

PARKS REPORT - 2 FEBRUARY 2017 RLA

- **Swanscombe Park, Swanscombe:**

Maintenance and repairs to play equipment has been undertaken.

Shrubs have been cut back and leaves have been cleared.

Park benches have been repaired by parks staff.

Further to minute 279/16-17 the tarmac works to areas of the footpath/s has been completed and the retaining wall at the Gunn Road entrance reinstated. Parks staff have since painted the retaining wall.

Over the Christmas period staff painted the walls and floor of the ladies and gents toilets.

The old shelter wall in the center of the park has been repaired and repainted.

Painting of play equipment is underway.

The self-closing gate to the children's play area is due to be replaced by contractors in the very near future.

The Town Green requires a lot of work this year which will begin in earnest as soon as the weather allows.

- **Manor Park, Swanscombe:**

The self-closing gate has been replaced.

Leaves have been cleared.

Some painting to play equipment is required and will be undertaken as soon as the weather allows.

- **Broomfield Park, Swanscombe:**

The football pitches are playing well although recently some matches were called off due to the freezing conditions.

Leaves have all been cleared.

As part of our planned maintenance schedule shrub cutting in Neptune Park has been undertaken and is nearly complete.

The self-closing gate to the children's play area is due to be replaced by contractors in the very near future.

We are hoping that the previously agreed tarmac work by the vehicle access area will take place in the spring (March).

Despite the numerous dog waste bins provided and the dog waste bags available for free, some irresponsible dog owners are still failing to clear up after their dogs.

- **Heritage Park, Swanscombe:**

Problems with motorbikes continues on a regular basis and although most of the damage caused is superficial, the nuisance and danger to other park users is of concern. New large signs reminding users that all motorbikes are prohibited on the site have been purchased and fitted at the access points to the park.

The damaged self-closing gate, there are two gates, to the children's play area is due to be replaced by contractors.

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- **Knockhall Park, Greenhithe:**

As previously agreed the old weld mesh fencing alongside the Knockhall Road footpath has been replaced with new steel bow top fencing, powder coated in green.

Further to minute 280/16-17, the old swing set has been replaced with new swings and the wet pour safety surface has been extended to accommodate it.

A boot scraper has been purchased and is due to be installed by the middle kissing gate (to try to alleviate problems with people cleaning off their boots on the pavements and kerbs outside of the park).

The self-closing gates (x2) to the children's play area are due to be replaced by contractors in the very near future.

The football pitches are holding up well and we anticipate that all games should be completed despite a few postponements due to the freezing conditions.

- **Valley View Play Area, Greenhithe:**

Shrubs have been cut back and the last of the leaves cleared.

Painting of the play equipment is required and will be undertaken as soon as the weather allows.

- **Saxon Court Play Area, Greenhithe:**

Further to minute 280/16-17 the old (obsolete) swing set has been replaced with a new modern swing set.

In line with our planned maintenance schedule, the shrubs in the area adjacent to the park have been cut back (behind the bus stop).

- **Spring Vale Wooded Area, Greenhithe:**

The ivy that smothers many of the trees in the woodland has been severed as part of our planned maintenance schedule.

**Recommended:** That the item be noted.

MANOR PARK - OCT 2016

**AGENDA ITEM**

RLA 2/2/17 **7.1**



SAXON COURT - OCT 2016



KNOCKHILL PARK - DEC 2016



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**AGENDA ITEM**

RLA 2/2/17 7.2

Councillor Jeremy Kite, MBE  
Leader of the Council  
Conservative Member for Longfield, New Barn & Southfleet Ward

Bryan Read

13 January 2017

Dear Bryan,

You and Richard Lees have been very welcome at meetings to discuss the plans first mooted by a number of residents who formed the Eagles Road Park Association. As you know, their aim was to create a playspace on land in Eagles Road. The three local DBC Members were really taken with the wonderful vision and the real opportunity it presents and I have been too. I hope I'm right in detecting that you and Richard feel the same.

The project is a really exciting one and you know it was resolved to carry out a survey to see whether local people would support the idea of a new active public space and, if they did, what sort of equipment and activities they would like to see.

I was very keen that the project remained very much in the control of local residents and whilst we offered some advice and support, you have seen how it has been local people themselves who carried out survey and processed the results.

The outcome was very encouraging and it has really given all of us who have become involved in the project the impetus to press ahead and create something very special for local young people and families.

The project has acquired the name 'Eagles Park' and includes a small trail dedicated to nature education and play/learning for younger children called 'Little Eagles'.

In line with residents' requests arising from the survey, we aim to equip the park with traditional climbing and activity equipment (constructed from natural materials wherever possible, benches and tables for parents to sit and families to enjoy impromptu picnics, paths to create a safe route into, and around the park, and the aforementioned learning and nature trail for younger children. We are also keen to ensure that the park has great play opportunities for children with disabilities and one local family have been giving us great assistance with that. It has also been

suggested that a community noticeboard be installed which seems like a grand idea too.

In short, I think you and Richard have seen that the Eagles Park project has the potential to provide something very special and long-lasting for local families in that community.

As you know from our discussions, I promised to write formally to you to seek the financial support of the Town Council alongside our own. Dartford Borough Council is fully committed to Eagles Park and I've identified £10,000 of budget which could be applied to fund its creation. However, the project could be so much more rewarding and include so much more for local families if we were to attract additional funding. I am therefore asking whether S&G Town Council would provide a matching contribution? I am also asking Peter Harman whether KCC, either directly or through the Members' fund, would do the same.

I would be really grateful if the council would consider supporting this project and, of course, we would properly recognise the contribution of all funders when the project is completed.

If you need any more information on the project, our ambitions for stewardship or anything else, please don't hesitate to call and I'd be pleased to talk further with you.

Best wishes,

**Councillor Jeremy Kite**  
**Leader of the Council**

cc Cllr K Kelly  
Cllr M Kelly  
Cllr D Mote