

Multi-Use Games Areas

Introduction



Lowestoft Town Council has six Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGAs), at Britten Road, Clarkes Lane, Fen Park, Gunton Community Park, Normanston Park and Whitton Green.

A request was made for an item to be added to the Assets, Inclusion and Development Committee's agenda to review the condition of the MUGAs, after a visitor to the Clarkes Lane MUGA requested that the Town Council consider installing a softer surface.

Our MUGAs are inspected routinely by our Grounds Maintenance Team, and independent quarterly and annual inspections are also carried out at the same time as the play area inspections.



These are the results of our most recent annual inspections, from August 2024:

Britten Road



 8 - Low Risk	
<p>Item: Goalmouth and Basketball Post Manufacturer: Hags Surface Type: Tarmac Item Quantity: 1 Equipment Compliance: No Surface Area Compliance: N/A</p> <p>Total Findings: 8</p>	
<p>Finding 1</p>	<p>Finding 2</p>
<p>The bitumen surface is worn or damaged - Repair the bitumen to provide a uniform surface</p>	<p>There is weed / vegetation growth on, between, or around the edges of the surfacing - Remove weed / vegetation growth</p>
<p>Finding 3</p>	<p>Finding 4</p>
<p>The paintwork on this item has been damaged or worn exposing the metal underneath which is rusting / corroding - Treat affected areas and repaint</p>	<p>The item fails to meet the requirements of BS EN 15312 4.4.2.1 head and neck entrapment in the frame - Monitor - No remedial work recommended</p>
<p>Finding 5</p>	<p>Finding 6</p>
<p>There are trip hazards at the edges of the surface - Remove trip hazard</p>	<p>There is some graffiti present - Remove the graffiti</p>
<p>Finding 7</p>	<p>Finding 8</p>
<p>There is/are finger entrapments in the frame due to missing inserts and the item fails to meet the requirements of BS EN 15312 Clause 4.4.2.2 Entrapment of fingers - Provide inserts to remove entrapment</p>	<p>There are a number of redundant cable ties attached to the equipment - Remove redundant cable ties</p>

Multi-Use Games Areas

Clarks Lane


 12 - Moderate Risk	
Item: Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) Manufacturer: Not Identified Surface Type: Tarmac Item Quantity: 1 Equipment Compliance: No Surface Area Compliance: N/A	
Total Findings: 18	
Finding 1 A clearly visible facility sign should be provided in a prominent position with the wording as detailed BS EN 15312- the equipment is not intended for children less than 3 years old- the warning - Do not climb on the framework or nets- the warning - Do not hang on the ring (if provided)- the warning - Do not wear rings or other jewellery- name and telephone number of the administrator- number to call in case of accident - Provide signage to BS EN 15312	Finding 2 The free space between the backboard and the framework is less than 600mm and fails the requirements of BS EN15312:2007 +A1 2010 - Monitor - No remedial work recommended
Finding 3 The ring is not fixed to the framework and force from the ring can be transmitted directly to the backboard in contravention of BS EN 15312:2007+A1:2010 - 5.2.2.1 - Monitor condition and replace as required	Finding 4 There are projecting bolt thread(s) present - Remove excess thread length and deburr or provide cap
Finding 5 There is weed / vegetation growth on, between, or around the edges of the surfacing - Remove weed / vegetation growth	Finding 6 There is or are fixings missing on the item - Replace all missing fixings
Finding 7 The paint is flaking off the metalwork - Rub down and re-paint	Finding 8 There is or are fixings missing on the backboards - Replace all missing fixings
Finding 9 The bitumen surface is worn or damaged - Repair the bitumen to provide a uniform surface	Finding 10 There is/are finger entrapments in the frame due to missing fixings and the item fails to meet the requirements of BS EN 15312 Clause 4.4.2.2 Entrapment of fingers - Provide missing fixings to remove entrapment
Finding 11 The weld(s) on this item have failed - Repair item	Finding 12 A hoop is damaged - Repair or replace hoop
Finding 13 There is or are fixings missing on the item - Replace all missing fixings	Finding 14 There is or are fixings missing on the item - Replace all missing fixings

