

Responses from villagers in reply to Parish Council request for opinions on the project

Hi Ruth,

I hope you're well. I read about some investment in the play area in the village and the request for suggestions. It would be really nice to make the play area more inclusive, with accessible ramps and perhaps the addition of dug in trampoline and some multi sensory activity boards or rustic sound play.

The toddler swing is pants too and there are lots of young children in the village so perhaps a double toddler swing? Needham's play area has recently been added too and with some inclusive, sensory elements and its so lovely.

My son Griff is autistic and loves to be outside, we use the play area regularly. It would make a huge difference to have equipment that is safe and accessible to all!

We also feel that some better ground work in the way of more tyre shred areas or matting would be great especially over winter. I've popped some photos below this is of the equipment both and Elmhurst park in Woodbridge and some bits at Needham. I hope this is helpful.

Many thanks, Abby K Xx

From: Heather Owen <[DELETED](#)>

Sent: 07 February 2025 18:47

To: clerk@buckleshamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Subject: Play Equipment replacement project

To whom it may concern,

As a small Village we are very reliant on the play equipment for parents with children and grand parents looking to get children out and about in the fresh air and active. Some of the pieces are in desperate need of replacement and instead of them being removed and gone forever, it would be lovely to have them replaced, for the very young children growing up in the village and the older ones to continue enjoying this fantastic facility. I sincerely hope you are able to help a small village like ourselves.

Thank you for your time reading this request.

Regards, Heather Owen

Hi Ruth,

I want to fully support the Parish Council's plans to replace the old play equipment on the Playing Field. I used to play on there as a child, and now my children play on there too – but it really is showing it's age! I've noticed a lot of the logs are split and some have been removed. The log cabin really is looking very tired and there is no sensory or inclusive equipment that would really help Josh to feel included. If there is anything Mark and I can do to help fundraise please let me know. Bagsie I get first go on the new swings!

All the best, Heidi

From: youngy87 <[DELETED](#)>
Sent: 07 February 2025 20:06
To: clerk@buckleshamparishcouncil.gov.uk
Subject: Playing field

Good evening,

I have heard that plans are underway to revamp some of the playing field equipment. I would firstly like to say how happy I am to hear this as although my kids enjoy the current equipment it is starting to look a little tired.

I spoke to my kids and i asked what equipment they would love to see installed and they both said they would love to have a zip line installed.

If I can help in anyway clearing away old equipment or in any other way, let me know.

Regards, Tom

From: Christine Bickers <[DELETED](#)>
Sent: 08 February 2025 15:52
To: clerk@buckleshamparishcouncil.gov.uk
Subject: Re: New Play Equipment

Dear Ruth

It is not surprising that the recent inspection has shown that much of the play equipment on the playing field is in need of replacement. It has served the children of the village well for many years.

It will clearly be a massive project to raise funds for new equipment, but one which I feel is vital. We have lived in Bucklesham for over forty years. Our children grew up here and benefited from the Playing Field facilities and now we have grandchildren who enjoy using the play equipment too. It is lovely to be able to walk to the Playing Field and for them to enjoy being out in the fresh air and have some safe equipment to play on.

I know that there are many children living in the village. The number will have risen recently with the completion of the new housing development. All of these children would benefit if new play equipment could be purchased. This is particularly important because it is the only play area that is walkable. Other parks/ play areas are a car drive away and there is no public transport. It would be a great shame if the current equipment had to be dismantled with no replacement. The playing field facilities are an important part of the fabric of the village and a benefit for a huge age range from toddlers to teenagers.

I look forward to hearing of any progress with this project and whether any help from villagers is needed.

Best Wishes

Christine

From: K Z <[DELETED](#)>

Sent: 09 February 2025 18:51

To: clerk@buckleshamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Subject: Re: Play Equipment replacement

Hi Ruth!

We love the play equipment on the field and use it at least 3 x a week in the summer! It definitely does have parts to it that are quite tired and the woodwork is broken in places so it would be good to see it replaced/refurbished in the necessary places. The play park is definitely an asset to the village, it's children and the children's parents!

Thanks,

Kriszti

Hi Ruth,

We are in full support of the restoration/replacement of some of the play equipment at Bucklesham plating field. The field is a fantastic asset to the village and our children aged 3 and 4 years really enjoying it, especially as we can walk or bike to it.

That being said it can be seen that some work needs to be carried out on some of the equipment to bring it back to its full potential and make the most of such a wonderful community space.

We fully support the council in their efforts to gain funds for such project and get the jobs required completed .

Kind regards, Jenny

To whom it may concern,

The playing field is a huge asset to the village of Bucklesham. It is used for many activities and the children's play equipment plays a very important part.

The play equipment is suitable for a large age range of children. There are 'baby' swings and swings for the older children. There are bouncy 'seesaws' for the younger children and the obstacle course provides children big and small with opportunities for adventure as they can use it in so many ways. There is also a 'house' that the older children can use for climbing and the little ones can play 'house'. My grandchildren love to play there when they are with me and it is always well maintained. There are a lot of new young families in the village following a recent house development so I can only see the play equipment being used more. However it is clear that the current play equipment has seen better days and needs replacing urgently. Many pieces have had to be removed and many are rotten and falling apart.

We are lucky to have a very pro-active Parish Council in our village and they have always managed they play area very well and ensured it complies with Health and Safety Regulations. It would be very sad if we were not able to replace the play equipment in order to give the children of Bucklesham a safe and exciting place to play

Rosemary Watson,

Hi Ruth,

Just regarding use of playing field and promoting it for future grants, we were out today, first sunny day in ages and there were at least 20 people if not more out there, some on the play park, some football and some with bikes. All playing and talking with each other, sharing balls and bikes. It was lovely! :-) it's definitely a well used field!

Thanks, K and B

From: JBT <[DELETED](#)>

Sent: 17 February 2025 20:49

To: clerk@buckleshamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Subject: Removal of play equipment

Good Morning Ruth,

Sophie told me that a lot of the play equipment has been removed and I wondered if you could tell me why please? Are there plans to replace this or is the area just going to slowly get depleted?

I do understand that it will cost the Parish Council a lot of money to replace the old and worn out pieces but I cannot stress how important this is. I'm happy to help with fundraising if you would like me to, or a letter writing campaign to the powers that be.

Can I have your assurance that this area will not just be allowed to fall into complete disrepair and that the Parish Council are aware of how importance play is for children? If you need me to come to a Parish Council meeting and bash heads together I will do!

Jane