

# CHOLSEY PARISH COUNCIL

To all members of the Council, you are hereby summoned to attend the meeting of Cholsey Parish Council on Wednesday 21st June 2023 at 7.30pm to be held at The Pavilion, Station Road, Cholsey for the purpose of transacting the following business.

15<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Claire Bird, Clerk to the Council

1. To receive apologies for absence
2. To hear questions or comments from members of the public (max 15 mins)
3. To receive any reports from County and/or District Councillor
4. To receive Declarations of Personal and Pecuniary Interest for any agenda items
5. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023
6. To discuss the AIRO Report REG/7468 (commissioned by the Council) dated 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023 and presenting an Environmental Noise Survey at Skate and Mini-Wheel Park, Recreation Ground, Cholsey
7. To agree whether to appoint an external HR provider to support the Council with HR policies and procedures (Staffing Committee)
8. To receive update on plans for Cholsey Community Support Services (Cllr Bamford)
9. To receive update following Annual Community meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> June and agree next steps with community engagement (Annual Community meeting subgroup)
10. To note the Clerk's Report (verbal)
  - a. To agree process for responding to hello@ emails received
  - b. To discuss and agree frequency of full Council meetings
  - c. To agree responses to the following invitations:
    - i. Treehouse School, Cholsey Open Gardens Event, 25th Jun
    - ii. Cholsey Meadows, 'Getting to know each other' event, 21st Sept
  - d. To discuss items arising from the OALC May Update newsletter
11. To note the Estate Manager's Report
  - a. To agree 'Breach of Allotment Tenancy Agreement' policy
  - b. To agree whether to approve memorial bench request received (Smith)
  - c. To discuss and agree plan for management of areas at front of the Pavilion
12. To receive update from the Transport Working Group
  - a. To agree the Council's preferred location for a potential pedestrian crossing on the A329
13. Audit 2022-23
  - a. To receive the internal auditor's report for the 2022-23 financial year
  - b. To agree the annual governance statement for 2022-23
  - c. To agree the accounting statement for 2022-23
  - d. To agree dates for public rights
  - e. To discuss and agree increase in Fraud and Dishonesty insurance cover
14. Finance
  - a. To approve payments made and note payments received

## CHOLSEY PARISH COUNCIL

### 15. To consider planning applications as at 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| P23/S1751/HH  | Rear extension and porch<br>47 Ilges Lane  |
| P23/S1889/HH  | Single storey side extension<br>1A Ferry Lane                                    |
| P23/S1937/FUL | Alterations to rear roof and wall<br>The Red Lion, 39 Wallingford Road           |
| P23/S1961/HH  | Two storey rear extension and adjoining single storey extension<br>30 Papist Way |

### 16. To note planning decisions as at 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| P23/S0927/HH  | Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension, front porch<br>6 Larkfield Cholsey, <b>Granted by SODC</b> |
| P23/S1116/HH  | Erection of detached garage (retrospective)<br>40 Crescent Way, <b>Granted by SODC</b>                              |
| P23/S1335/LB  | Structural repairs and alterations<br>2 Ilges Lane, <b>Granted by SODC</b>  |
| P23/S1297/HH  | Demolition of garage and replacement garage/studio<br>5 Fairfield, <b>Granted by SODC</b>                           |
| P23/S0726/FUL | Erection of two semi-detached houses<br>17 Charles Road, <b>Refused by SODC</b>                                     |
| P23/S0649/LB  | Window replacement and internal alterations<br>5 The Forty, <b>Granted by SODC</b>                                  |

### 17. Items for report or inclusion on next agenda

# CHOLSEY PARISH COUNCIL

## **Minutes of the meeting of Cholsey Parish Council duly convened and held on Wednesday 24th May 2023 at 7.30pm at The Pavilion, Station Road, Cholsey**

**Present were** Cllr D. Bamford, Cllr V. Bolt (Chair), Cllr J. Collins, Cllr J. Finch, Cllr G. Herbert, Cllr P. Jenkins, Cllr K. Pomlett, Cllr M. Smith, Cllr C. Worley

**Also present** C. Bird (Clerk), SODC Cllr A. Simpson (until 7.50pm), SODC Cllr B. Manning (until 7.50pm)

Start time: 7.30pm

End time: 9.55pm

### **21. To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Nixon and Cllr Hope-Smith

### **22. To hear questions or comments from members of the public (max 15 mins)**

There were none.

### **23. To receive any reports from County and/or District Councillor**

Cllr Manning and Cllr Simpson, newly elected District Councillors, attended the meeting and are planning regular monthly surgeries.

### **24. To receive Declarations of Personal and Pecuniary Interest for any agenda items**

With respect to Minute 31b, Cllr Bolt and Cllr Finch declared interests due to their roles on the Pavilion Trust. Cllr Finch is also a member of the Library Committee.

### **25. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

It was **resolved** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May and they were signed by Cllr Bolt.

### **26. To discuss implications of no longer having General Power of Competence**

It was agreed to explore the possibility of setting up a Community Interest Company to run the Cholsey Community Support Services (Happy Hub Children's Centre and Mental Health Support drop-in).

Proposed: Cllr Bolt; Seconded: Cllr Bamford. Approved unanimously, with one abstention (JF).

### **27. To review and approve Terms of Reference for the Climate and Environmental Emergency Working Group**

Approved. The Clerk will publish the Climate and Environmental Emergency Working Group Terms of Reference on the Council website.

### **28. To note the Clerk's Report (verbal)**

The Clerk's report was noted with thanks.

### **29. To receive update from the Annual Community meeting planning subgroup and agree next steps**

The Annual Community meeting on 10th June is being advertised through posters, leaflets, social media (including a new Council Facebook page) and in-person conversations. This will be the start of a wider process of listening to the community to inform a 5-year plan. The

# CHOLSEY PARISH COUNCIL

Council thanked Cllr Collins for her efforts in organising the Community meeting.

## **30. To note the Estate Manager's Report including**

### **a. To receive update on the footbridge replacement and decide upon design**

It was agreed to go ahead with an amendment to the footbridge design to incorporate a small number of steps. The Environment Agency requires the height of the replacement bridge to be raised as the brook is classified as a river. However, Oxfordshire County Council have refused permission for a ramp on the adjacent OCC footpath leading up to the bridge. Hence a change in design is necessary for the bridge to go ahead.

## **31. Finance**

### **a. To receive burial ground fees proposal and decide whether to approve revised fees**

It was **resolved** to approve the revised burial ground fees which will be published on the Council web site. It was noted that for 18s and under, fees are waived.

Cllr Jenkins proposed that applications for burial kerbstones and slabs should no longer be accepted due to the challenges these present with grass cutting/maintenance, space constraints and trip hazards. It was unanimously **resolved** to no longer allow kerbs or slabs.

### **b. To receive quotes for Pavilion enhancements (thermostats, CCTV, lighting and Children's Centre roof blind) and decide whether to use CIL funding for these purposes**

It was **resolved** to spend up to £14,000 of CIL funds on these four projects.

Proposed: Cllr Bamford; Seconded: Cllr Smith. Approved unanimously, with two abstentions due to personal interests (VB and JF; see Minute 24).

### **c. To receive Cholsey Village Show S137 grant request and decide whether to approve this**

It was **resolved** to make a grant of £800 this year towards the Cholsey Village Show.

It was noted that the £800 grant represents a significant part of the total annual budget available for community donations. After discussion, the Council decided to make the grant to reflect the Show's special 80<sup>th</sup> year plans.

### **d. To approve payments made and note payments received**

The appended payments were approved.

## **32. To consider planning applications as at 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| P23/S1663/HH | Single storey rear extension<br>85 Ilges Lane<br><br>It was unanimously <b>resolved</b> to comment requesting clarification on whether the proposed development will be a 4- or 5-bedroom property and whether sufficient parking is available (as required by Cholsey Neighbourhood Plan) |
|--------------|--|

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## 33. To note planning decisions as at 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| P23/S0954/HH | Single storey rear extension<br>5 Charles Road <b>Granted by SODC</b> |
|--------------|---|

## 34. Items for report or inclusion on next agenda

- Management of external areas of the Pavilion – green spaces and carpark
- Transport plan: A329 crossing
- Ensuring Sharepoint access for all Cllrs
- CPRE Parish Council session on 27<sup>th</sup> June – Cllr Pomlett to attend in his Neighbourhood Planning role
- Parish Transport Group on 4<sup>th</sup> July – Cllr Worley will attend
- Forthcoming Leavesley appeal decision
- Thames Water sewage discharge into Milbrook from South Moreton sewage treatment – Cllr Herbert to write letter of complaint in support of concerned Cholsey resident.

DRAFT

Date of meeting....24.05.2023.....

