WELL PLOT PLAY AREA REPORT APRIL 2019 - 2021

In normal times Well Plot playing field and playground provide a well-used facility for recreation by the local community and a venue for outdoor sports activities for Loders Primary Academy and Loders Youth Club. Unfortunately, covid restrictions required the closure of the playground and permitted exercise only on the playing field from March 2020 until July, since when use has been allowed provided social distancing has been maintained. Guidance signs were provided to encourage safe use, and recently happy family groups have been making good use of the area.

The deterioration of some of the timber elements of the "trim trail" has provided the opportunity for updating the playground. The plan is to remove these underused and decaying pieces of equipment and replace with a spinning net carousel and to further improve the area with the provision of one or two wheelchair friendly picnic bench sets. A grant of £614 from Dorset Leisure Development Fund and £124 from the Crown Inn Quiz Night have been obtained and will help to defer costs. We hope to move forward with this project in the near future.

Mr Ken Hussey carries out a quarterly safety inspection and overall the playground is classified as low or minimal risk. A weekly check is done by a member of the council.

In August 2019 we had tree surgery done to remove a Lime tree that was dropping sticky sap onto the playground and causing oppressive shading to the playground and an adjoining property, the adjacent Beech tree was reshaped. We are very grateful to Olwen McCrindle who funded a replacement Lime in memory of her late husband. This has been successfully planted in a more suitable spot next to the football field.

A multi stemmed willow that overhung the stream and threatened a neighbouring garden was also cut back.

The young Oak that was planted next to the playground and was giving concern happily seems to have revived considerably.

We hope that as covid restrictions are lifted many people, both locals and visitors, will enjoy our pleasant play park.

Cllr David Pullan
Loders Parish Council