

Milly Southworth

From: lizeta fellows <lizetafellows@live.co.uk>
Sent: 17 February 2025 10:46
To: clerk@torpointtowncouncil.gov.uk; cstevens2482@gmail.com;
cllr.john.tivnan@cornwall.gov.uk; opsman@torpointtowncouncil.gov.uk
Subject: Accessible Visit to Thanckes Park playpark
Attachments: 20250211_152554.jpg; 20250211_152549.jpg; 20250211_154057.jpg

Good morning, all,

Apologies for the delay in getting this to you.

Firstly, I would like to thank you all for attending, it was quite a cold afternoon, so I really appreciate your time.

We began our visit at the public toilet area – John pointed out his concerns regarding the access pathway to the disabled toilet and how it slopes and has quite an edge to it, that could cause an accident where a person could fall from their wheelchair.

John and Phil discussed ways of making this area safe.

It was proposed that a few of the bricks down the right side were dug out and some breeze block style bricks replace them, with these bricks being secured into the ground, but leaving enough brick to create a ledge on the top to reduce risk of falling off or toppling down .

We then discussed the disabled toilet door, radar lock and emergency alarm/cord.

After much discussion it was decided it was not a wise idea to look to reinstall the emergency cord as there would be no guarantees that anyone would be around or passing to hear and be able to assist, where would we connect the alarm to ? Who would monitor it ?

We went with the provisal that potentially if someone needed assistance they would possibly be supported by a carer or another person.

Claire stated that the toilet door needed to open the opposite way to how it currently does for safety purposes, in case of an accident and being stuck behind the door.

Phil explained that the whole door and surround would require replacing as the door surround is rotting away.

We then discussed the radar key/lock, as TCC wish for these toilets to remain open at all times, it was felt that a radar key in this area would not be appropriate. It was felt that a new door and surrounds, with a lower handle as mentioned within the accessibility audit, without a radar key would be sufficient here.

Moving into the play park area, Lizeta explained the previous site visit, where DAP had attended and Claire had maneuvered her way into the park using the large gate at the other end accessing from the skate park and basketball area.

It was explained that when Geoff completed the accessibility audit, he had mentioned creating a graduated slope from the side of the wall to the yellow gate, to reduce the incline into the park and make it more accessible.

Phil discussed removal of the yellow gate and the dog grate that had been discussed in the latest DAP meeting being placed here, as the entrance to the play park is far enough away from the road and carpark. It was also mentioned that any vehicles within this area would be service vehicles only.

John suggested, instead of creating a slope at the side of the wall, to remove the gate and a section of the wall to the right side of the entrance to allow a graduated entrance and exit within the park instead of outside. This would mean reciting the bin from this area. Phil agreed this could be a viable solution and would allow the picnic table that is sited further into the park to be moved closer to ensure accessible seating too.

Photos attached of all areas – highlighted to show proposals for all three areas.

It was, I feel a very positive visit that showed achievable prospects that could create increased accessibility in this area without the sizable budget we were expecting.

If I have missed anything, please let me know.

Many thanks and kind regards

Lizeta Fellows



