Playing Field Report for RSPC Meeting 27 April 2026

In September 2025, a RoSPA representative conducted a **playground safety inspection** on all the play equipment on the playing field. I am discussing necessary repair and refurbishment options with an independent company with no other viable options currently. The repairs can be made when the contractor is next available. A rough, informal quote was prepared by the contractor and introduced at the last meeting which was agreed in principle. A formal quote has been requested so we can agree costs and move forward.

On 19th December, following investigations of **drains backing up into the Community Hall**, it was discovered after 6 hours of investigations and jetting, that the drain running across the playing field to Hatherell Road was blocked just before the access manhole at the Hatherell Road side of the playing field. As there is an interim submerged inspection manhole positioned just behind the eastern football goal post, effluent was discharging out of that on to the playing field and that ground was excavated by hand to access it.

The cause of the blockage was discovered to be wet wipes which would have originated from the Community Hall/Radford Semele Sports and Social Club, although in consultation with former Councillor Henry Marriott and advice from the Jetting company specialist is that a significant factor in this was the poor fall on the drain making it liable to blockages that have happened in the past.

As this has been a problem in the past and also the access point behind the goal is currently unsatisfactory as an access point, should the Parish Council look to prevent further incidents with this drain by upgrading or replacing the drain and improving the intermediary access point behind the goal.

Enquiries have been made with Severn Trent for advice as to a long term solution to future issues. I met with engineers on 23 February and they provided excellent insights and the next step is to have full inspection of the drainage pipes albeit low volume of the water waste through the pipe is the likely cause of repeated blockage. The gradient is considered to be suitable . Having explored quotes from companies, approval was given to spend £585+VAT and the survey has been diarised for Thursday 23 April. I shall attend and update council.

We are **updating the signage** around the field. Wording and information inaccuracies have been addressed. The signs have been delivered and were installed on 7 April.

Henry M, Stan Sabin and I conducted **seasonal tree husbandry** on the Cubbington pear tree on 17 April. The cage has been removed and the tree has been fed and is thriving.

Although there has not been a direct report, the stanchion on the Spring Lane end **goalpost has been damaged**. We are in discussion with Steve H to plan a way forward for the pitch and football teams.

Councillor Jack Dempsey