

RLA – 23 JUNE 2016
Parks Report

The unusually wet and warm weather so far this summer has resulted in very vigorous growth and the parks staff are working hard to try to keep up with it.

- Swanscombe Park:

The flower beds and War Memorial have been planted out with summer bedding. Bowls has been underway for 7 or 8 weeks and Istead Rise Bowls Club report that the green is again playing well.

Tennis is proving as popular as ever and replacements nets have been ordered due to the wear and tear of the current nets.

We are expecting the broken items of play equipment to be replaced in the coming weeks, hopefully in plenty of time for the start of the summer holidays.

A Commemorative bench was unveiled at the Party in the Park event on 11 June 11 to celebrate the Queens 90th birthday

As part of Volunteer Week and in partnership with the KCC Community Warden it has been arranged for a group of volunteers to visit the park to do some painting and cleaning on 20 June 2016 ↵

- Manor Park

A swing seat has been deliberately damaged and will have to be replaced. There is still a disproportionate amount of rubbish and debris collected by staff from this park and the surrounding area.

- Broomfield

Cricket has been underway since the start of May and the square is playing well and the staff have once again produced a very good playing surface. All reparation work to the football pitches has been completed.

As previously agreed the Parks staff are due to lay some concrete slabs between the footpath and the play area, as well as by the kissing gate at the top of the park.

Contractors are due to return to address some issues arising from the resurfacing in the play area.

- Knockhall

The Party in the Park to celebrate the Queens 90th birthday and to unveil a Commemorative bench took place on 11 June.

End of season reparations to the football pitches are all done.

- Heritage Park:

It is expected that the broken play equipment will be repaired/replaced in the next few weeks (this is subject to an insurance claim).

- Spring Vale

Fly tipping and the dumping of garden waste continue to be a nuisance

- Equipment

Both of the recently purchased cylinder mowers are now in use and the cricket square is feeling the benefit.

Recommended:

To note.

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FOOTBALL PITCH ALLOCATION 2016 -2017

PITCH:	DAY & TIME:	LAST YEAR:	REQUESTS – 2016 / 2017:
B/FIELD:			
Pitch 1	Saturday pm		Stone C & I
			VACANT
Pitch 2	Saturday pm		VACANT
			VACANT
Pitch 1	Sunday am		Swanscombe FC
			Dartford Royals
	Sunday pm		VACANT
			VACANT
Pitch 2	Sunday am		Swanscombe Tigers Mens
			VACANT
	Sunday pm		VACANT
			VACANT
Mini Pitch (80 x 50)	Sunday am		Swanscombe Tigers U12's
			VACANT
Mini Pitch (40 x 30)	Sunday am		Swanscombe Tigers U7's
			Swanscombe Tigers U8's



FOOTBALL PITCH ALLOCATION 2016 -2017

K/HALL:			
	Saturday pm		VACANT
			VACANT
	Sunday am		Swanscombe Tigers U13's
			Swanscombe Tigers U14's
	Sunday pm		Swanscombe Tigers U15's
			VACANT
Mini Pitch (60 x 40)	Sunday am		Swanscombe Tigers U9's (A) Swanscombe Tigers U9's (B)
			Swanscombe Tigers U10's (A) Swanscombe Tigers U10's (B)

Extract of ASB & Crime Sub-Committee Minutes – 20 April 2016

567/15-16. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**

There were none.

The Chairman gave the opportunity for the meeting to be adjourned at this point to accept questions from the public.

Members of the public in attendance were all residents of St Peters Close and St Pauls Close. They collectively recounted ongoing issues with anti-social behaviour in Manor Park and through to St Pauls Close. This included excessive noise, rude and abusive behaviour, damage to private and Town Council property and underage drinking and smoking.

Members along with PCSO's and Wardens present reinforced the importance of raising these incidents through both 999 (if the incident in progress or life threatening) and 101. This would not only report the individual incidents but help to build up a picture of ongoing concerns in a particular area.

Residents also raised concerns regarding the lack of street lighting in the area. This was said to be causing further concern to elderly and vulnerable residents. Councillor P Harman agreed to attend the area and report the street lights concerned in his capacity as KCC Member for the area. KCC Community Warden Taylor agreed to pass on residents details in order to re-instate the Neighbourhood Watch Group. Councillor B Read recommended to members that an item should be included on the next Recreation, Leisure and Amenities Committee agenda to further discuss this matter, this was agreed by members.] *

The meeting was briefly adjourned at this point to allow members of the public to exchange direct contact numbers with both PCSO's and Community Wardens.

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Manor Park Children's Play Area

Manor Park,
Swanscombe Street,
Swanscombe, Kent, DA10 0JZ

For the safety of the users, no dogs, no ball games and no cycles are allowed in the play area.

