing field. They are repairing pre-existing posts and haven't as yet considered new bollards.

I understand that Travellers were seen near to our field taking pictures (?). Brian Friar and myself agreed that five **concrete bollards and two steel removable bollards** would be suitable to protect the field from unwanted vehicles.

After research, quotes have been obtained and circulated to relevant PC members for comment and thoughts. We have a 'all inclusive' quote for installation from Barriers Direct of £2482 inc VAT which seems reasonable. We have a quote for providing the bollards only of £1180 inc VAT which was comparative. I have engaged with a local paving company to discuss installation only but they are busy until September. We need to decide on a way forward for the bollards as soon as possible.

Councillor Jack Dempsey