



Bothenhampton & Walditch
Parish Council since 1886

12th February 2022

Simon Reeve
Managing Director
PlayQuest

By email

Dear Mr Reeve.

RE: LOWER WALDITCH PLAY AREA

We appreciate your rapid response to our recent reminder about the holes in the PlayBond (our letter of 12th December 2021 to Mike Hallam refers). I can confirm that the two holes have been filled with Play Bond. The patches are clear to see as they are in a different colour to the black-original.

However, I was disappointed that we were given no opportunity to meet your engineer to discuss the concerns that remain, and therefore wish to draw your attention to the specific issues raised in my letter of 12th December 2021:

1: There is no evidence of any chase channels, as specified by API COP section 7.1.4 and cited in our letter of 12th December. Surrounding grass is growing into the PlayBond.

2: We examined the PlayBond at four points: 2m, 17m, 34m and 41m from the lower entrance. At three of these points the PlayBond appeared to be much thinner than the 40mm specified for the wearing course in API COP section 7.1.4, also cited in our letter of 12th December. At the fourth, near to the top entrance, the PlayBond is edged with a wooden border, is of the required thickness and has a stone base.

3: We saw little evidence of a stone base as specified in Order 4980/2 of 25th February 2020 and need to be reassured that the irregularities in the path will not increase over time.

If the original scope of works quoted for the provision of a sub-base then this **must** be present. This is not an insubstantial cost omission. The provision of a resilient sub-base would have resulted in a more even finish. I am also unclear as to what the moles are supposed to have done? They can have had little impact on the failure to lay sufficient thickness of material or the omission of a chase channel. I would suggest that the money saved from the omission of the sub-base could be used to provide a reasonable top coat and chase channel.

I conclude that further holes are likely to occur in the thin PlayBond, particularly where it has little foundation.

Yours sincerely,
A J Basker
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