Location of the nearest public telephone:

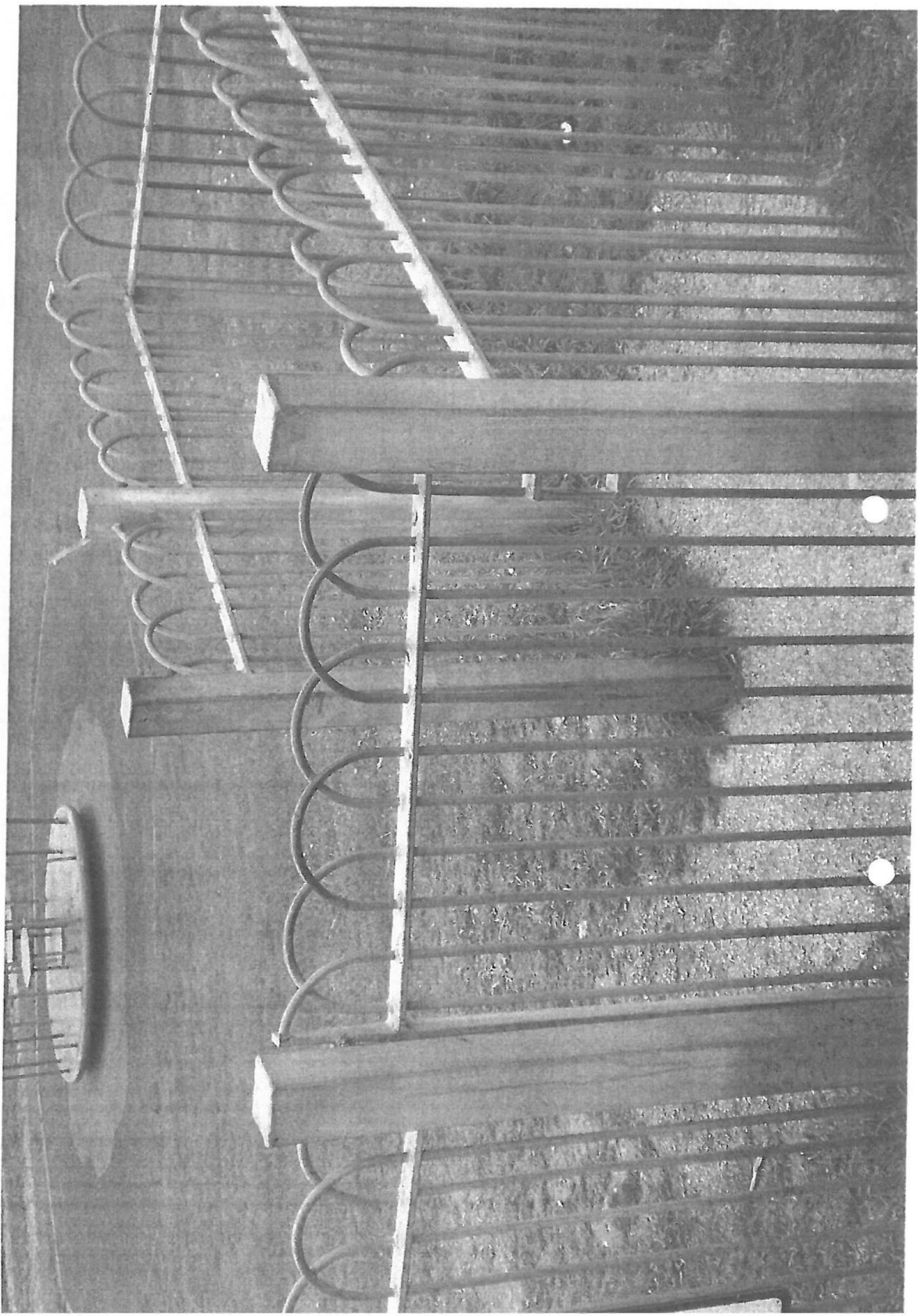
Swanscombe Street opposite Church Hall.

Telephone number to report anti-social behaviour:
01622 690690.

Please report any damage or observations to
Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council on:
01622 690690

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AGENDA ITEM 7.3
RLA 23/6/16

400m x 300m £16.69 exc VAT

1.2mm rigid polypropylene



297 x 210 mm

£ 19.16 exc. VAT.

ESTIMATED COST OF PARTS/WORKS.

	Last Year	This Year
Broomfield Park.	653.84	176.90
Swanscombe Park.	383.08	345.58
Manor Park.	740.00	5.84
Heritage Park.	805.30	950.64
Knockhall Park.	1,507.00	13.98
Valley View.	734.81	119.55
Saxon Court.	447.00	503.00
TOTAL	5271.03	£2115.49 (- 5% FIT membership) = £2,089.49 inc. VAT

£3,500.00 budgeted
 £315.00 for inspections (was £299.25)
 = £3,200 remaining.

