

**BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Environment Committee**  
**Thursday 21 September 2023**  
**Decision Report 3**

**North Farm Play Area Fence**

**Recommendations**

**The Committee RESOLVE to consider:**

- 1. The associated costs to have a perimeter fence installed around the play area, which is presently open plan.**
- 2. The offer from the Ward County Councillor to contribute to the cost of the fence from her Members Local Improvement Fund to the amount of £5,000.**

Ward

Croft

Risk Management

Should committee agree to proceed with this project the costs would have to be drawn from balances as there is no budgetary provision within the 2023/2024 financial year.

Objective

To promote the environmental, social, and economic wellbeing of the town and its community. One way this can be done is by the provision of Play/Sports Areas to create a facility for children/teenagers, up to mid-teens, to both learn and play within a secure environment.

Report

Residents have approached the ward County Councillor to have a fence installed around the play area. See appendix 8 for the location of the Play Area.

Because of the number of cars using the road between the play area and the housing estate they believe it will only be a matter of time before a child is knocked down and hurt, as there is nothing to restrict them from running across the road.

The play area was refurbished in 2017/18 and the reason no fence was included in the scheme was because the wooden trail was previously open plan.

It was included in the report at that time that should additional equipment be installed it would be easier to proceed because there was no fence around the site. This proved to be the case when an inclusive carousel was installed in 2019.

Quotations for fencing have been received from the Contractor who has just completed the Chestnut Ave Play Area.

Quote 1 is for a plain galvanised 1.2metre high fence with two self-closing gates cost £24,666.00

Quote 2 is for a 1.2 metre high fence painted black with two self-closing gates cost £35,844.00

The cost also means if members agreed to have a fence installed BTC may have to advertise the contract on the contract portal in accordance with standing orders, if the estimated costs are greater than £25k.

**D Clough**  
**General Services Officer**

**21 August 2023**