Signatures of authorising councillors:

| Payments made between meetings                              |  |               |   |
|---|--|---------------|---|
| Estate Manager expenses                                     | Keys & padlocks for recreation ground gates                                    | £24.94        | Authorised by Finance Committee via email on 17/05/23 |
| Amazon - paid on DC   | Keyboard & mouse for EC  | £26.73        | £14.20 + £12.53                                       |
|   | <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>£51.67</b> |   |
| Automatic payments  |  |               |   |
| Salaries  |  | May-23        | £5,959.89   |
| NEST pensions   |  | May-23        | £131.12   |
| ICO   | Data Protection fee renewal  |               | £40.00  |
| Grundon   | Waste removal @ Churchyard   |               | £66.60  |
|   | <b>TOTAL</b>   |               | <b>£6,197.61</b>                                      |
| Payments for agreement                                      |  |               |   |
| Paul Webb   | Replacement tap & pipe repair @ allotments                                     |               | £90.00  |
| Time2Bounce   | FITP entertainer   |               | £100.00   |
| OALC  | Staff & councillor training  |               | £108.00   |
| Adventure Plus  | FITP entertainer   |               | £301.00   |
| Swift   | Printer levy   |               | £6.00   |
| SODC  | Election fees  |               | £200.00   |
|   | <b>TOTAL</b>   |               | <b>£805.00</b>  |
| For information: FINAL INCOME RECEIVED IN 22/23 BY YEAR END |  |               |   |
| Allotment rents 22/23                                       |  |               | £2,276.00   |
| Burial/memorial fees 22/23                                  |  |               | £7,848.00   |
| Vendor fees   |  |               | £473.00   |
|   | 2023/24 ALLOTMENT RENT INVOICES HAVE BEEN SENT AND LOTS OF PAYMENTS COMING IN. |               |   |
|   | <b>TOTAL</b>   |               | <b>£10,124.00</b>                                     |
| PAYMENTS EXPECTED   |  |               |   |
|   |  |               |   |
|   | <b>TOTAL</b>   |               | <b>£0.00</b>  |



Report No. REG/7468

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for  
Cholsey Parish Council  
The Pavilion  
Station Road  
Cholsey  
Oxfordshire  
OX10 9PT

Dated: 31 May 2023

**ENVIRONMENTAL SOUND SURVEY**  
**AT**  
**SKATE AND MINI-WHEEL PARK**  
**RECREATION GROUND**  
**OFF STATION ROAD**  
**CHOLSEY**

Report Author: R E George BEng MIOA

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**ENVIRONMENTAL SOUND SURVEY****AT****SKATE AND MINI-WHEEL PARK****RECREATION GROUND****OFF STATION ROAD****CHOLSEY****1. INTRODUCTION**

AIRO is retained by Cholsey Parish Council to provide acoustic consultancy advice and measurement services in relation to a skate and mini-wheel park at the recreation ground off Station Road, Cholsey, OX10 9PT.

This follows an environmental sound assessment of the skatepark carried out by AIRO Ltd (and presented in AIRO Report DLW/7298, ref 1) as a requirement of Planning Condition 6 prior to its construction. This included measurements of pre-existing ambient sound levels at the site, along with measurements from other skateparks, to calculate the likely sound level from this skatepark and hence its noise impact on neighbouring premises.

The skatepark has now been in operation for some time and so measurements have been instructed in order to quantify actual sound levels generated by this skatepark in normal use. This report presents the measured levels at the site and in neighbouring residential gardens and compares these with the calculated levels presented in DLW/7298 in order to verify the conclusions of the previous report and determine the likely noise impact of the skatepark in normal use.

**2. SITE DESCRIPTION**

Cholsey skatepark is located near the north-eastern boundary of a recreation ground in the village of Cholsey. The skatepark has an area of approximately 34 metres x 12 metres and is formed of smooth concrete with typical ramps and similar features integrated into the existing landscape with grassed earth mounding and bunding.



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The wider recreation ground includes a children's play area and basketball court, as well as a large grassed area, sometimes used as football pitches. On the south-west boundary of the park is another children's play area, tennis courts and Cholsey Pavilion, a multi-use community centre. Residential properties are located along the north-east and south-east boundaries of the recreation ground, typically with private gardens immediately beyond the boundary. The closest property to the skatepark is 13 The Forty, which has a boundary with the recreation ground approximately 20 metres from the nearest edge of the skatepark. The house itself is a further 40 metres away (i.e. 60 metres from the edge of the skatepark). The boundary is marked by wire mesh fencing and did not have a solid fence of any kind at the time of the survey, such that no acoustic barrier existed between the skatepark and the garden. The majority of other rear gardens (including to 8 Station Road) were enclosed with 1.8 metre high close-board timber fencing.

In addition to sound generated by users of the skatepark, other sources that are audible in the area include birdsong, aircraft flyovers (including helicopters and military aeroplanes), train pass-bys from the mainline located approximately 400 metres to the west, as well as sound from other activities within the recreation ground itself (e.g. ball games) and children playing in the nearby primary school playground, located around 250 metres to the north.

### 3. MEASUREMENT UNITS

#### 3.1 A-Weighted Equivalent Continuous Sound Level - $L_{Aeq,T}$

Noise levels quoted in this report are, in the main, A-weighted Equivalent Continuous Sound Levels or  $L_{Aeq,T}$  in dB.

The  $L_{Aeq,T}$  is a measure of the acoustic energy of a fluctuating noise climate over a given period,  $T$ , expressed as the single continuous noise level having the same energy as the time varying signal. The 'A' within the descriptor means A-weighted, an internationally agreed frequency response generally similar to that of the human ear so that A-weighted sound levels in dB correspond reasonably well with what is heard.

For assessment purposes, the day is typically divided into a 16-hour daytime period (07:00 to 23:00) and an 8-hour night-time period (23:00 to 07:00). For the purposes of this report, the day (07:00 to 19:00), evening (19:00 to 23:00) and night (23:00 to 07:00) periods are also used. The period values may be derived from the logarithmic average of the relevant hourly values.

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### 3.2 Maximum Noise Level - $L_{AFmax}$ , $L_{ASmax}$

In some circumstances it is useful to quantify the maximum level of fluctuating noise and a commonly used descriptor is  $L_{Amax}$ . The  $L_{Amax}$  represents the maximum reading given by a sound level meter for a given event or period of time and is usually qualified by F for 'Fast' or S for 'Slow' according to the response time setting of the meter.

### 3.3 A-Weighted Percentile Noise Levels - $L_{An}$

Percentile noise levels are a statistical representation of the time varying level. The value is the noise level  $L$  exceeded for  $n\%$  of the period  $T$ . For example, the  $L_{A90}$  is the Sound Pressure Level that is exceeded for 90% of the measurement period. The  $L_{A90}$  therefore discriminates against short duration peaks of noise and is consequently considered to provide a better representation of typical minimum noise levels compared with, for example, the  $L_{Aeq}$ .

## 4. MEASUREMENT SURVEY

Sound level measurements were made during the period commencing 16:00 on Friday 28 April 2023 and ending at 17:00 on Monday 1 May 2023. The noise level measurements comprised long-term data logging of the noise level every 4 seconds and logging of hourly values. Position 1 also included short recordings of particularly noisy events to assist with identifying sources and skate park activity. The measurement positions were as follows:

- Position 1 – On the boundary between 13 The Forty and the recreation ground, approximately 20 metres north-east of the skatepark
- Position 2 – Near the centre of the rear garden of 13 The Forty, approximately 30 metres back from the boundary (and 50 metres from the edge of the skatepark).
- Position 3 – Near the centre of the rear garden of 8 Station Road, a property on the south-east boundary of the recreation ground, approximately 75 metres from the nearest edge of the skatepark.

In addition to long-term measurements, sample noise levels were measured at four other locations near to the skatepark. These were all measured between 14:15 and 16:00 on Monday 1 May 2023. This was a sunny public holiday and so

represented a day when the skatepark was in use by a high number of people (up to a maximum of 12 users at any one time).

- Position A – 6 metres from the edge of the skatepark, to the north-east
- Position B – 1 metre from the edge of the skatepark, to the north-east
- Position C – 10 metres from the edge of the skatepark, to the north
- Position D – 10 metres from the edge of the skatepark, to the south-west

All of the measurement positions were located away from reflective surfaces (except the ground) and were at a height of 1.2 to 1.5 metres above local ground level. As such, all measurements can be considered free-field.

The measurement positions are shown in Figure 1 and a summary of the measured noise levels is presented in Section 5. Details of the measurement equipment used and the recorded weather conditions are given in Appendix A.

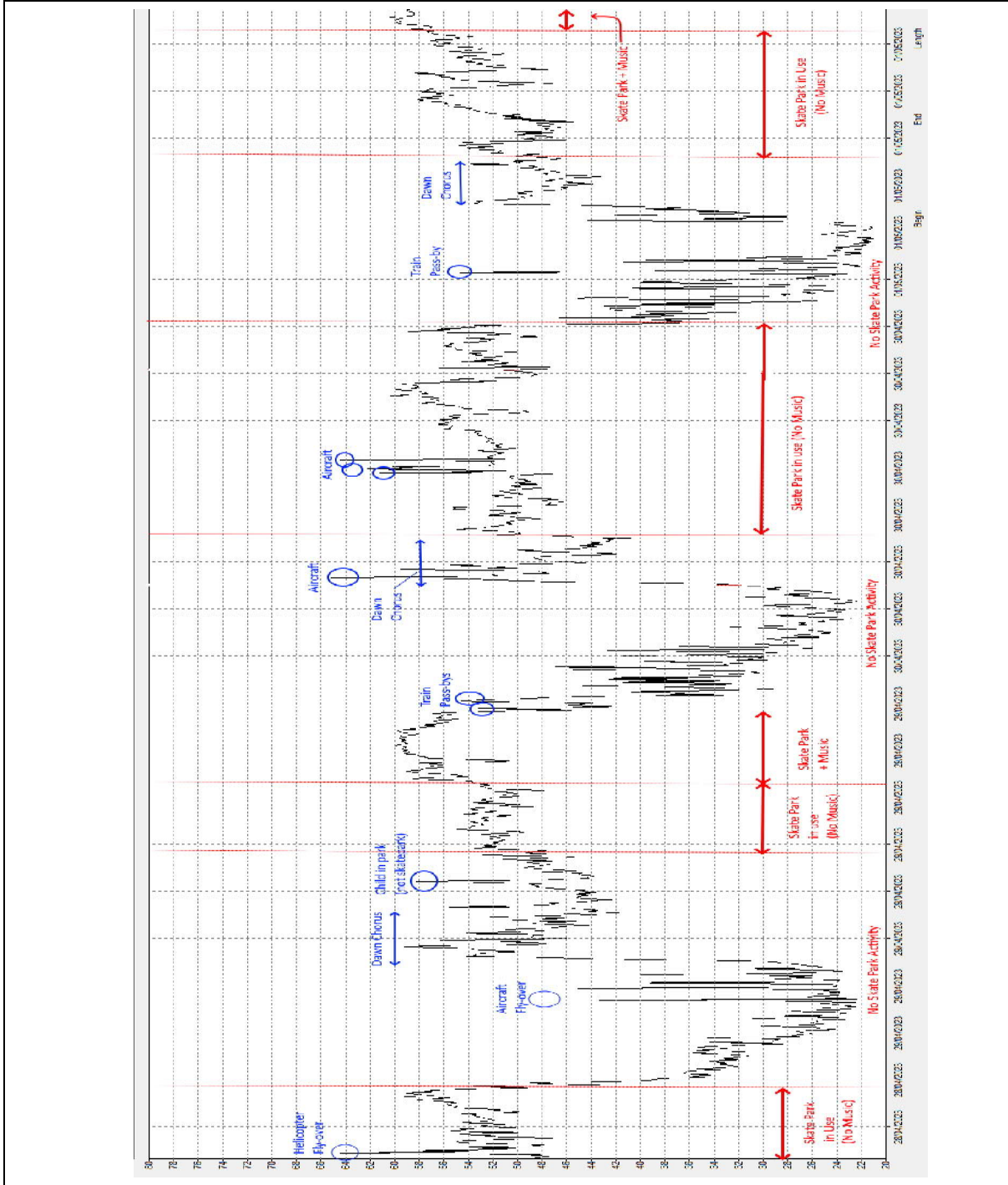
**Figure 1 – Extract Location Plan Showing Measurement Positions**



