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Play Area Improvement Plan

1. Purpose and Scope

Moulton Parish Council are committed to providing its residents with a wide range of safe, varied and accessible play equipment. The council has a clear vision for the future of its play areas, so that resources can be budgeted and applied effectively, ensuring children and young people can enjoy high quality, safe, accessible and sustainable play areas that maintain and improve the quality of their lives.

Achieving these aims will require a maintenance and replacement sum to be included in the annual budgeting exercise.

The Play Area Improvement Plan aims to:

- Outline the current provision and identify any gaps.
- Prioritise future spending on play area improvement and development through an action plan.
- Continue our robust safety inspection process.

2. Legal Responsibility & Policy Support

[Equality Act \(2010\) \(legislation.gov.uk\)](http://legislation.gov.uk)

[Disability Discrimination Act 1995](#)

[Home | Uniting | The | Movement | Sport England](#)

3. Play Area Strategy

Moulton Parish Council own, manage and maintain six play areas, this strategy will ensure that all residents have good access to high-quality play areas, in key locations across the parish.

As the nature of play changes, council will work to ensure play equipment provided is inclusive and part of inter-generational space, providing exciting play and leisure opportunities.

Council will commit to researching funding for play area improvements and involve residents in consultations to determine new and replacement equipment.

4. The Fields in Trust Framework

[Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play | Fields in Trust](#)

Fields in Trust's benchmark guidelines are a crucial tool for developers, planners, urban designers and landscape architects in the design of outdoor sport, play and informal open space.

Using this current guidance will help to ensure that the provision of outdoor sport, play and informal open space is of a sufficient size to enable effective use; is located in an accessible location and in close proximity to dwellings; and of a quality to maintain longevity and to encourage its continued use.

Fields in Trust provides guidance for open space and equipped play areas. These are subject to local circumstances and planning consideration.

5. Moulton Parish Council Play Areas

Site Name	Location	Description	Owner	Accessible Site	Accessible Equipment	Safety Surface
Forester Road	Forester Road Moulton. NN3 7SF ///resist.kick.bike	Play Area – LEAP Picnic Table Bin Bench Activity Trail – Miracle Play Roundabout – Miracle Play Multi Play Junior - Miracle Play See-Saw - Miracle Play Swing – Cradle and Flat - Miracle Play	MPC	Some accessible features	Some accessible features – no specific equipment	Yes
Moorbridge Road	Moorbridge Road, Moulton. NN3 7AA ///wants.pools.depend	Play Area – LLAP Bench – N/K Basket Swing - Proludic Embankment Slide - Proludic Low Rotator - Proludic Crawling Tunnel – N/K See Saw - Proludic Boulders – Natural Feature Palisade Logs – N/K Climbing Frame - Proludic	MPC	Some accessible features	Some accessible features – no specific equipment	Yes - partial
Morning Star Lane	Morning Star Lane Moulton , NN3 7BU	Play Area – LAP Bench – N/K Bin – N/K Adventure Trail – Fenland Leisure	MPC	Some accessible features	Some accessible features – no specific equipment	No
Public Gardens	Church Street, Moulton. NN3 7SP ///chop.film.letter	Play Area – LLAP Bin – N/K Bench – Eibe Play Bench – Purch Seat - Eibe Play Multi Play (Toddler) – Ledon Swing 2 Cradle - Eibe Play Embankment Slide - Eibe Play Cone Climer - Eibe Play See Saw - Eibe Play Multi Play (Junior) Eibe Play Swing 2 Flat - Eibe Play Basket Swing - Eibe Play Cable Runway - Eibe Play	MPC	Some accessible features	Some accessible features – no specific equipment	Yes
Sandy Hill Lane	Reedings Moulton. NN3 7AX ///hotels.buck.degree	Play Area – Small Toddler Bin – Broxap Balance Beam – Croc – N/K Bench – N/K Picnic Table – N/K	MPC	Some accessible features	Some accessible features – no specific equipment	Yes - partial
Spinney Close	Spinney Close, Moulton. NN3 7DH ///stir.began.fits	Play Area – LAP Bin – Broxap Bench – N/K Swing 2 flat – Miracle Play Spinning Pole - Miracle Play Stepping Posts Rubber – N/K Multi Play (Junior) - Miracle Play	MPC	Some accessible features	Some accessible features – no specific equipment	Yes – partial

6. What we need to Achieve

The council needs to ensure that it provides sites which deliver a broad range of play opportunities that suit the needs of all children and young people. This means that equipment needs to be easily accessible and inclusive for those with physical or sensory impairment. Good signage and parish maps will ensure residents know where to find play equipment.

To ensure that the equipment supports physical and sensory impairment the council will work with relevant partner organisations that provide expertise on design and equipment.

7. 2023 -2026 Action Plan

What	Where	By When
Internal Weekly Play Inspections	All Sites	First Friday of the month
Internal Quarterly Play Inspections	All Sites	First Friday each quarter
External Annual Inspection	All Sites	November each year
Safer Surfaces	All sites identified on 2022 ROSPA Playground Inspections.	End 2023
Youth Sports Equipment (goal posts)	TBC after pre planning consultation.	End 2024
Safer Surfaces	Forester Road Site	2024/2025
Accessible Play Equipment	Look at the possibilities of installing accessible play equipment at one or more of our sites.	2024/2025/2026

8. Review and Budget

The areas are reviewed both weekly and quarterly by our Facilities Manager, who submits reports to the Parish Administrator, who can when needed, flag any issues or requirements to the Executive Officer and council. The play equipment installed throughout the parish was especially chosen to enable remedial work to be carried by inhouse staff.

The Play Inspection Company, ROSPA qualified inspectors, carry out an annual independent safety inspection. Following the inspection report, small remedial works are carried out immediately. Less urgent, larger remedial works are included in the budgeting process for the following financial year.

The cost of external inspection reports and small remedial works is a standard budget consideration each year.

It is the intention to complete the installation of safety surfacing on remaining play areas, youth sports equipment (goal posts) and accessible play equipment in the financial year 24/25. Monies are allocated from Earmark Reserves (Community Facilities).

9. Related Policies

- Business Plan
- Health and Safety Policy
- Open and Green Spaces Audit
- Risk Management Policy

- Working at Heights Policy

This policy is reviewed annually by the Executive Officer and submitted to the full council for approval.

Last Reviewed: January 2024
Review Due: January 2025