

COPYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY OCTOBER 13TH 2026

Item 11 – To receive and approve a report on the replacement of the Playground gate

BACKGROUND

For many years we have struggled to maintain the “self-closing” of the existing playground gate which has a non standard external closing mechanism. This has been raised by Nick Adam’s the external Playground Inspector on previous and his latest Operational Maintenance Inspection Report provided in May 2026, as follows:-

“Pedestrian gate with a proprietary controller fitted invalidated if the gate is modified without their authorisation including attached signs). Emerging crush point at upper closing edge of the pedestrian gate (due to hinge eye bolt wear). Adjust gate on threaded eye bolts to restore 13mm minimum along the whole gate closing edge. Gate does not self close from fully open position. Adjust mechanism to 5-8 seconds closure rate.”

He also noted the following:-

“Gate closer control mechanism in contact with new timber fence protecting block causing a rear crush point (photo 2). Low/medium risk”.

CURRENT POSITION

I asked Infinity Playgrounds Ltd, a local company, who have successfully conducted a number of repairs to the playground to come up with an alternative solution to resolve the issue raised in the inspection report.

They have recommended the fitting of an “Easy Gate” which has a fully adjustable internal “self closing” mechanism that can be used with the existing external fencing. This gate will overcome both of the issues raised by Nick Adams.

A copy of their quote for £1,750 (ex VAT) to supply and install is attached.

(Note: Financial Regulations (5.9) says *“Where the value is between £500 and £3,000 excluding VAT, the RFO shall try to obtain 3 estimates (which might include evidence of online prices, or recent prices from regular suppliers).* The gate alone sells for around £1,000 before the costs of carriage, installation and labour) and we have used Infinity Playgrounds Ltd before and found them to be very competitively priced.

The cost can be covered from within the Earmarked Reserve built up for the Playground.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves the £1,750 ex VAT quote received from Infinity Playgrounds Ltd for the replacement of the playground gate.