Scale Unknown

**5. MEASUREMENT RESULTS**

**Figure 2 – Time History for Position 1 showing identified periods of Skate Park Activity**



NB – skate park activity has been separated into those periods with and those without music being played (from a portable sound system brought along by some skate park users) as music is specifically not allowed according to the rules of the skate park on signposts nearby.

| <b>Table 1 – Position 1 – Measured Noise Data by Skate Park Activity</b> |                                     |                              |           |             |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Period   | Skate Park Activity*                | Free-Field Noise Levels (dB) |           |             |
|  |                                     | $L_{Aeq}$                    | $L_{A90}$ | $L_{AFmax}$ |
| <u>28 April 2023</u>   |                                     |                              |           |             |
| 16:00 – 20:30  | Skate Park in use<br>(No Music)     | 55                           | 44        | 82          |
| 20:30 – 23:00  | Not in use (Background,<br>Evening) | 42                           | 37        | 72          |
| 23:00 – 07:00  | Not in use<br>(Background, Night)   | 47                           | 39        | 76          |
| <u>29 April 2023</u>   |                                     |                              |           |             |
| 07:00 – 11:30  | Not in use<br>(Background, Day)     | 49                           | 40        | 75          |
| 11:30 – 16:00  | Skate Park in use<br>(No Music)     | 52                           | 44        | 81          |
| 16:00 – 20:30  | Skate Park + Music                  | 58                           | 50        | 86          |
| 20:30 – 23:00  | Not in use<br>(Background, Evening) | 46                           | 36        | 77          |
| 23:00 – 07:00  | Not in use<br>(Background, Night)   | 48                           | 38        | 79          |
| <u>30 April 2023</u>   |                                     |                              |           |             |
| 07:00 – 07:30  | Not in use<br>(Background, Day)     | 44                           | 39        | 63          |
| 07:30 – 21:15  | Skate Park in use<br>(No Music)     | 54                           | 46        | 86          |
| 21:15 – 23:00  | Not in use<br>(Background, Evening) | 41                           | 26        | 60          |
| 23:00 – 07:00  | Not in use<br>(Background, Night)   | 44                           | 38        | 68          |
| <u>1 May 2023</u>  |                                     |                              |           |             |
| 07:00 – 08:00  | Not in use<br>(Background, Day)     | 50                           | 41        | 76          |
| 08:00 – 16:00  | Skate Park in use<br>(No Music)     | 54                           | 46        | 85          |
| 16:00 – 17:30  | Skate Park + Music                  | 59                           | 53        | 80          |
| Typical Level for Skate Park in use<br>(No Music) at 20 m                |                                     | 54                           | 45        | 84          |
| Typical Levels for Skate Park + Music<br>at 20 m                         |                                     | 59                           | 52        | 83          |

\* - Based on periods identified in Figure 2 using measured levels and sample recordings.

| <b>Table 2 - Summary of Period Sound Levels for 13 The Forty (Pos 2)</b> |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
| Date   | Free-Field Sound Levels (dB)   |  |   |
|  | Daytime  | Evening  | Night-time  |
| Friday<br>28 April 2023  | 52 dB $L_{Aeq}^1$<br>38 to 40 dB $L_{A90,1h}^1$<br>80 dB $L_{AFmax}^1$ | 47 dB $L_{Aeq}$<br>27 to 41 dB $L_{A90,1h}$<br>75 dB $L_{AFmax}$ | 49 dB $L_{Aeq}$<br>27 to 45 dB $L_{A90,1h}$<br>78 dB $L_{AFmax}$ (62 dB) <sup>2</sup> |
| Saturday<br>29 April 2023  | 48 dB $L_{Aeq}$<br>37 to 44 dB $L_{A90,1h}$<br>75 dB $L_{AFmax}$       | 48 dB $L_{Aeq}$<br>27 to 42 dB $L_{A90,1h}$<br>73 dB $L_{AFmax}$ | 50 dB $L_{Aeq}$<br>27 to 43 dB $L_{A90,1h}$<br>81 dB $L_{AFmax}$ (60 dB) <sup>2</sup> |
| Sunday<br>30 April 2023  | 51 dB $L_{Aeq}$<br>37 to 43 dB $L_{A90,1h}$<br>80 dB $L_{AFmax}$       | 46 dB $L_{Aeq}$<br>27 to 38 dB $L_{A90,1h}$<br>77 dB $L_{AFmax}$ | 47 dB $L_{Aeq}$<br>27 to 43 dB $L_{A90,1h}$<br>73 dB $L_{AFmax}$ (61 dB) <sup>2</sup> |
| Monday<br>1 May 2023   | 49 dB $L_{Aeq}^1$<br>38 to 43 dB $L_{A90,1h}^1$<br>79 dB $L_{AFmax}^1$ | --   | --  |

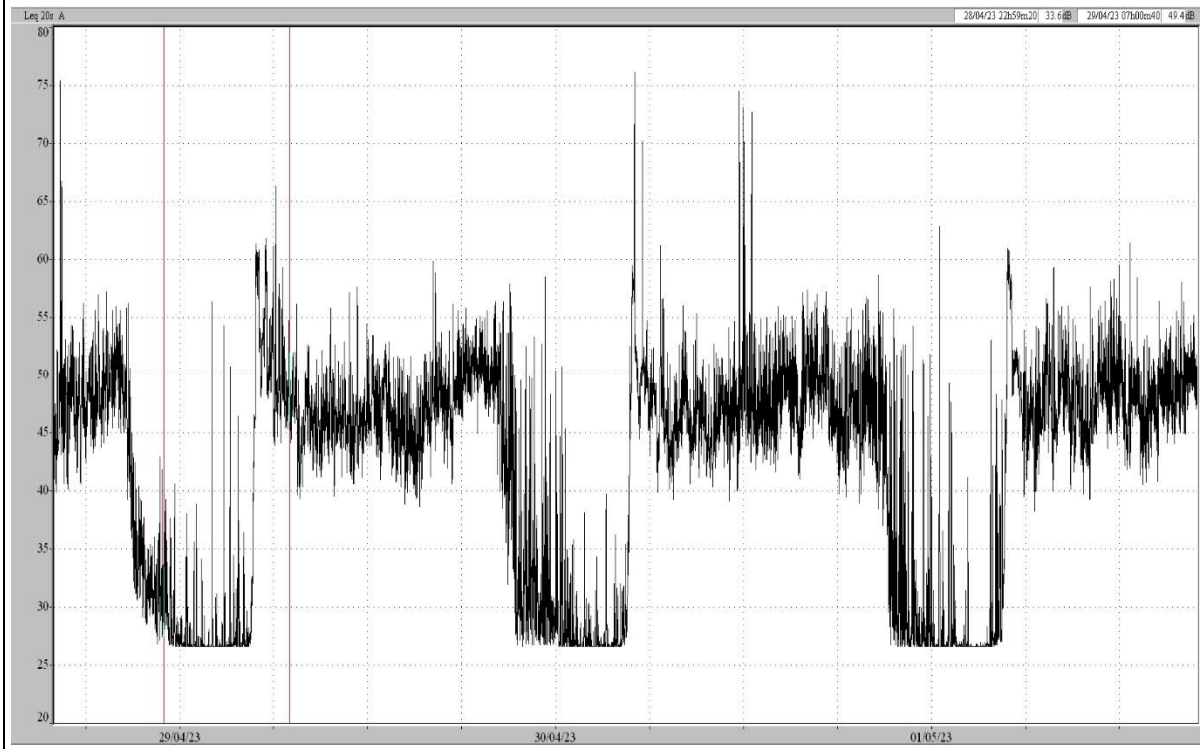
<sup>1</sup> Measurements were made between 16:00 Friday and 17:00 Monday. As such, Friday daytime is the period 16:00 – 19:00 and Monday daytime is 07:00 to 17:00 only.

