

COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

✉ **Postal Address:** Highfield Park Visitor Centre, Hill End Lane AL4 0RA
☎ **Telephone:** (01727) 825 314
💻 **Website:** <https://colneyheathparishcouncil.gov.uk>
✉ **E-mail:** clerk@colneyheathparishcouncil.gov.uk



2025/26 - Item 86c Repairs Required to Colney Heath Partish Play Areas Following Q2 Inspections

1. Purpose of Report

To advise Council of repair works identified during the recent Quarter 2 (Q2) inspections of play areas, to outline the total cost of the required works, to identify potential funding sources, and to invite Members to consider future provision at Sleepshyde.

2. Background

Routine Q2 inspections have been undertaken across several play areas. These inspections have identified a range of remedial works necessary to maintain safety standards, prevent further deterioration, and ensure continued usability. In some locations, budgets within individual park maintenance lines have been fully expended, requiring consideration of alternative funding sources.

Details of the required works and associated costs are set out below.

Tyttenhanger – Quote ref: ARL4840

The following issues were identified:

- Soft spots in mulch (three areas of 1m²)
- Loose deck fittings
- Tighten loose fittings
- Springer – loose fittings
- Repair of subsidence areas

Total Tyttenhanger cost: £2,248.79 plus VAT

There is currently no remaining budget within Tyttenhanger Park maintenance.

Sleepshyde – Quote ref: ARL4841

The following works are required:

- Bench – soil and seed
- Shelter – replace loose fittings (inserts)
- Remove graffiti
- Spot treat paintwork
- Jet wash shelter
- Swing – edge repairs (20 linear metres, black)
- Paint top beam
- Seesaw – edge repairs (15 linear metres)
- Trim trail – sand rough edges

Cost: £2,455.29 plus VAT

COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

✉ **Postal Address:** Highfield Park Visitor Centre, Hill End Lane AL4 0RA
☎ **Telephone:** (01727) 825 314
💻 **Website:** <https://colneyheathparishcouncil.gov.uk>
✉ **E-mail:** clerk@colneyheathparishcouncil.gov.uk



Sleapshyde Swing Replacement and Surfacing

The swing is damaged and associated surfacing is also affected. It is not recommended to replace the surfacing without installing a new swing, as this would not be cost-effective given the condition of the equipment.

- Remove existing swing and tiles
- Install new Vinci swing
- Install Tigermulch surfacing

Cost: £6,064.45 plus VAT

Additional Combined Works (Cost-Efficient Approach)

It is proposed that the following works are undertaken at the same time as the swing replacement to reduce overall costs:

- Toddler swing surfacing – edge repair
 - **Cost when combined:** £770.50
 - *(Estimated cost if undertaken separately: c. £1,200)*
- Seesaw – edge repair to triangles (deterioration likely to worsen if left untreated)
 - **Cost:** £884.16 plus VAT

Total Sleapshyde cost: £10,174.40 plus VAT

There is £1,000 remaining in the Sleapshyde maintenance budget.

Roestock Park – Quote ref: ARL4842

The following issues were identified:

- Sign – loose in ground
- Broken gate spring
- Bench – soil and seed
- Freeride – galvanised spray and silver spot repairs
- Swing – cradle seat loose fixing
- Grease anti-wrap bearings
- MPU – frayed outer rope (self-amalgamating tape repair)
- MPU (Multi Play Unit) – repaint unit

Total Roestock Park cost: £4,769.57 plus VAT

There is currently no remaining budget within Roestock Park maintenance.

COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

✉ **Postal Address:** Highfield Park Visitor Centre, Hill End Lane AL4 0RA
☎ **Telephone:** (01727) 825 314
💻 **Website:** <https://colneyheathparishcouncil.gov.uk>
✉ **E-mail:** clerk@colneyheathparishcouncil.gov.uk



3. Summary of Costs (Excluding VAT)

- **Tyttenhanger:** £2,248.79
- **Sleapshyde:** £10,174.40
- **Roestock Park:** £4,769.57

Total cost of all works: £17,192.76 plus VAT

4. Financial Implications and Funding

Given that there is:

- No remaining budget in Roestock Park maintenance
- No remaining budget in Tyttenhanger Park maintenance
- £1,000 remaining in Sleapshyde maintenance

Members are asked to consider allocating funding from:

- **EMR 334 – Play Area Contingency:** £2,520.72
- **EMR 341 – Contingency** £2,000.00

Use of EMR funding and general reserves is necessary to ensure safety-critical and preventative works can be completed.

5. Strategic Consideration – Sleapshyde

Members should also consider whether it is appropriate to continue investing in certain items of equipment at Sleapshyde that are approaching or have reached end of life. An alternative option may be the removal of end-of-life equipment, rather than continued repair, and this may warrant further discussion as part of future play area provision planning.

6. Recommendation

Council is asked to:

1. Note the outcomes of the Q2 inspections.
2. No works required at Colney Heath Recreation Ground
3. Approve the repair and replacement works detailed in this report.
4. Approve the allocation of funding from EMR 334 Play Area Contingency and EMR 341 Contingency plus general reserves to meet the total cost.
5. Consider the future viability and potential removal of end-of-life equipment at Sleapshyde.