David Rigby

Clerk to Copythorne Parish Council

September 18th 2026



Copythorne Parish Council
9 The Cleaves, Totton,
Southampton,
SO40 8WL

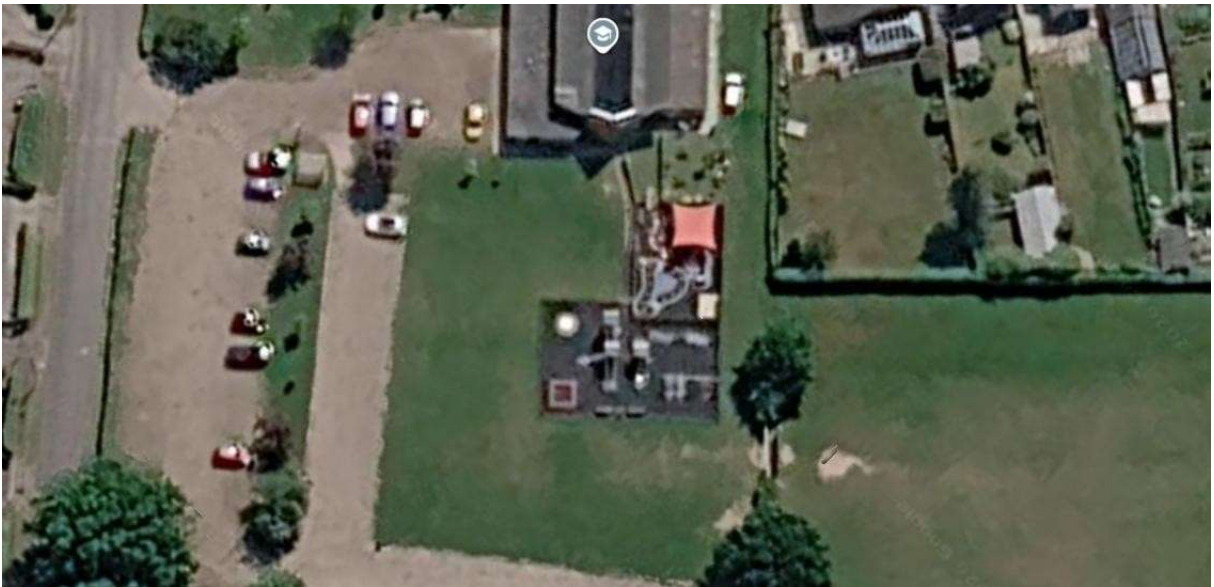
Reference: A26.085
01/09/2026

Contact: David Rigby – parishclerk@copythorne-pc.gov.uk Tel: 02381 120150

Dear Copythorne Parish Council,

Further to your recent enquiry regarding the Remedials at the play area, we are delighted to offer our quotation for the following:

Site Location: Copythorne Parish Hall, Pollards Moor Rd, Copythorne, Southampton SO40 2NZ



Infinity Playgrounds Ltd

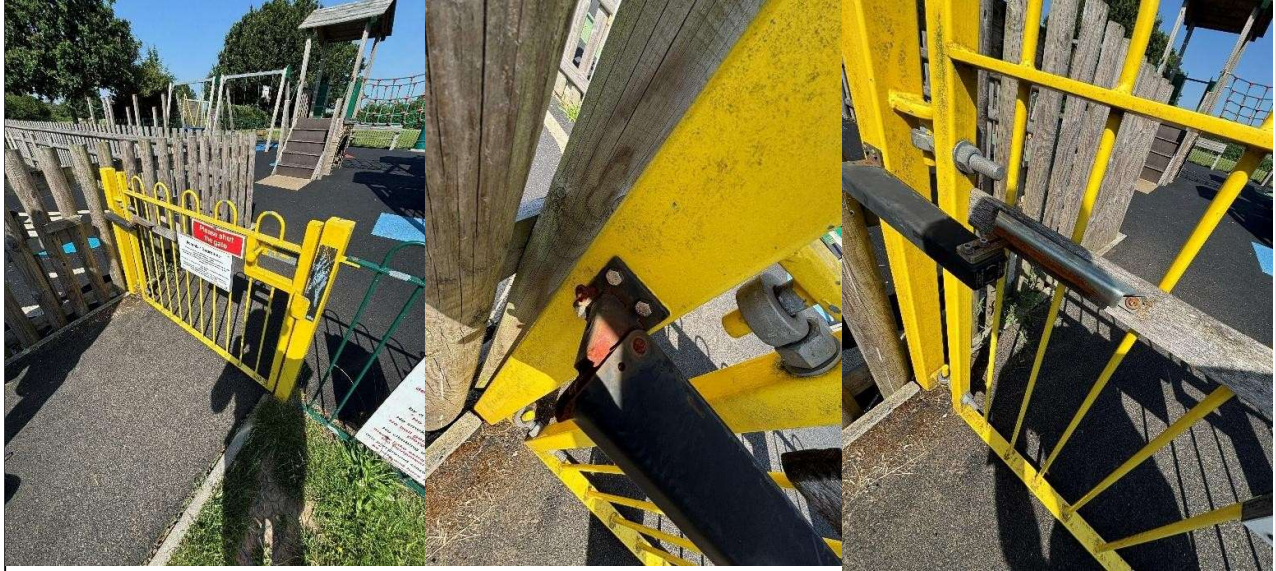
Unit A Woodhams Farm New Barn, Springvale Road,
Winchester, SO23 7LB
Company Number: 14833532

VAT No: 448 6088 58

Telephone: 01962 582 399

Email: contact@infinityplaygrounds.co.uk

Web: www.infinityplaygrounds.co.uk



EasyGate Installation – Works

- Remove and dispose of existing gate.
- Supply and install new **EasyGate**.
- Excavate and install posts in **concrete foundations**.
- Align gate to ensure smooth operation and correct self-closing action.
- Check all fixings, hinges, and latch mechanism.
- Ensure gate is safe, secure, and fully operational.

Costing Summary – Replacement Easy Gate

All prices include labour, materials, and installation.

Item Description	Ex VAT (£)	VAT (£)	Total (£ Inc VAT)
Replace Easy Gate (Supply & Install)	£1,750.00	£350.00	£2,100.00

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