<sup>2</sup> The value in brackets is the  $L_{AFmax}$  exceeded 10 times per night

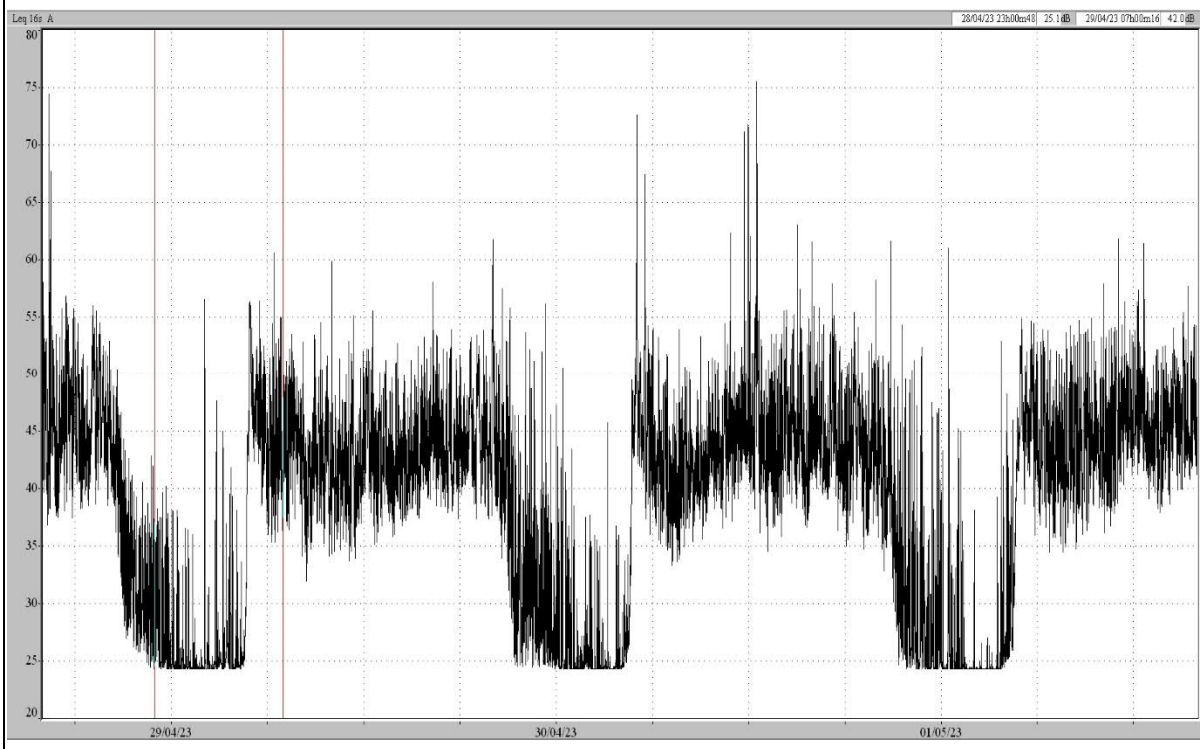
| <b>Table 3 – Position 2 – Typical Noise Levels in garden by Skate Park Activity</b> |                              |           |             |
|---|------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Skate Park Activity   | Free-Field Noise Levels (dB) |           |             |
|   | $L_{Aeq}$                    | $L_{A90}$ | $L_{AFmax}$ |
| Typical Level when Skate Park in use<br>(No Music) at 50 m                          | 50                           | 39        | 72          |
| Typical Levels when Skate Park + Music<br>at 50 m                                   | 50                           | 41        | 66          |
| Typical Background Level (Skate park not<br>in use) – Daytime <sup>3</sup>          | 48                           | 38        | 73          |
| Typical Background Level (Skate park not<br>in use) – Evening <sup>3</sup>          | 40                           | 27        | 71          |

<sup>3</sup> Background levels are for the periods where no skate park activity occurred. As such, these do not include the whole day or evening period and are for guidance only.

**Figure 3 – Time History for Position 2**



**Figure 4 – Time History for Position 3**





| <b>Table 4 - Summary of Period Sound Levels for 8 Station Road (Pos 3)</b> |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
| Date   | Free-Field Sound Levels (dB)   |  |   |
|  | Daytime  | Evening  | Night-time  |
| Friday<br>28 April 2023  | 51 dB $L_{Aeq}^1$<br>37 to 38 dB $L_{A90,1h}^1$<br>80 dB $L_{AFmax}^1$ | 45 dB $L_{Aeq}$<br>25 to 38 dB $L_{A90,1h}$<br>68 dB $L_{AFmax}$ | 43 dB $L_{Aeq}$<br>24 to 37 dB $L_{A90,1h}$<br>68 dB $L_{AFmax}$ (58 dB) <sup>2</sup> |
| Saturday<br>29 April 2023  | 45 dB $L_{Aeq}$<br>34 to 38 dB $L_{A90,1h}$<br>76 dB $L_{AFmax}$       | 45 dB $L_{Aeq}$<br>25 to 36 dB $L_{A90,1h}$<br>73 dB $L_{AFmax}$ | 46 dB $L_{Aeq}$<br>24 to 36 dB $L_{A90,1h}$<br>77 dB $L_{AFmax}$ (62 dB) <sup>2</sup> |
| Sunday<br>30 April 2023  | 50 dB $L_{Aeq}$<br>33 to 38 dB $L_{A90,1h}$<br>81 dB $L_{AFmax}$       | 43 dB $L_{Aeq}$<br>25 to 34 dB $L_{A90,1h}$<br>77 dB $L_{AFmax}$ | 42 dB $L_{Aeq}$<br>24 to 37 dB $L_{A90,1h}$<br>65 dB $L_{AFmax}$ (54 dB) <sup>2</sup> |
| Monday<br>1 May 2023   | 47 dB $L_{Aeq}^1$<br>34 to 39 dB $L_{A90,1h}^1$<br>79 dB $L_{AFmax}^1$ | --   | --  |

<sup>1</sup> Measurements were made between 16:00 Friday and 16:00 Monday. As such, Friday daytime is the period 16:00 – 19:00 and Monday daytime is 07:00 to 16:00 only.

<sup>2</sup> The value in brackets is the  $L_{AFmax}$  exceeded 10 times per night

| <b>Table 5 – Position 3 – Typical Noise Levels in garden by Skate Park Activity</b> |                              |           |             |
|---|------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Skate Park Activity   | Free-Field Noise Levels (dB) |           |             |
|   | $L_{Aeq}$                    | $L_{A90}$ | $L_{AFmax}$ |
| Typical Level when Skate Park in use (No Music) at 75 m                             | 48                           | 36        | 71          |
| Typical Levels when Skate Park + Music at 75 m                                      | 48                           | 36        | 64          |
| Typical Background Level (Skate park not in use) – Daytime <sup>3</sup>             | 45                           | 34        | 76          |
| Typical Background Level (Skate park not in use) – Evening <sup>3</sup>             | 37                           | 25        | 66          |

<sup>3</sup> Background levels are for the periods where no skate park activity occurred. As such, these do not include the whole day or evening period and are for guidance only.

**Table 6 – Sample Measurement Noise Data – Skate Park Activity on 01/05/23**

| Measurement Location                    | Time  | Duration, <i>T</i> (min:sec) | Event Description                                     | Free-Field Noise Levels (dB) |                         |                           |
|---|-------|------------------------------|---|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
|   |       |                              |   | <i>L</i> <sub>Aeq</sub>      | <i>L</i> <sub>A90</sub> | <i>L</i> <sub>AFmax</sub> |
| Position A (6m from edge of skatepark)  | 14:20 | 15:00                        | 8 child & 3 adult users on 8 skateboards & 3 scooters | 59                           | 46                      | 88                        |
| Position B (1m from edge of skatepark)  | 14:37 | 15:00                        | 7 child & 2 adult users on 5 skateboards & 4 scooters | 67                           | 52                      | 97                        |
|   | 15:27 | 15:00                        | 7 child & 3 adult users on 9 skateboards & 1 scooter  | 72                           | 55                      | 102                       |
| Position C (10m from edge of skatepark) | 14:53 | 15:00                        | 7 child & 3 adult users on 10 skateboards             | 61                           | 47                      | 88                        |
|   | 15:43 | 10:00                        | 8 child & 4 adult users on 12 skateboards             | 61                           | 50                      | 83                        |
| Position D (10m from edge of skatepark) | 15:11 | 15:00                        | 9 child & 2 adult users on 11 skateboards             | 63                           | 48                      | 93                        |

It was noted that no music was playing at the skatepark during the sample measurement period. Instead, the noise generated by skatepark users was due mainly to skateboard clatter (e.g. as the board or wheels made contact with the ground following a jump), voices and, at a much lower level, wheel noise (e.g. from wheels moving along the concrete etc). In general, sounds generated by the skatepark users were relatively high level (around 70 to 75 dB(A) at 10 metres for skateboard clatter) but for a short duration. Background sources were comprised of both longer duration sounds (e.g. birdsong, distant road traffic and voices from other parts of the park) and shorter duration ‘peak’ sounds (e.g. aircraft flyovers and train pass-bys). Aircraft flyovers in particular often represent the loudest individual events.

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## 6. ASSESSMENT

### 6.1 Standards and Guidance

There is no single authoritative document that provides objective guidance on the assessment of environmental sound arising from skatepark activity. Instead, the assessment of environmental sound in general involves consideration of one or both of the absolute sound level and the differences in sound level between the existing sound environment and the activities under investigation.

For the purposes of this report, the same assessment methods used in AIRO Report DLW/7298 (ref 1) will be used. This is so a comparison can be made of the predicted noise impact in DLW/7298 (assessed using skatepark noise measured at other similar skateparks) with the noise impact using the same assessment but with measured skatepark noise levels at this specific location.

The main assessment in DLW/7298 compares the  $L_{Aeq}$  due to the skatepark, corrected for distance and any barriers, with the  $L_{Aeq}$  due to all other (background) sources.

This is a similar principle to that used in British Standard BS 4142 (ref 2). However, this Standard relates to industrial and commercial sound and although historically it has been widely applied outside its scope, the latest edition says "*The standard is not intended to be applied to the rating and assessment of sound from:*

- a) *recreational activities, ..."*

Consequently, an assessment in full accordance with this Standard is not applicable.

The calculated sound levels are also compared to guidance in British Standard BS 8233 (ref 3) for desirable ambient noise levels in gardens and recommended internal noise levels within residential properties.

BS 8233 states that for external amenity spaces, which includes gardens and patios, it is desirable that the external noise level does not exceed 50 dB,  $L_{Aeq,T}$ , with an upper guideline value of 55 dB,  $L_{Aeq,T}$ .