Fen Park

 8 - Low Risk	
Item: Basketball Post Manufacturer: Not Identified Surface Type: Tarmac Item Quantity: 1 Equipment Compliance: No Surface Area Compliance: N/A	
Total Findings: 4	
Finding 1 The bitumen surface is worn or damaged - Repair the bitumen to provide a uniform surface	Finding 2 There is weed / vegetation growth on, between, or around the edges of the surfacing - Remove weed / vegetation growth
Finding 3 There are trip hazards at the edges of the surface - Remove trip hazard	Finding 4 The backboard is missing - Replace the backboard


Gunton Community Park

6 - Low Risk

Item:	Site General	
Manufacturer:	Owner/Operator	
Surface Type:	N/A	
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	N/A	
Surface Area Compliance:	N/A	
Total Findings:	1	

Finding 1
There is weed / vegetation growth on, between, or around the edges of the surfacing - Remove weed / vegetation growth

8 - Low Risk

Item:	Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)	
Manufacturer:	Hags	
Surface Type:	Tarmac	
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	No	
Surface Area Compliance:	N/A	
Total Findings:	6	

Finding 1
A clearly visible facility sign should be provided in a prominent position with the wording as detailed BS EN 15312- the equipment is not intended for children less than 3 years old- the warning - Do not climb on the framework or nets- the warning - Do not hang on the ring (if provided)- the warning - Do not wear rings or other jewellery- name and telephone number of the administrator- number to call in case of accident - Provide signage to BS EN 15312

Finding 2
The item fails to meet the requirements of BS EN 15312 4.4.2.1 head and neck entrapment in the frame - Monitor - No remedial work recommended

Finding 3
The paintwork on this item has been damaged or worn exposing the metal underneath which is rusting / corroding - Treat affected areas and repaint


Finding 4
There is some graffiti present - Remove the graffiti

Finding 5
There are trip hazards at the edges of the surface - Remove trip hazard

Finding 6
There is or are fixings missing on the item - Replace all missing fixings

Normanston Park

8 - Low Risk

Item:	Basketball Post	
Manufacturer:	Not Identified	
Surface Type:	Tarmac	
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	Yes	
Surface Area Compliance:	N/A	
Total Findings:	4	



Finding 1
There are trip hazards at the edges of the surface - Remove trip hazard

Finding 2
There are projecting bolt thread(s) present - Remove excess thread length and deburr or provide cap

Finding 3
There is some graffiti present - Remove the graffiti

Finding 4
There is weed / vegetation growth on, between, or around the edges of the surfacing - Remove weed / vegetation growth

Whitton Green

 8 - Low Risk	
<p>Item: Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) Manufacturer: Not Identified Surface Type: Tarmac Item Quantity: 1 Equipment Compliance: Yes Surface Area Compliance: N/A</p> <p>Total Findings: 9</p>	
<p>Finding 1 The sign is damaged - Replace</p>	<p>Finding 2 There are trip hazards at the edges of the surface - Remove trip hazard</p>
<p>Finding 3 There are projecting bolt thread(s) present - Remove excess thread length and deburr or provide cap</p>	<p>Finding 4 There is weed / vegetation growth on, between, or around the edges of the surfacing - Remove weed / vegetation growth</p>
<p>Finding 5 The bitumen surface is worn or damaged - Repair the bitumen to provide a uniform surface</p>	<p>Finding 6 A number of weld(s) on this item have failed along the fence - Repair item</p>
<p>Finding 7 There are a number of missing uprights along the fence leaving sharp metal edges - Repair fence</p>	<p>Finding 8 There is some graffiti present - Remove the graffiti</p>
<p>Finding 9 There is some damage to the fence sections - Monitor for any further deterioration and repair as required</p>	

Conclusion

You will see from the inspection reports above that most of the sites have several findings, however these are all relatively minor. Findings are reported to the Grounds Maintenance Team to address, or quotations sought for more specialist works. I would suggest that no urgent works are required, however I can liaise with our Parks and Grounds Maintenance Manager about scheduling in these works or seeking quotations if required.