

ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL
LEAD COUNCILLOR REPORT

NAME:	Gill Forman
TOPIC:	Play Areas
DATE:	February 2026
UPDATE SINCE LAST REPORT:	<p>The annual RoSPA inspection took place in September, and the reports have been received and reviewed. There are no high-risk areas highlighted, except the skatepark, which is always high risk due to the nature of the activities taking place there. Collins Way play area has a couple of items that are now showing their age (swings and slide), and the toddler play area in Jubilee Fields will need surface repairs before the spring.</p> <p>The bi-annual operational inspection reports continue to be undertaken, and any defects reported are managed. Routine maintenance and monitoring, especially for the chains on the various swings in the play areas continues to be part of the weekly inspections completed by ATC staff. Any issues found are reported on the day and dealt with accordingly. The latest issue of serious concern is the weekly abuse of the shelter at the skatepark. On a weekly basis the ground staff are having to clean off the dog faeces that has been smeared across the seats. This is not acceptable behaviour and the decision has been taken to remove the shelter based on the unacceptable behaviour that places the health and wellbeing of ATC staff at risk.</p>
FUTURE PLANS:	<p>Continue with routine maintenance inspections.</p> <p>Repair the soft pour surfaces where required.</p> <p>Remove the shelter from the skatepark.</p> <p>Consider repairs to the whole of the skate park to include backfilling the exposed areas where erosion has taken place.</p> <p>Consider replacement equipment for Collins Way.</p>