Inside dwellings, the guideline values are that the daytime  $L_{Aeq,16h}$  should not exceed 35 dB within living spaces or bedrooms during the day. At night, it is recommended that noise in bedrooms does not exceed 30 dB,  $L_{Aeq,8h}$ .

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In addition, it is recognised that regular individual noise events can cause sleep disturbance and so suggests that a guideline value may be set in terms of SEL or  $L_{AFmax}$  depending on the character and number of events per night. ProPG (ref 4) states that in most circumstances the maximum noise level in a bedroom should not exceed 45 dB,  $L_{AFmax}$  more than 10 times per night.

## 6.2 Comparison of Source to Background

It can be seen from Table 1 that the average measured level at Position 1 with typical skatepark activity is 54 dB,  $L_{Aeq}$ . However, Table 1 and Figure 2 both show there are periods where noise generated at the skate park is at a higher level than this, typically when music is played using portable sound systems brought along by the users. During these periods, the  $L_{Aeq}$  at Position 1 can increase to around 59 dB,  $L_{Aeq}$ .

Even without music being played, it can be seen from Table 6 that the number and type of users (e.g. adult or child and whether they are using skateboards or scooters) can affect the sound level generated by the skatepark. During the afternoon of Monday 1 May 2023, there were between 9 and 12 users at the skatepark at any one time, with the majority being children but also some adults. The majority of users were on skateboards, which in general seemed to generate more noise than scooters. The noise level at Position 1 during this period was 55 dB,  $L_{Aeq}$ . This is slightly higher than the 'typical' level and so is likely to correspond to a higher than average number of users.

The typical background sound level (when the skatepark is not in use) at Position 1 during the day and evening periods is 45 dB,  $L_{Aeq}$ . This ambient background sound is still present during the periods when the skatepark is in use and so should be corrected for in order to determine a sound level at Position 1 due only to skatepark noise. Correcting in this way gives 53 dB,  $L_{Aeq}$  due only to 'typical' skatepark activity, 55 dB,  $L_{Aeq}$  for times with higher numbers of users and 59 dB,  $L_{Aeq}$  for a worst-case period with music playing.

Typical  $L_{AFmax}$  levels at the skatepark can be assessed in the same way but are very unlikely to be affected by continuous background sounds and so do not require correcting (although some background sources can generate high maximum levels themselves, e.g. aircraft flyovers). The average maximum level at Position 1 due to typical skatepark activities is 84 dB,  $L_{AFmax}$  (see Table 1). It can be seen that the maximum level does not appear to increase as a result of music being played. It is also unlikely to increase due to more users, although the number of higher level events would increase.

The measured level at any position is a combination of the specific source intended to be measured plus the ambient background sound level (due to all other sources). As a result, as the measurement location gets further from the source, the influence of background sounds on the total measured level increases. Therefore, it is often more accurate to calculate the source level (that is the sound level due only to skatepark activities) at more distant locations (e.g. Positions 2 and 3) using a level measured at a closer position (e.g. Position 1) corrected for distance.

Any sound originating within the skatepark is likely to be due to an omnidirectional point source. As such, the sound level can be expected to reduce by 6 dB per doubling of distance from the source. The exact location of the source is unlikely to be known as it could be anywhere within the skate park area, although the exact location becomes less important for more distant measurement positions.

For the purposes of these distance calculations, it is assumed that all sources originate at the centre of the skate park. As such, Position 1 is actually 26 metres from the 'source' (centre of the skatepark), Position 2 is 56 metres away and Position 3 is 94 metres away. For Position 3, a further 10 dB attenuation can be assumed due to the close-board timber fence located around the garden of 8 Station Road.

Tables 7 and 8 summarize the calculations of skatepark sound levels at the nearest façade and in the middle of the rear gardens for 13 The Forty (Position 2 and 8 Station Road (Position 3)). All distances are calculated from the centre of the skatepark.

| <b>Table 7 – Calculation of Skatepark Noise at 13 The Forty</b> |                                   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|   | Typical Skatepark Use             | Skatepark use with music          |
| Measured skatepark Sound level at 26 m (Pos 1)                  | 53 dB $L_{Aeq}$ 84 dB $L_{AFmax}$ | 59 dB $L_{Aeq}$ 84 dB $L_{AFmax}$ |
| Distance to property  | 66 m                              | 66 m                              |
| Distance Attenuation  | -8 dB                             | -8 dB                             |
| Resultant Sound Level   | 45 dB $L_{Aeq}$ 76 dB $L_{AFmax}$ | 51 dB $L_{Aeq}$ 76 dB $L_{AFmax}$ |
| Distance to centre of garden                                    | 56 m                              | 56 m                              |
| Distance attenuation  | -7 dB                             | -7 dB                             |
| Resultant Sound Level   | 46 dB $L_{Aeq}$ 77 dB $L_{AFmax}$ | 52 dB $L_{Aeq}$ 77 dB $L_{AFmax}$ |

| <b>Table 8 – Calculation of Skatepark Noise at 8 Station Road</b> |                                   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|   | Typical Skatepark Use             | Skatepark use with music          |
| Measured skatepark Sound level at 26 m (Pos 1)                    | 53 dB $L_{Aeq}$ 84 dB $L_{AFmax}$ | 59 dB $L_{Aeq}$ 84 dB $L_{AFmax}$ |
| Distance to property  | 103 m                             | 103 m                             |
| Distance Attenuation  | -12 dB                            | -12 dB                            |
| Barrier Correction for fence                                      | -10 dB                            | -10 dB                            |
| Resultant Sound Level   | 31 dB $L_{Aeq}$ 62 dB $L_{AFmax}$ | 37 dB $L_{Aeq}$ 62 dB $L_{AFmax}$ |
| Distance to centre of garden                                      | 94 m                              | 94 m                              |
| Distance attenuation  | -11 dB                            | -11 dB                            |
| Barrier Correction for fence                                      | -10 dB                            | -10 dB                            |
| Resultant Sound Level   | 32 dB $L_{Aeq}$ 63 dB $L_{AFmax}$ | 38 dB $L_{Aeq}$ 63 dB $L_{AFmax}$ |

The equivalent levels for typical skatepark noise predicted in DLW/7298 are 42 dB at the nearest façade of 13 The Forty and 43 dB in the rear garden. As such, the actual measured sound levels affecting 13 The Forty are 3 dB higher than those predicted in 2020 using measurements at other similar skateparks.

At 8 Station Road, typical skatepark noise was predicted to be 38 dB at the nearest façade and 39 dB in the rear garden. This is slightly higher than the equivalent calculated values in Table 8, although the 2020 values do not factor in barrier attenuation due to the garden fence. Once this is accounted for, the skatepark noise source itself has measured 3 dB higher than predicted. This is likely to be as a result of more users at Cholsey than at the other measured skateparks. No prediction of skate park noise plus music had been made in DLW/7298.

The background sound levels measured in 2020 were between 48 and 52 dB,  $L_{Aeq}$  during the day at 13 The Forty (Position 2) and were between 40 and 43 dB,  $L_{Aeq}$  during the evening period. The background sound level measured in 2020 at 8 Station Road (Position 3) was between 45 and 48 dB,  $L_{Aeq}$  during the daytime period and 36 to 38 dB,  $L_{Aeq}$  in the evening.

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These levels will be used again for this assessment, as it gives a better comparison to the assessment in DLW/7298. It also was not possible to accurately measure the background levels again as there were no full day or evening periods with no skatepark events during the most recent survey. Despite this, it can be seen from Tables 3 and 5 that the 2020 levels are very similar to the shorter period background levels measured as part of this survey, suggesting the background level has remained broadly similar since 2020.

The night-time period has not been considered in this assessment on the assumption that it would be unlikely that the skatepark would be used during the night-time.

A comparison of the 2020 background levels with the calculated skatepark source levels from Tables 7 and 8 shows:

- Typical skatepark noise is between 2 dB and 6 dB below the background level during the day and between 2 and 5 dB above background level during the evening at 13 The Forty.
- Skatepark noise with music is between 1 dB below and 3 dB above the background sound level during the day and between 9 and 12 dB above the background sound level during the evening at 13 The Forty.
- Typical skatepark noise is between 14 dB and 17 dB below background during the day and 5 to 7 dB below background during the evening at 8 Station Road.
- Skatepark noise with music is between 9 and 12 dB below background during the day but is comparable (between 1 dB above and 1 dB below) to background in the evening.

As a result, in general terms, typical skatepark noise can be expected to be just noticeable at times during the day but is likely to be more noticeable in the evening within the garden of 13 The Forty. Typical skatepark noise is unlikely to be noticeable during the day in the rear garden of 8 Station Road but may just be audible at times in the evening period.

