

Iffley Fields Residents Association

www.ifra.uk

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Meadow Lane Playground Survey

January 2023

Updated March 2023 Tom Green (on behalf of the toddler parent group of Iffley Fields)

The Playground for children up to 8 is very popular and well used. It is managed and maintained by the Council. Residents had raised concerns that it was starting to deteriorate and prone to flooding to IFRA. It was visited on 12 January 2023 with Cllr Chris Jarvis.

Flooding

The Playground and most of the equipment were surrounded by puddles. There had been a lot of rain before we visited so this was unusually bad. However, there are perennial problems with bad puddles in winter by the gates, which could be addressed.



The gates

The gate to the playground are no longer self-closing and so often remain open, risking small children going out on to Meadow Lane and dogs getting in.

These have now been fixed by ODS – thanks.

The fencing

Between the park and Meadow Lane field the fence is made of wire which is falling apart with lots of large holes in. The stile should either be removed or improved. Upgraded fencing would be appreciated here.



Wibbly Wobbly Bridge



This has been dismantled and replacement wood has been ordered but is unlikely to arrive until the autumn. We wondered if some temporary arrangement might be made in the meantime.

Rather than waiting another 6+ months for wood (why does wood take 6 months to arrive?), would a similar arrangement to the Florence Park wobbly bridge be possible – see photo – as a better alternative?



Swings

The right hand bolt into the post of the toddler swing closest to the main yellow gate moves with the swing and could come off – this is unsafe and should be fixed ASAP.



The house



The house is very popular. We noticed that the entrance had a pathway material that gave access through the puddles. We wondered if this might be used in future to give access to other equipment.

The seats inside are losing their edges and need replacing.



Parallel Bars

These were placed by the edge to the Recreation ground but were removed recently. We are not sure why and would like them replaced.

Zip Wire

We were pleased to see the ground had been resurfaced. We noted that the launch platform is beginning to show signs of deterioration and will need some attention in the future.



Sandpit

The sand is now very old and needs a new load of sand to make it nice to play in (compare with the sand in Florence Park which is much newer and more pleasant to use)



The See-saw



The see-saw seemed to have some loose screws and some the wood has deteriorated. While it seemed safe, it may need to be reviewed.

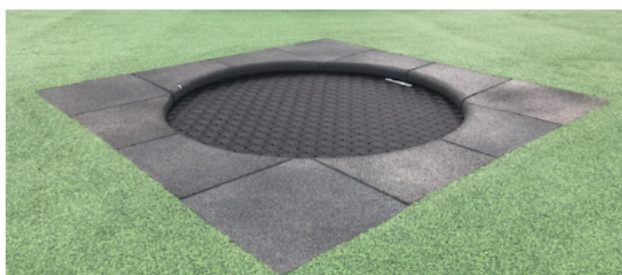
This seesaw is not safe. The wood has splintered and is dangerous. This seesaw needs to be replaced entirely with a better one as it is also too stiff for toddlers to use on their own so a new design should be considered.

Ideas for more equipment

There is plenty of space in the playground for new equipment, on both sides of the entrance from Meadow Lane and also behind the slide. Ideas include:

- Replacement seesaw (£?)
- Mini bowl spinner (£1400?)
- Climbing traverse wall or traversing forest (£1000-2600)
- Stepping Stones (£800)
- Log Rope bridge (£1800)
- Trampoline in the ground (£6000, too expensive)
- Musical instrument / xylophone / tubular bells (£2400+)

Rough pricing from <https://sovereignplayequipment.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/20-21-Sovereign-Brochure-Final.pdf>



Traversing Forest

L: 1.87m
x
W: 1.87m

4.84m
x
4m

< 0.6m

+3
YEARS



▶ This Traversing Forest can be used as a standalone piece, or part of a Trim Trail with hand and foot holds positioned on all sides to enable numerous climbing possibilities. The foot holds are all positioned at a maximum of 600mm high to enable the Traversing Forest to be installed without the need for a safer surface. A hugely popular and versatile item.

GUIDE PRICES

£1600
Installed into grass

£1750
Installed into tarmac



Himalayas

L: 2m
W: 0.75m
H: 2m

5m
x
3.18m

< 0.6m

+5
YEARS

✓

▶ This wooden traversing wall can be used as a standalone piece or part of a trim trail climbing challenge; complete with realistic hand and foot holds.

Based on Single Sided Single Bay option – please call for technical details on larger options

1 Single Sided, Single Bay

L2000mm x W175mm x H2000mm

£975
Installed into grass

£1050
Installed into tarmac



2 Single Sided, Double Bay

L4000mm x W175mm x H2000mm

£1600
Installed into grass

£1750
Installed into tarmac



3 Single Sided, Triple Bay

L5750mm x W175mm x H2000mm

£2350
Installed into grass

£2525
Installed into tarmac



4 Double Sided, Single Bay

L2000mm x W225mm x H2000mm

£1475
Installed into grass

£1550
Installed into tarmac



5 Double Sided, Double Bay

L4000mm x W225mm x H2000mm

£2625
Installed into grass

£2800
Installed into tarmac



6 Double Sided, Triple Bay

L6000mm x W225mm x H2000mm

£3850
Installed into grass

£4075
Installed into tarmac



Create your own trail

CFH
■ = 0mm
■ = +/-1000mm
■ = >1000mm

► Our Adventure Trails have been designed with various budgets and abilities in mind, making the best use of available space, as well as bringing as much imagination into play as possible. However, why not use the following components to design your own trail? In theory, the sky's the limit!
 CFH (Critical Fall Height) - IAR (Intend Age Range) - Prices based on installation into grass.

