

Full Council Meeting – 8 February 2022

Report of Councillor Derek Perry – Deputy Leader and Sports, Parks and Leisure

Play equipment

1. All play area inspections have now been completed on schedule. The 2021 / 2022 replacement programme is now underway with some equipment already having been installed and others soon to be installed. The table below sets out an indicative timetable.

Play Area and Planned work	Parish	Planned Completion
Streamside P/A Double Flat Swings	Blackbrook & Holway	February 2022
Blenheim RD P/A Double Spring Rocker	Halcon & Lane	February 2022
Farriers Grange P/A See Saw	West Monkton & Cheddon Fitzpaine	February 2022
Wellington Rec P/A Accessible Roundabout	Wellington North	February 2022
Vivary Pk P/A Accessible Roundabout	Vivary	February 2022
Showell Park K/G Slide/Swings	Norton Fitzwarren & Staplegrove	January 2022
Showell Park P/A Slide/Swings/Chain Bridge/Climbing Unit	Norton Fitzwarren & Staplegrove	January 2022
Lyngford K/G Slide/ Multi Unit	Priorswood	January 2022
Burrough Way P/A Balance Walkway	Wellington South	February 2022
Viridor Green P/A Basket Swing Replacement	Halcon & Lane	January 2022
Hamilton Play Area Additional Inclusive Equipment.	Halcon & Lane	January 2022

Double Swings Inclusive Seats, Inclusive Rocker, Inclusive Roundabout			
Celandine Mead	Blackbrook & Holway	January 2022	
Slide/Roundabout/Swings/Climbing Frame			

A swimming pool site for Minehead

2. By the time of publication of this report, members will have seen the release confirming the decision to set aside a parcel of land in Minehead as a site for a swimming pool. This is an early but important step on the road to the provision of a new pool which will serve the town and the wider area.

Green Flag Awards

3. Green flags were officially raised in January in the parks and open spaces which were successful in the 2021 process. Submissions for the Green Flag Awards for 2022 are being completed for Blenheim Gardens, Wellington, Vivary, Victoria and French Weir and Comeytrove parks, as well as Swains Lane Nature Reserve.

Afterlife Benches

4. Members will hopefully be aware of the recent installation of the “Afterlife” benches in Vivary park and Blenheim Gardens. These benches were donated by Netflix to mark the third and final series of the eponymous series and were designed and commissioned in collaboration with the Campaign Against Living Miserably (CALM). Netflix donated 25 of these benches nationwide and so were we are delighted that they chose to site two of them within our district.

Leisure (Everyone Active)

5. Membership numbers have continued to recover across all sites with ambitious targets for the January period looking likely to be achieved. This is obviously very good news given the level of concern that existed a month or so ago in respect of the Omicron variant.