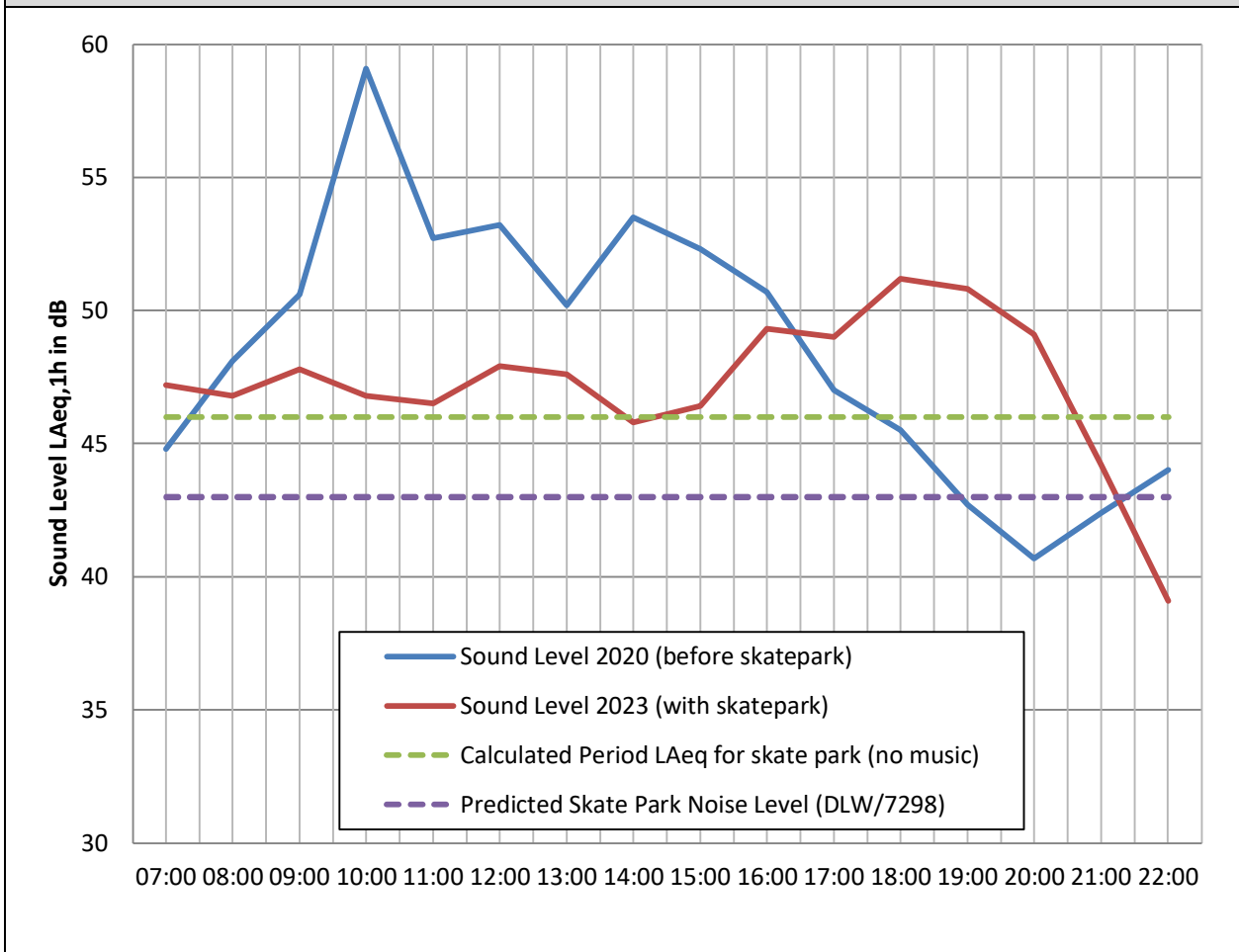
However, when music is played at levels similar to those measured it is likely to be noticeable during the day and highly noticeable during the evening in the garden of 13 The Forty. The music is unlikely to be noticeable at 8 Station Road during the day but may become noticeable during the evening period.

It should be noted that this assessment is in terms of long-term period noise levels ( $L_{Aeq}$ ). It can be seen from Tables 7 and 8 that short duration peaks of noise arising from the skatepark ( $L_{AFmax}$  levels) can be much higher. As a result, some

shorter duration peak sounds from the skatepark (e.g. board clatter) are likely to be audible above background at either of the assessment locations at most times, meaning that the skatepark cannot be said to be 'inaudible' even at 8 Station Road during the day. However, typical maximum levels due to skatepark activity are unlikely to be higher than typical maximum levels due to other sources (e.g. aircraft flyovers or other activities within the recreation ground such as ball impacts or shouts etc). As such, comparing the  $L_{Aeq}$  is considered a better method to assess likelihood of disturbance.

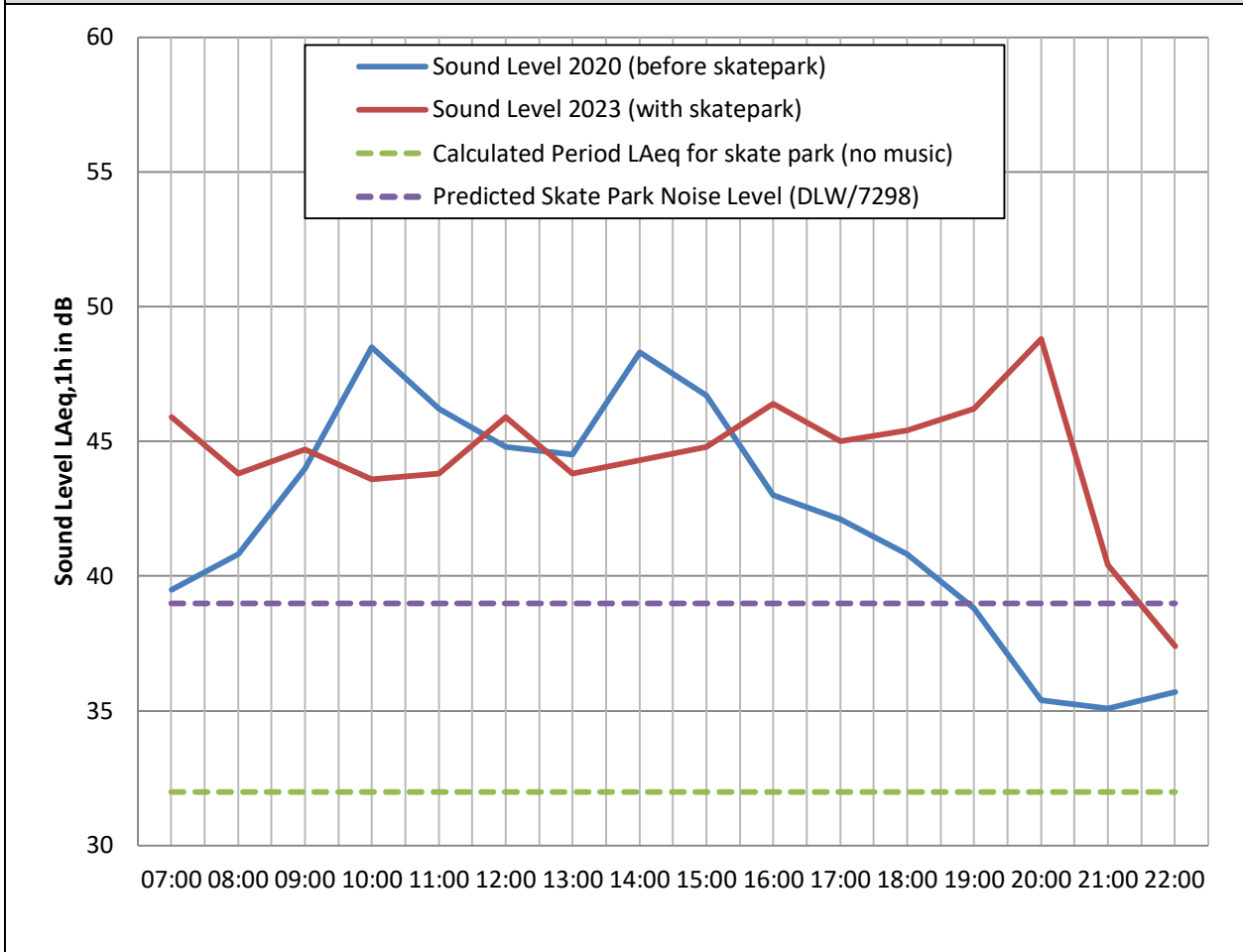
Figures 5 and 6 plot the sound level at Positions 2 and 3 over the full Saturday daytime period, as measured in 2020 (before the skatepark) against the measured level in 2023 (with the skatepark). The calculated levels due to typical skatepark noise, as predicted in 2020 and calculated from measured data at Position 1 are also shown.

**Figure 5 – Sound Levels with and without skatepark at 13 The Forty (Pos 2)**





**Figure 6 – Sound Levels with and without skatepark at 8 Station Rd (Pos 3)**



NB – Predicted skate park noise level does not include barrier effect of fence.

It can be seen from Figure 5 that the sound level with the skatepark is higher than without the skatepark for the period between approximately 17:00 and 21:00, with the biggest difference of 8 dB(A) occurring at 20:00 when the “before” level drops to 41 dB but the “with skatepark” sound level is 49 dB. This coincides with the period where music is known to have been played at the skatepark (16:00 to 20:30, see Figure 1).

The calculated period  $L_{Aeq}$  level (green dotted line) shows the likely sound level generated by the skatepark with “typical” use. This is similar to the 2023 sound level before 15:00. The periods with levels slightly above this (e.g. at 12:00) are due to more than typical numbers of users and/or other background sources (e.g. aircraft flyovers). There is, however, an increase in sound level at 16:00, rising to a maximum  $L_{Aeq,1h}$  of 51 dB at 18:00.

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If the skatepark had continued to be used in a 'typical' way (i.e. without music), the measured level would likely still be above the background in the evening but by no more than 5 dB and for a shorter period.

Figure 6 shows a similar pattern, with the 2023 sound level exceeding the 2020 sound level primarily after 16:00. Again, the biggest difference between the two measured levels occurs at 20:00 where the 2023 level peaks at 49 dB,  $L_{Aeq,1h}$  and the 2020 background level (before the skatepark) drops to 35 dB,  $L_{Aeq,1h}$ .

The calculated period  $L_{Aeq}$  value for the skatepark with no music is shown with a green dotted line. This shows that typical skate park noise can be expected to be considerably below the background sound level in the rear garden of 8 Station Road at all times. However, the 2023 measured level at Position 3 is much higher than this calculated level for the whole of the daytime period and for most of the evening. This is because, for the most part, the 2023 level measured at Position 3 is the background, as the skatepark level is so far below as to not influence the total measured level.

