



Briefing Note –Rainbow Park Repairs

Date 14 July 2025
Prepared by Town Clerk

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1. The Council have been actively maintaining the Rainbow Park for a number of years and putting aside Capital Reserves to replace equipment.
- 1.2. The recent operational and ROSPA inspections at the park revealed issues with the Zip Wire and the Swirl Roundabout. Both pieces of equipment have been taken out of use pending repairs.

2. ROUNDABOUT

- 2.1. The existing roundabout was installed in 2019. In 2024 a new slew ring was installed due to corrosion on the existing part.
- 2.2. The roundabout no longer sits evenly on its bearings and the resulting gaps between the surface and the lip of the equipment exceed permitted.
- 2.3. Initial investigations have established the parts on the roundabout, which due to its accessible design are below ground level, are corroding faster than expected due to the site being below sea level and as a result of flooding.
- 2.4. Investigatory works are required before costs to repair the roundabout can be established if at all. It is estimated these works will cost up to £1,000.
- 2.5. A new piece of equipment with an “above ground” design will cost and estimated £7,500 plus delivery and installation.

2.6. RECOMMENDATION

Undertake repairs and draw on capital reserves to replace with an above ground solution in the Spring of 2026.

3. ZIP WIRE

- 3.1. It is unclear when the Zip Wire was installed in the park but it appears to pre-date the 2019 refurbishment works.
- 3.2. Recent inspections have highlighted that the design of this type of equipment has changed and significant works would be required to update it. Several parts have now been replaced but continue to corrode due to the metal-on-metal design..
- 3.3. To bring it back into use for the summer will cost an estimated £1550.00. It is likely further works will be required next year to ensure its continued use.

- 3.4. Replacing the existing zip wire with a modern design made from a mixture of materials is estimated to cost £8,000 plus delivery and installation.
- 3.5. The surface under the wire itself is also in need of replacement due to changes to the ground level as a result of flooding. Estimates for this work are £4,500.

3.6. **RECOMMENDATION**

Undertake repairs to reopen equipment for summer, draw on capital reserves to replace with more modern version with new safety surface in the Spring of 2026.

4. SKATE PARK

- 4.1. The Skate Park opened in September 2008.
- 4.2. The skate ramps corrode during the winter and rust patches appear. These are rubbed back, treated and repainted annually in the spring. This years maintenance revealed higher levels of corrosion than previously and more significant repairs are required.
- 4.3. These works are estimated to cost £1,500. However, more and more repairs of this nature will be required as the ramps are approaching end of life.
- 4.4. Monies have been put aside to refurbish the skate park at end of life. It was expected this project would begin in 2026/2027.

4.5. **RECOMMENDATION**

Undertake repairs to extend life of ramps and recommend to Full Council that scoping works for the refurbishment project be bought forward into the current financial year.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. The existing round about is designed to be accessible to wheelchairs. Should the decision be made to replace it with an non-accessible solution, which would not be unreasonable given the issues with flooding at the location, consideration should be given to offsetting the loss There are no equality and diversity implications to the decision.
- 5.2. There are no crime and disorder implications to the decision.
There are not biodiversity implications to the decision.