

**TONBRIDGE FARM SPORTSGROUND – ACCESS AUDIT
IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

Inspected by: Chris Fox, John Dicker, Duncan White, and members of the Tonbridge & Malling Access Group

Date of site inspection: 24 June 2008

Weather conditions: Sunny

This assessment is based on the Fieldfare Trusts guidelines and those of Wicksteed Leisure (for the play area)

Issue	Comment/Recommendation	Cost (£) (approximate)	Priority
1. Car Parking	<p>Comment: A large area for parking divided into sections by trees and bollards, no specific disabled parking. Speed ramps and sleeping policemen present though are not clearly marked.</p> <p>Recommendations: The items below are all to be addressed as part of the current Capital Scheme for the Sportsground:</p> <p>(i) Designated disabled parking bays to be marked out with road paint.</p> <p>(ii) The bollards in the car park need marking with reflective material, to aid visibility.</p> <p>(iii) The speed ramps need clearly marking to avoid them being found unexpectedly. Mark out with road paint.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">300</p> <p style="text-align: right;">500</p> <p style="text-align: right;">500</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1</p>
2. Paths	<p>Comment: Many hard standing paths are provided within the Sportsground and some are in need of remedial works.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <p>(i) Identify any potholes and repair as required.</p> <p>(ii) Uneven paving slabs and a raised drain cover by the main entrance to the pavilion need addressing.</p> <p>(iii) Two areas near the paths with unguarded steep drops into ditches where ditches cross over paths need preventative measures to stop this.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">500</p> <p style="text-align: right;">500</p> <p style="text-align: right;">500</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2</p>

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3. Width restrictions	<p>Comment: Vegetation including brambles growing over paths can cause an obstruction to paths.</p> <p>Recommendations: Keep paths and gates clear of overhanging vegetation as required.</p>	No cost	1
4. Pavilion	<p>Comment: The pavilion was opened in 1984, and was not therefore built to the current disability access standards. The front of the building was originally intended to be the back of the building, hence some of the facilities including the toilets are now located at the rear of the building. The approach to the building was felt to be uninviting, with no signage, or indication that this was a public building. Inside the building the walls were exposed brick with a dark floor tile, light levels were generally low. There are male and female toilets and a separate disabled toilet within the building, but there is no disabled/unisex changing area.</p> <p>Recommendations: All the items below are to be considered within a broader review of the building:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Lighting, in particular within the entrance lobby, needs improvement. (ii) Directional signage inside the building needs replacement. (iii) Highlighting the bottom of the wall and floor tiles in contrasting colour to make this more visible. (iv) Highlighting the door surrounds internally and externally in lighter contrasting colour to make them more visible. (v) Subject to demand, consider converting one changing room into a unisex/disabled changing area with wet room and toilet. 	Costs to be considered as part of the broader building review.	<p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>2</p>

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5. Toilets	<p>Comment: A separate disabled toilet is provided within the pavilion but this located at the rear of the building, not clearly sign posted and the pavilion is rarely open. (see notes on the pavilion). The nearest accessible toilet to the site is at Tonbridge Cemetery which is approximately 1km from the site. (The Ridgeway toilets have no disabled toilets). The Bowling Green and Tonbridge Angels Football Club were not visited on this occasion but have their own toilet facilities open to users of those facilities only.</p> <p>Recommendations: Consider options for providing toilets at the Sportsground, potentially within the broader review of the building.</p>	Costs to be considered as part of the broader building review	1
6. Outdoor Signs	<p>Comment: There is one main sign and four others in the children's play area, with limited directional signage.</p> <p>Recommendations: Install directional signage towards the main features in the Sportsground, as part of the existing Capital Scheme for the Sportsground.</p>	£1,500	1

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7. Places to rest	<p>The site has a limited number of seats (none with arm rests) and benches. The Sportsground is included in the sponsored seat leaflet.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <p>(i) More seating to be provided as part of the Capital Scheme for the Sportsground. It is recommended that new seats are set near to the main paths with hard surfaces leading to them and aim to be no more than 200 meters apart.</p> <p>(ii) Promote sponsored seat leaflet.</p>	<p>2,000</p> <p>650 Per seat No additional cost</p>	<p>1</p> <p>3</p>
8. View points	<p>There are purpose made car parking spaces to view the sports matches on some pitches near the pavilion, but these need permission to enter and use, and are accessed via a locked gate.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <p>Install a RADAR key lock for the gate to make it more accessible and remove the need to ask permission.</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>1</p>
9. Bowls Club & Tonbridge Angels Football Club	<p>These facilities are leased by Tonbridge Bowling Club and Tonbridge Angels Football Club and were not inspected on this occasion.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
10. Website	<p>No access information provided.</p> <p>Recommendation:</p> <p>Update the website and include information on access.</p>	<p>No additional cost</p>	<p>1</p>

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11. Promotional literature	<p>At present there is very limited promotional literature published regarding the Sportsground.</p> <p>Recommendation: Ensure that any new and amended published information about this site considers accessibility.</p>	No additional cost	2
12. Children's Play Area	<p>Key issues arising from a detailed inspection are as follows:</p> <p>Recommendations: The items below are to be considered as part of the existing Capital Scheme for the Sportsground and also as part of the Capital Renewals.</p> <p>(i) Install more paths between the play equipment - minimum width of 1200mm</p> <p>(ii) Implement recommendations in separate inspection report.</p>	Unknown	1