It can be seen from Table 5 that the ambient background level (with no skate park activity) is around 45 dB,  $L_{Aeq}$  during the day and 37 dB,  $L_{Aeq}$  in the evening. The red line in Figure 6 is near to 45 dB for the majority of the daytime period, increasing slightly at 19:00, before dropping down at 21:00, although not as low as the expected 37 dB,  $L_{Aeq,evening}$ . In other words, although the 2023 level exceeds the 2020 level for several periods during the day, this is most likely due to slightly increased background sound levels rather than skatepark activity. This is also the case in the early morning at both Positions 2 and 3, where the 2023 level exceeds the 2020 level before approximately 09:00. There was no skatepark activity in this period and so this is due to background levels increasing, in particular birdsong, which was recorded as particularly dominant between 05:00 and 09:00.

The increase in sound levels at Position 3 during the evening period is most likely due to increased noise within the recreation ground, although not necessarily from the skatepark. Even with music playing at the skate park, the expected  $L_{Aeq}$  at Position 3 is 38 dB,  $L_{Aeq}$  (see Table 8), which is still considerably below the measured 2023 level (at least before 21:00). As such, it is unlikely that this increase in noise level can directly be attributed to the skatepark. Instead, it is likely that the source could be elsewhere in the recreation ground and may have occurred whether or not the skatepark was in use. For example, another music source, a ball game or people gathering/chatting/shouting near to the rear garden of 8 Station Road may have caused the measured level to increase during this evening period.

### 6.3 Comparison of Overall Measured Levels

The measured levels at Positions 2 and 3 (see Tables 2 and 4) show that the sound level in the rear garden of 13 The Forty is on average 50 dB,  $L_{Aeq,day}$  and 47 dB,  $L_{Aeq,evening}$  with the skatepark operational. The equivalent levels in the rear garden of 8 Station Road are 48 dB,  $L_{Aeq,day}$  and 44 dB,  $L_{Aeq,evening}$ .

These levels compare to an average of 50 dB,  $L_{Aeq,day}$  and 41 dB,  $L_{Aeq,evening}$  at Position 2 and 46 dB,  $L_{Aeq,day}$  and 37 dB,  $L_{Aeq,evening}$  at Position 3 measured before construction of the skatepark (ref 1).

Therefore, in terms of overall measured sound level, there is no increase in the daytime  $L_{Aeq}$  in the garden of 13 The Forty between the measured levels before and after construction of the skatepark, although the evening sound level has increased by an average of 6 dB. This is considered likely to be a direct result of users of the skatepark and is exacerbated by the use of music systems at the skatepark despite this being prohibited.

At 8 Station Road, the overall sound level in the rear garden has increased marginally during the day, although this is considered to be a result of background sound levels increasing slightly (see Section 6.2). During the evening period, the sound level has increased by 7 dB. Due to the distance between the skatepark and 8 Station Road, it is considered unlikely that this is due to noise arising from the skatepark area itself. Instead it is likely that there may simply be more activity within the recreation ground in general compared to September 2020.

### 6.4 Comparison to BS 8233 Guidance

It can be seen from Tables 2 and 4 that the average daytime and evening  $L_{Aeq}$  values at Positions 2 and 3 are at or below 50 dB. As such, in terms of overall sound level within these gardens, BS 8233 would classify the sound level as "desirable", even with the skatepark operating.

It is assumed that the overall measured sound level at the nearest façade of 13 The Forty is similar to that at the middle of the garden (Position 2). This would mean that the façade is exposed to a typical sound level of 50 dB,  $L_{Aeq,16h}$  during the day and 49 dB,  $L_{Aeq,8h}$  at night, with 61 dB,  $L_{AFmax}$  exceeded 10 times in a typical night.

Assuming typical double-glazed windows with open trickle ventilators in a masonry façade, outside to inside sound insulation would be expected to be approximately 25 dB. As such, the sound level inside the property would be around

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25 dB,  $L_{Aeq,16h}$  during the day and 24 dB,  $L_{Aeq,8h}$  at night, with 36 dB,  $L_{AFmax}$  exceeded no more than 10 times in a typical night.

Using the same assumptions and calculation method for 8 Station Road, it can be shown that internal noise levels of approximately 23 dB,  $L_{Aeq,16h}$  during the day and 19 dB,  $L_{Aeq,8h}$  at night can be expected, with 33 dB,  $L_{AFmax}$  exceeded no more than 10 times in a typical night.

Therefore, the internal noise guidelines of BS 8233 are likely to be comfortably satisfied for both properties at all times with windows closed.

With windows open, the façade sound insulation would reduce to around 10 to 15 dB. This would mean that the BS 8233 guideline values could be exceeded at times with windows open during the day or at night at either property. However, this is the case for a lot of properties in England and would have been the case during the day before the skatepark was constructed (see ref 1). An increase in night-time measured sound levels between September 2020 and 2023 cannot be due to the skatepark as it was not in use at this time. Instead, it is due to birdsong, which commenced around 04:50 each morning, significantly increasing the overall night-time sound level.

## 6.5 Discussion

In general, the assessments in Section 6.1 to 6.4 show that typical skatepark noise can be expected to have a negligible noise impact on the rear garden of 13 The Forty during the day but is likely to be noticeable with potential to cause slight annoyance from around 18:00 and into the evening, when the background sound levels decrease.

With music playing at the skate park, the sound level increases by around 6 dB(A) at Position 2 such that it could be up to 12 dB(A) higher than background. This is likely to be highly noticeable and could give rise to considerable disturbance, especially due to the tonal and rhythmic/impulsive nature of music, which is more likely to attract attention compared with skatepark noise.

The music played on Monday 1 May 2023 was experienced by AIRO at Position 2 and our subjective opinion is that it has the potential to cause significant disturbance if playing for long periods, especially in the evening period, although it may still cause moderate annoyance during the day. Conversely, noise due to the more typical use of the skatepark earlier in the afternoon was also observed and considered much less likely to cause annoyance.

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Typical skatepark noise (without music) is unlikely to cause disturbance in the rear garden of 8 Station Road during the day or evening, as the noise level is considerably below the ambient background. However, if music is played into the evening (after 19:00), this may become noticeable at Position 3 leading to potential for some disturbance.

Therefore, the playing of music at the skatepark rather than the use of the skatepark per se, appears to be most likely to give rise to disturbance or annoyance. This was also noted as the main area of concern for the resident of 13 The Forty.

We understand that the playing of music is specifically prohibited at the skatepark (as stated on signage located nearby) although it is clearly occurring regularly, at least during sunny weekend evenings, the same time as residents might be most likely to want to use their gardens.

The sound levels at both measurement locations are considered low in general terms and the internal guideline limits for sound set out in BS 8233 (ref 3) are expected to be achieved at both properties, with or without the skatepark in operation.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

This report has presented the results of environmental noise measurements at two residential properties (13 The Forty and 8 Station Road) near to a skatepark at the recreation ground, Station Road, Cholsey, Oxfordshire.

The measured noise levels have been compared with background sound levels measured at the same locations in September 2020 and presented in AIRO Report DLW/7298 (ref 1), in order to quantify the likely noise impact from the skatepark in operation.

This has found that the measured skatepark noise is approximately 3 dB(A) higher than the level used to predict the likely noise impact (based on measurements at other skateparks) in DLW/7298 when the skatepark is in 'typical' use. However, it was noted that music was played on several occasions during the measurement period (16:00 to 20:30 on Saturday and from 16:00 to at least 18:00 on Monday) and at these times the sound level arising from the skatepark area increased by a further 6 dB,  $L_{Aeq}$ . These periods have been considered separately as we understand that the playing of music is prohibited within the skatepark.

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Therefore, during the day (07:00 to 19:00) the sound level from typical use of the skatepark (i.e. without music) is generally at or below the background level in the rear garden of 13 The Forty and is considerably below the background level in the rear garden of 8 Station Road. As a result, it is unlikely to give rise to disturbance or annoyance. However, as the background sound level decreases in the evening, typical skatepark noise is likely to become more noticeable in the garden of 13 The Forty and so could give rise to some disturbance here, although probably not at 8 Station Road.

With music playing, the skatepark noise level including music is likely to be considerably higher than the background level in the evening and may exceed background slightly during the day, when measured at 13 The Forty. This means significant disturbance could occur, particularly in the evening. At the more distant 8 Station Road, music playing at the skatepark could mean the noise level is above ambient levels in the evening, meaning annoyance or disturbance is possible during this period, although it is less likely during the day.

Report Approved by:

Report Author:

*D L Watts*

*R E George*

Eur Ing D L Watts BEng CEng FIOA  
Technical Director

R E George BEng MIOA  
Senior Consultant

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2. British Standard BS 4142:2014 + A1:2019  
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The British Standards Institution, 2019
3. British Standard BS 8233:2014  
Guidance on sound insulation and noise reduction for buildings  
British Standards Institution, 2014
4. ProPG: Planning & Noise,  
Professional Practice Guidance on Planning and Noise,  
New Residential Development  
Association of Noise Consultants, Institute of Acoustics and Chartered  
Institute of Environmental Health  
June 2017

**APPENDIX A**

| <b>Table A1 – Schedule of Sound Instrumentation</b> |               |            |
|---|---------------|------------|
| Use   | Type          | Serial No. |
| Measuring System                                    | CR 703B       | 43057      |
| Microphone  | MK 224        | 891199     |
| Pre-Amplifier                                       | CR:MV200B     | 2281       |
| Calibrator  | B&K 4230      | 543357     |
| Measuring System                                    | CRL 702       | 011182     |
| Microphone  | MK 224        | 891405     |
| Pre-Amplifier                                       | CRL 425       | 012646     |
| Calibrator  | CRL 511D      | 014086     |
| Measuring System                                    | Norsonic 140  | 1406786    |
| Microphone  | Norsonic 1225 | 264702     |
| Pre-Amplifier                                       | Norsonic 1209 | 21313      |
| Calibrator  | Norsonic 1251 | 29213      |
| Measuring System                                    | Norsonic 140  | 1403164    |
| Microphone  | B&K 4189      | 2386302    |
| Pre-Amplifier                                       | GRAS 26AK     | 49216      |
| Calibrator  | B&K 4231      | 2342748    |

AIRO is accredited by the United Kingdom Accreditation Service as a UKAS testing laboratory No. 0483 and although the measurements carried out for this survey are not listed on our schedule of accreditation, all of AIRO's measurement equipment is routinely calibrated as part of the calibration regime in our Quality Manual and these calibrations are traceable to National Standards. In addition, the calibration level of the measuring equipment was checked at the start and the end of each survey period using the appropriate calibrator for the relevant meter.

| <b>Table A2 – Record of Weather Conditions</b> |               |            |
|--|---------------|------------|
|  | 28 April 2023 | 1 May 2023 |
| Temperature                                    | 18 °C         | 18 °C      |
| Relative Humidity                              | 65 %          | 77 %       |
| Wind Speed                                     | 1 m/s         | 1 m/s      |
| Direction                                      | N             | NE         |



## Estate Manager's Report to Parish Council June 2023

### Hedges

Nothing to report.