1 Palm Tree Top Product Code: PALMTOP Size: L1.45 x W1.45m IAR: N/A (See only) £1375		8 Drop Rope Bridge Product Code: DRB Size: L3.65 x W1.2m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £2175		15 Log Walk Weaver Product Code: LWW Size: L2.0 x W0.65m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £1450		22 Crossed Rope Walk Product Code: CRW Size: L3.4 x W0.2m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £1200	
2 Flat Top Side Vault Product Code: STSV Size: L3.65 x W0.13m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £475		9 Parallel Rope Walk Product Code: PRW Size: L3.4 x W0.15m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £1175		16 Drop Rope Clatter Bridge Product Code: DRC Size: L2.5 x W1.1m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £3325		23 Balance Weaver Product Code: BBW Size: L2.4 x W0.4m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £975	
3 Tightrope Crossing Product Code: TRC Size: L4.6 x W0.8m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £2175		10 Walk and Stretch Product Code: WST Size: L2.3 x W0.8m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £1350		17 Parallel Bars Product Code: PRB1M Size: L1.0 x W0.6m CFH: 1000mm IAR: +5yrs £875		24 Drop Rope Traverse Product Code: DRT Size: L2.8 x W0.2m CFH: 600mm IAR: +5yrs £1275	
4 Log Traverse Product Code: LTR Size: L3.4 x W0.6m CFH: 600mm IAR: +5yrs £1800		11 Shimmy Ropes Product Code: SHR Size: L4.0 x W0.55m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £975		18 Twin Crossover Side Vault Product Code: TCSV Size: L3.6 x W0.5m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £850		25 Swing Board Product Code: SWB Size: L2.8 x W1.3m CFH: 600mm IAR: +7yrs £800	
5 Tyre Hopsotch Product Code: THS Size: L3.5 x W1.4m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £625		12 Stepping Stones (x6) Product Code: SST06 Size: L0.2 x 0.2m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £825 - Set of 6		19 Balance Beam Product Code: BBM Size: L2.4 x W0.13m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £400		26 Log Roll Walk Product Code: LRW Size: L3.4 x W0.15m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £1098.02	
6 Tyra Step Product Code: TSTEP Size: L1.7 x W1.4m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £500		13 Log Walk (12) Product Code: SLW12 Size: L2.1 x W0.7m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £1175		20 Clatter Bridge Product Code: CLB Size: L2.1 x W1.0 CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £1900		27 Ladder Rope Walk Product Code: LADRW Size: L3.6 x W0.55m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £1525	
7 Inclined Balance Weaver Product Code: IBW Size: L3.6 x W0.4m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £1400		14 Low Hurdles Product Code: LWH Size: L3.6 x W2.4m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £1325		21 Burmah Bridge Product Code: BBR Size: L3.65 x W1.2m CFH: 600mm IAR: +3yrs £1775		28 Log Ramp Rock Climber Product Code: LRRC Size: L1.5 x W1.5m CFH: 1000mm IAR: +5yrs £2125	

10 Call us on: 0702 281129

Musical Play

► Playing a significant role in musical education, the pentatonic scale provides an excellent contribution to playful learning. Instruments such as xylophones are designed with pleasing notes that let children make music effortlessly, giving them the ability to create their own melodies. Full octaves are also available on request.



GUIDE PRICES

Installed into grass

£3200
 1. Bass Pentatonic
 £2675
 1. Alto Pentatonic Scale
 £2425
 1. Soprano Pentatonic Scale
 £5500
 1. 16 note Pentatonic Scale

Installed into tarmac

£3250
 1. Bass Pentatonic
 £2725
 1. Alto Pentatonic Scale
 £2500
 1. Soprano Pentatonic Scale
 £5575
 1. 16 note Pentatonic Scale

Supply only (for wall mounting)

£2850
 2. Bass Pentatonic
 £2350
 2. Alto Pentatonic Scale
 £2100
 2. Soprano Pentatonic Scale
 £5175
 2. 16 note Pentatonic Scale

Supply with installation onto flat-faced wall with timber frame and laminate

£2950
 3. Bass Pentatonic
 £2400
 3. Alto Pentatonic Scale
 £2150
 3. Soprano Pentatonic Scale
 £5200
 3. 16 note Pentatonic Scale

62 Call us on: 0702 281129

Conclusions

Overall, it is an attractive playground with a good balance of play activities. It is very much appreciated by children and their parents and grandparents.

It is, however, beginning to show signs of wear and tear and many areas may need renovation in the next year.

Areas for attention: ODS / OCC

1. Puddles by the gates. While some flooding after rain is inevitable, given its position, the well-worn areas by the gates should be improved.
2. Fencing repair
3. Toddler swing repair
4. Wobbly Bridge: whether a temporary replacement can be made to the wobbly wobbly bridge while we await the arrival of the wood that has been ordered. Or a permanent replacement more similar to the Florence park bridge that will be in place more quickly.
5. Parallel bars: the reason the parallel bars were recently removed and when they will be replaced?
6. Sandpit new load of sand
7. Seesaw removal (and replacement)
8. House seating repair
9. Surfaces around the activities to be monitored especially zip line

Responsibilities: Will the above repair and maintenance items be the responsibility of ODS / OCC, and will they additionally have any budget for a new seesaw, replacement parallel bars and any new equipment?

New equipment: we (as an IFRA parent group) would support an application by IFRA for new equipment from the councillors' fund. This would be for new items, rather than replacing what was there already, what has broken or what has been taken away.

Susan Bedford, Simon Fisher, Christine Hogg, Cllr Chris Jarvis

14 January 2023

Tom Green

6 Mar 23