

Norton Parish Council - Jack's patch play area inspection report

This report will be produced monthly by the NVCA for the NPC, the operator, inspections may be conducted more regular dependent upon use of the area, weather conditions, reports received etc. In addition to regular visual inspections and the monthly reports the play area is inspected annually for the NPC by a professional independent organisation.

Date of inspection	10-08-2019
Inspected by	 Tim Kirby

Item to be inspected	Control measure guide	Risk	Action taken or required
Site cleanliness	Remove any rubbish from site, animal fouling.	L	Litter removed.
Gate	Condition, hinges, closer, +12mm gaps at side	L	
Fencing/Hedges	Condition, panels, posts, no nails/bolts showing, do not climb & rules signs.	L	Boundary fencing posts loose/rotting will need replacing. The hedges around the site have not been cut for a long while and local residents have complained about them. Can they be cut ASAP?
Land retain posts	Condition, secure.	L	
Planting trees and grass	Grass cut, shrubs & trees controlled, limited weeds, even surfaces.	L	As with the hedges some trees need cutting back.
Bark play surface	Even distribution, depth min 200/300mm, not compacted, limited weeds, no trips.	L	Weeds have become a big problem and need more regular attention. Can the NPC employ a contract gardener to maintain the area?
Multiplay Unit Tower - steps	Condition, loose steps, slip.	L	
Tower - cargo net	Condition, secure, frayed cable, wear to eye bolts, shackles & links.	L	
Tower - climbing wall	Condition, secure, climb blocks tight.	L	
Tower - slide	Condition, secure, bolts, no cracks or obstructions on chute.	L	
Tower – platforms	Condition, secure, guard rails, no splinters.	L	
Tower - roof & posts	Condition, secure, no splinters, no climb sign.	L	
Swings - seats	Condition, secure, correctly fitted.	L	
Swings - frames	Condition, secure, anchored down.	L	
Swings - chains	Condition, secure, suspension shackle & pins wear, chain link wear, particular attention to moving parts.	L	Remove cover from shackle bolt annually & inspect for wear same for chain links. Replace at 30% wear. Last inspected June 2019. (Inspected on this visit).
Play panels	Condition, secure, no loose parts.	L	
Boulders	Condition, slips.	L	
Bench & picnic table	Condition, secure, no splinters or faults.	L	
Slabbed area	Condition, secure, level.	L	
Steps	Condition, secure, level.	L	Soil/turf levels inside tread section built up.
Signs	Ownership, contacts, rules in place.	L	

Additional Comments

The upkeep of the area with regard to weeds and hedges etc is becoming an issue, as I have been away for several weeks I have not been often and with the rain and sun this has allowed the weeds to multiply. Despite weed killing (which should be done as last resort) the area now looks a mess.

I have weed picked and sprayed, but would now request that the council manage this element and include this work as a regular maintenance task for a contractor?

HEDGES NEED CUTTING AS A PRIORITY and landscape regular maintenance.

Play bark will be ordered and spread around site.

Note; e mail to clerk@nortonpc.org.uk before monthly NPC meeting (third Tuesday)