

**Beadnell Parish Council**

**Risk Assessment for Playgrounds in Beadnell Village**

- A) Meadow Lane Playground**
- B) Longbeach Drive Playarea**

**Assessors:  
Parish Councillors  
Corrina Scott-Roy (BA, MSc) & Alison Nation**

**Date of Assessment:  
25<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

## **Introduction**

Beadnell is a small village nestled on the the north Northumberland coast and the Parish Council operates and is responsible for two outdoor play areas. We are a small parish with limited resources.

Parish councillors would like to reopen the play areas as soon as possible for the benefit of local children and visiting holidaymakers.

Currently the play areas remain closed with appropriate signs, however, these are ripped off and the ties securing the gates cut on a daily basis (some also climb over the fence) to use the play areas.

The Council feels it is in the best interests of all concerned to officially reopen as quickly as possible. It is impossible "to police" the areas.

To this end two parish councillors have carried out a risk assessment in accordance with current government guidelines and advice from API and the insurance brokers, BHIB Ltd.

## **Restrictions**

The following is not feasible or possible -

- Supervising the play areas or operating a booking system to manage numbers or who is using the play areas
- Cleaning
- Hand washing - there are no facilities nearby
- One gate only for entry and exit

## **Users**

- Adults - parents, relatives, carers and so on accompanying children
- Children - all ages including teenagers
- County council inspector - to carry out the weekly safety checks
- County council operative - daily emptying of bins
- Parish council volunteers (2) - small repairs and maintenance
- At Meadow Lane play area - grass cutters/external contractors attend fortnightly

## **Condition of Equipment and Surfaces**

All equipment, surfaces, gates and fences are in good or excellent condition and ready for reopening.

The annual inspection by ROSPA on 8.6.20 recommended small maintenance items, painting, repair to wetpour surfaces and these have been undertaken.

The County Council weekly safety inspections (SLA agreement) have raised no issues recently requiring attention.

Permanent signs in place give the emergency contact information for the Parish Clerk.

## Play Areas

### Meadow Lane Playground

This is a play area for all ages including teenagers. There are no tunnels. There are two sets of two swings each spaced 80cm apart.



## Longbeach Drive

This is a small play area (ca 7m x 11m) with two items of equipment and wetpour safety surface for young children. There are no tunnels or enclosed areas.



## Signage

The Parish Council is considering the following content to remind the public of the safety issues resulting from covid-19 and how to minimise the risk when using the play area. The signage will be a combination of symbols and text.

- Header - Beadnell Parish Council
  - This play area is not supervised and equipment is not cleaned.
  - symbol - Please practice social distancing
  - symbol - Sanitise Hands - Sanitise your hands before, during and after using the play area, especially after touching equipment and the gate
  - symbol - If the play area is busy, please come back another time
  - symbol - No food or drink and please bin your litter
  - Please help us keep this play area safe for all to use.
- Thank you.

## Signage Placement

Longbeach Drive Play Area - two signs back-to-back on the gate.  
Meadow Lane Playground - two signs back-to-back on/ near the gate + two signs along the fence opposite the gate and facing into the play area.

**Date: 25.7.20**