### St Mary's Graveyard

The contractors are now cutting and strimming the graveyard fortnightly. We have had positive comments about the grass cutting here and on the recreation ground which I have passed to the company.

### Allotments

The current waiting lists are; Cholsey Meadows – 4; Station Road – 8; Ilges Lane –3

Councillors and myself will be carrying out allotment inspections, beginning the week of Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June.

I have included a policy supporting the new allotment agreement for those tenants who are in breach of this agreement. The policy will need council's approval.

The majority of tenants have also paid their rent for this year.

The maintenance team are completing a monthly mow of the haulage ways in all 3 sites.

### Ilges Lane Allotment Site

The Ilges Lane Allotment site, during the night of Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May/Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May suffered some vandalism and theft of tenant's equipment. I was called up to the site on Wednesday morning and advised that the police be contacted to report the incident.

I went around the site and took photos of the damage, mainly broken padlocks. I then emailed all tenants to check their sheds and report anything stolen to the police using the crime reference number from the first reporting.

Some smaller equipment was found and I have returned it to the owners, but some tenants have lost mowers, strimmers and petrol cans. Earlier this year some tenants had eggs taken from their hen houses.

I will research the cost of solar powered CCTV for our allotment sites.

### Recreation Grounds and Play Areas.

#### Whitehead Meadow

The Bluebird's football tournament was successful for the club.

The efforts made to protect the track from Church Road entrance have also been successful. Bluebirds laid 3 ton of topsoil on the damage areas and then used hardened rubber mats laid on top. This enabled the large number of cars to use this entrance without further damage to the track.

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May evening, a dog walker reported to me that they has seen a group of boys setting fire to the pile of grass cuttings in the corner of Jubilee Field next to the school hedge.

With the help of 2 gentlemen we put the fire/smouldering out and damped the pile down.

The pile of clippings, I later learned, had been put there by Bluebirds parents. On the morning of Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June, I asked for help from Bluebirds in order to move the pile to other areas to prevent any further temptation for building a fire, one of the coaches did assist.

### Playgrounds

The landing area surfaces for the separate pieces of play equipment are beginning to show their age and a number of the highlighted risks (although low) in the reports, are for raised corners and weed/grass growth causing raised surfaces. The maintenance team will be investigating and attempt to make repairs where they are able. I am also investigating the cost of replacing these safety surfaces.

### Cholsey Meadows Play Area

The maintenance team continue to complete their weekly visual checks on the play area and our grass cutting company continue to trim inside the play area.

There has been some vandalism in the play area. One of the gates has been taken off its hinges, also one of the upright beams on the Activity Trail (it was wobbly before) has been taken out of the ground and was thrown over the fence. I asked our maintenance team to bring and store these items at the Pavilion and contacted Vistry, as they are still legally the owners, who then asked for photos of the vandalism and the equipment which we are asking to be repaired. I supplied them with their request.

### Station Road Play Area inspection.

The maintenance team continue to complete their visual checks on this play area.

### **The Forty**

The Forty pathways in and around the meadow continue to be mowed and trimmed weekly. Once the grass growing season slows down, they will be cut once a fortnight.

### **Millennium Wood Bridge**

The Millennium Wood Bridge will be removed completely on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June as it is now hazardous. We have tried to close the bridge down, preventing anyone from using it, putting notices up informing people that the bridge has been closed, however, these have been removed regularly, and therefore need to be removed completely. Information was given both on social media and on notices around the footpaths leading to the bridge that it will be removed this week.

The Chair has been in contact with the bridge engineer for an update on progress.

### **Trees**

It needs to be decided on the regularity of the Tree Survey and whether the Millennium Wood should be included within that inspection.

### **Maintenance Team**

The maintenance team continue to work well.

Version 1.0, June 2023

Cholsey Parish Council  
Breach of Allotment Tenancy Agreement Policy

## **1. The Purpose of this Policy**

1.1. This policy is for the use of a reasonable procedure that provides tenants with a fair opportunity to remedy the breach of rules but also to provide Cholsey Parish Council with a legal position should the need arise to move towards a notice to quit.

## **2. Breach of Non-cultivation.**

2.1. An inspection must first take place by the Estate Manager, Cholsey Parish Council.

2.2. The initial notice to the tenant, which may be verbal, should:

2.2.1. state that an inspection has taken place and the tenant's plot has been found to be in breach of the cultivation standards set out in the agreement. The specific cultivation rule must be stated, either rule number or actual wording.

2.2.2. inform the tenant on how they are failing (e.g. too many weeds, too much used by buildings, too much grass).

2.2.3. request that the tenant respond within 14 days with either an action plan as to how they intend to bring their plot up to an acceptable level of cultivation or an explanation of any extenuating circumstances.

2.3. Should 14 days pass with no response, should the agreed action plan not be followed, or where mitigating circumstances have ended and the plot is still in poor condition, a final warning should be issued. The final warning should:

2.3.1. state exactly what action is required of the tenant to avoid their tenancy being terminated

2.3.2. state a fair timeframe for these works to be completed by (no less than 14 days from date of warning)

2.3.3. be clear that should the works not be completed by the deadline, a notice to quit may be issued to the tenant.

## **3. Other breaches**

3.1. Following a breach of rules, the initial notice to the tenant should:

3.1.1. state what rule has been breached and an explanation as to what action/s of the tenant has caused the breach. The specific rule that has been breached should be included to provide absolute clarity in the notice.

3.1.2. be dated and have a clear address for the tenant to respond to.

3.1.3. set out actions (if any) for the tenant to undertake to remedy the rule breach as well as a fair deadline to do so.

3.1.4. state that the first warning will be kept on file for 6 months and that any similar rule breaches in that time may lead to a final warning being issued.

3.2. The final warning should follow the same contents of the first warning including:

3.2.1. a direct reference to the rule, a description of the behaviour that broke the rule and what actions can be taken to remedy the breach.

3.2.2. a statement that the final warning will be kept on file for 12 months and any similar breaches could lead to a notice to quit.

Policy Adopted on:

Next review due:

Date of meeting....21.06.2023.....

Signatures of authorising councillors:

| Payments made between meetings |   |                    |  |
|--------------------------------|---|--------------------|--|
| Canva                          | Council responsibilities poster         | £27.50             | Inc VAT. Paid on debit card                    |
| Gallagher                      | Insurance renewal                       | 2736.85            | Inc. VAT. Auth by FC via email on 25/05        |
| Lawncare                       | Strimmer maintenance                    | £30.00             | Inc. VAT. Auth by FC via email on 31/05        |
| Higgs                          | Community meeting posters               | £25.00             | Inc VAT. Paid on debit card                    |
| Floatability                   | S137 donation                           | £100.00            | Minute 17b on 10.05.2023 meeting               |
|                                |   |                    |  |
|                                | <b>TOTAL</b>                            | <b>£2,919.35</b>   |  |
| Automatic payments             |   |                    |  |
| Grundon                        | Churchyard waste                        | £82.19             | Inc VAT  |
|                                |   |                    |  |
|                                | <b>TOTAL</b>                            | <b>£82.19</b>      |  |
| Payments for agreement         |   |                    |  |
| Shield                         | Dog waste collection                    | £169.00            | Inc VAT  |
| J.Drewe                        | Grass cutting                           | £1,749.98          | Inc VAT. Churchyard, Rec Ground & CM play area |
| KP Stationers                  | Community meeting supplies              | £21.09             | Inc VAT  |
| A.Debtford                     | Defib maintenance supplies              | £273.60            | Inc VAT  |
| ASAP                           | Monthly IT support                      | £254.76            | Inc VAT  |
| Hort Soc                       | Flower Show grant, S137                 | £800.00            | Minute 31c on 24.05.23 meeting                 |
| Airo                           | Environmental noise survey at Skatepark | £2,444.40          | Inc VAT  |
| A1 Sovereign                   | ACM flyers                              | £37.50             |  |
| A1 Sovereign                   | ACM flyers & poster                     | £72.10             | Inc. VAT                                       |
| Pop up Play Village            | Fun in the park                         | £112.92            |  |
| Community First                | Annual membership                       | £70.00             |  |
| Grand Design Blinds            | 50% deposit for Happy Hub blinds        | £1,501.58          | Inc VAT. To come from CIL                      |
|                                | <b>TOTAL</b>                            | <b>£7,506.93</b>   |  |
| Income received                |   |                    |  |
| Allotment rents                | So far in 23/24                         | £2,547.00          |  |
| Burial fees                    | So far in 23/24                         | £715.00            |  |
| VAT return                     | Owing from 22/23                        | £1,194.27          |  |
| CIL                            | Apr-23                                  | £136,162.69        |  |
| SODC                           | 23/24 verge cutting grant               | £1,758.78          |  |
| 1st half 23/24 Precept         | Apr-23                                  | £88,985.50         |  |
|                                |   |                    |  |
|                                | <b>TOTAL</b>                            | <b>£231,363.24</b> |  |
| PAYMENTS EXPECTED              |   |                    |  |
|                                |   |                    |  |
|                                | <b>TOTAL</b>                            | <b>£0.00</b>       |  |