

Radford Semele Playing Field Annual Report 2026

Playground Equipment

The playground continues to be popular with parents and children and the play equipment is very well used. Minor repairs are currently being made to the equipment and wet pour surface to ensure it is health and safety compliant. Soft closing gates have been installed to the children's play area in order to make it a dog free area. The equipment is inspected annually by RoSPA qualified engineers. New equipment is being researched to improve choice for younger children.

The outdoor gym has attracted more users to enjoy the benefits of good health and wellbeing. It is maintained annually to sustain its usability. Wet pour surfacing has been installed 'under' the gym equipment so that users aren't exercising in the muddy grass!

The Playing Field Works

The playing field is owned and maintained by the Parish Council, including the children's play areas.

The grass is cut by contractors on a regular basis during the growing season and we work to ensure the field is safe to access and use.

The trees and shrubs around the perimeter of the grounds are regularly inspected and they are pruned when necessary by our new resident contractor to keep the growth in check.

This has included maintenance of the Spring Lane ditch which aids drainage of the field.

The goalposts have been renovated and the goal areas were re-seeded last summer.

A new football team has utilised the field this past season and the pitch has been rolled.

The drainage under the field is being improved with corrective works taking place to prevent blockages and disruption to users.

Signs

The Playing Field safety signage around the field has been updated with new signs containing new pertinent and current information.

Trees

The trees on the playing field have been catalogued as parish assets.

The willow by the car park has been pollarded for safety reasons and other trees on the village green have been trimmed.

New Elm trees have been planted by FoRGE following last year's removal of several diseased Ash trees from the playing field - they were considered a danger to users.

The trees on the Spring Lane border have been cared for by removing climbing ivy and the hedge was trimmed by local farmers who often help the Parish Council.

The Cubbington pear tree has been attended to with diseased bark being treated and the protective cage has been removed to allow the tree to grow.

Councillor Jack Dempsey

Chair of the Playing Field Committee May 2026