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26/16-17. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.**

MOVED BY Councillor B E Read and seconded by Councillor R J Lees;

RESOLVED:

That, pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during consideration of the following item(s).

No members of the press or public were present during discussion of the following item of business.

27/16-17. **EAGLES ROAD (GREENHITHE) PLAY AREA.**

Members discussed the information provided by Dartford Borough Council in the confidential report.

Members were very concerned about the manner in which the borough council had appeared to have made a decision not to re-instate the play area without discussions with residents or borough Councillors.

Members felt that the play area was an important feature of that area of the Town and that many residents had made their feelings known to members about wanting this play area re-instated.

As the borough council were, quite rightly, investing large sums of money in leisure facilities across the borough the decision not to re-instate the play area seemed to be inconsistent with their policy on recreational facilities and appeared not to have any reasonable logic behind the decision.

After a lengthy debate it was agreed that:

RESOLVED:

The Town Mayor approaches the Leader of Dartford Borough Council and requests that they hold a meeting, with the 6 borough Councillors that represent Swanscombe and Greenhithe, to discuss whether/how the play area could be re-instated.

28/16-17. **SEALING OF DOCUMENTS.**

There were none.

There being no further business to transact the Meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Members were invited to join the Mayor Elect for refreshments after the Meeting.

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EXTRACT OF MINUTES

TOWN COUNCIL
28 APRIL 2016

631/15-16. **REPORT FROM DARTFORD BOROUGH COUNCILLORS.**

The Dartford Borough Councillors on the Town Council reported on the following matters:

The JTB had recently had a joint presentation from KCC and Highways England regarding congestion measures for the wider Dartford area in relation to the M25 corridor;

The Swanscombe and Greenhithe area had received several grants for events to celebrate the Queens 90th birthday;

The Community Fund Group had met and both the Cambria Sea Scouts and 1st Galley Hill Scouts had received funding;

A successful St Georges day weekend had been held;

A verbal update was given from the recent DCB meeting regarding the planning application for Station Approach;

The implications of the Crime & Police Act and the setting up of Public Open Spaces Protection Zones was discussed and its link to the existing No Alcohol Zones;

The DBC Budget was agreed on 22 February 2016 with no increase to the Council Tax; Recent collaborative litter pick events had been successful held in both Swanscombe and Greenhithe with the resources of both the Borough and Town Councils supporting local residents;

An update was given on the ongoing removal of the chalk face at Eagles Road and reinstatement of the gardens.

At this point the Town Mayor sought information on any plans for DBC to reinstate the play area in Eagles Road that had been closed/removed during the work on the chalk face. At present no indication had been given from DBC that this would be done. Members requested that the Recreation, Leisure and Amenities Committee consider writing to the borough Council for clarification on what their plans were for the Eagles Road Play Area.

RESOLVED:

That the item be noted.

EMAIL FROM "ERPA"

From: Caroline
Sent: 04 June 2016 16:24
Subject: Eagles Road Playground

Dear Sirs

My name is Caroline Cheary and I live at Sara Crescent Greenhithe. I am Chairperson of the Eagles Road Playground Association (ERPA) and we are not for profit organisation trying to raise funding and support to reinstate the playground at Eagles Road, Greenhithe.

I am sure you are aware of the issues in Eagles Road which included the closing of the playground. We (residents of Greenhithe) are extremely disappointed that the playground is not going to be replaced and will now remain as is - just grass without any play furniture. I for one find this extremely shocking. The play area with associated play furniture was a condition of the planning permission decided on Tuesday 7th December 1993. How can the local authority now decide because it suits them that the playground is no longer necessary? Surely this is setting a dangerous precedent. Will we find in the future if it suits the local authority they will disregard the conditions they themselves deem vital in granting planning permissions? Also why in 1993 when there were only a handful of houses did the local authority see it necessary to have a play area with play furniture when now Greenhithe has grown and there are many more houses the playground they (the local authority) decide it is now not necessary?

We are told a daily basis that children need to spend more time outside but how can they when the local authority have removed the playground. I am aware that there are two playgrounds close to the Eagles Road site however these are for under 8's only and one is by the flats at Asda and the other between start of High Street and Ingress Park. They are too far for young children to go on their own from the houses in the Eagles Road area.

ERPA require support and as our local councillors we are hoping we can rely on you for any help you can provide, especially in getting responses from the local authority to the queries raised above, and insisting that the playground is reinstated as per the 1993 planning permission.

I look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible

Many thanks for taking the time to read my email

Yours sincerely

Caroline Cheary
Chairperson ERPA

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