

## **Deputy Clerk's Report**

### **By Rachel Gillis-Coates for the Amenities Committee meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

1. Actions and updates from the last Amenities Committee meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2024.
  - a. **Playing Field Noticeboard.** The Clerk has sent off the application for the grant to purchase a noticeboard for the Playing Field. Once a response from MBC has been received, we will Cllrs know.
  - b. **Goal Posts.** The Caretaker and Clerk have put up one of the goal posts at Southons Field. The Caretaker has a Play Inspection form for the goal post so that he can monitor its state and position weekly.
  - c. **Cemetery Signage.** Cllr Besant has now installed the Cemetery Signage on Maidstone Road for pedestrians to find their way to the Cemetery by foot.
  - d. **Standpipe at the Cemetery.** The standpipe has now been installed at the Cemetery.
  - e. **Three Yearly Tree Audit.** The tree audit for the parish will be undertaken this month.
  - f. **Playing Field CCTV.** The Clerk has emailed Golding Homes for a further update on any actions.

# Request for Permanent Metal Football Goals Installation at Marden Field

Thu 06/06/2024 13:17

To: Alison Hooker <clerk@mardenkent-pc.gov.uk>

Cc: Rachel Gillis-Coates <deputyclerk@mardenkent-pc.gov.uk>

Dear Ali / Marden Parish Council,

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to request your consideration for the installation of permanent metal football goals at our beloved Marden Field. As a member of the community, I believe that providing safe and accessible facilities for children to play football is essential for their physical and social development.

I have agreed to manage the Staplehurst Monarchs U8s team next season which my son will play in, and we frequent the park to play with some of the local kids on the tarmac basketball area and have noticed many scratches and bruises on both of us courtesy of the tarmac, even closer a front teeth accident not to also add the damage concrete does to footballs.

I'm aware of a couple of local lads around my son's age who have been approached by football scouts and are currently under consideration by Crystal Palace and Chelsea. We have talent locally and due to the small gardens we all have we don't have space to practice, properly.

Here are the key points I would like to emphasize:

1. **Safety and Durability**:

- Metal goals offer greater durability and stability compared to temporary or wooden structures such as those on Southernns Field. They can withstand various weather conditions and frequent use.
- The safety of our children is paramount, and metal goals reduce the risk of accidents caused by collapsing or unstable equipment.

2. **Cost Estimate**:

- I understand that budget considerations are essential. While costs can vary based on factors such as size and quality.
- For your reference, here is a rough estimate:
  - **Adult Goals**: Approximately £500–£1,000 per pair (depending on size and material)
  - **Child Goals**: Approximately £300–£600 per pair (again, size and material matter)

3. **Community Benefits**:

- Installing permanent metal goals will enhance the field's appeal and encourage more families to use the space.
- It fosters a sense of community pride and promotes physical activity among children and adults alike, indeed children of different backgrounds. This is crucial to our society for that mixture.
- The field is easier for the community to get to rather than Southernns Field which is away from many of the kids houses, and as I have been reminded, is full of fauna which the locals wish to protect.

4. **Maintenance and Longevity**:

- Metal goals require minimal maintenance compared to wooden or plastic alternatives.
- Regular inspections and occasional repainting will ensure their longevity.

I kindly request that the council discuss this proposal during your next meeting. If needed, I am willing to collaborate further and provide additional information. I'm not an expert in goals..!! But I'm happy to be involved further investigating this.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Woud be great to work together to create a vibrant and safe environment for our young football enthusiasts.

Best regards,

[Redacted signature]

## **Southons Field Events 2024**

June 21<sup>st</sup>: Rude Mechanicals: all day (ticketed event - closed to the public approx. 5pm)

June 26<sup>th</sup>: Scout Group using field (6.30pm to 8.00pm)

June 30<sup>th</sup>: Child's birthday party (open to the public) 11.00am to 3.00pm

June 30<sup>th</sup>: Marden in Bloom (?) 1.00pm to 4.00pm

July 4<sup>th</sup>: Bowls Parking (WI) 7.00pm to 9.00pm

July 18<sup>th</sup>: Primary Academy (Jordan Hill) 4.00pm to 6.30pm

July 29<sup>th</sup>: Bowls Parking: 12noon to 7pm

August 3<sup>rd</sup>: Bowls Parking: 12noon to 7pm

August 22<sup>nd</sup>: Parkwood Theatre: all day (ticketed event – closed to the public approx. 5pm)

September 1<sup>st</sup>: Bowls Parking: 8am to 7pm

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Wed 19/06/2024 21:38

To: Rachel Gillis-Coates <deputyclerk@mardenkent-pc.gov.uk>

Hi Rachel,

Hope you're well.

I've been running [REDACTED] in the village for 6 years and for 4 of those years I've been using Marden Primary. I found out yesterday that Marden Primary is having building work taking place over the summer break and I'm unable to use it as a venue.

I'm enquiring as to whether I would be able to hire Southons Field on a Saturday morning between 9am and 11am? Looking at the term dates, I would probably need to hire the field for 7 weeks, maybe longer if the building work overruns.

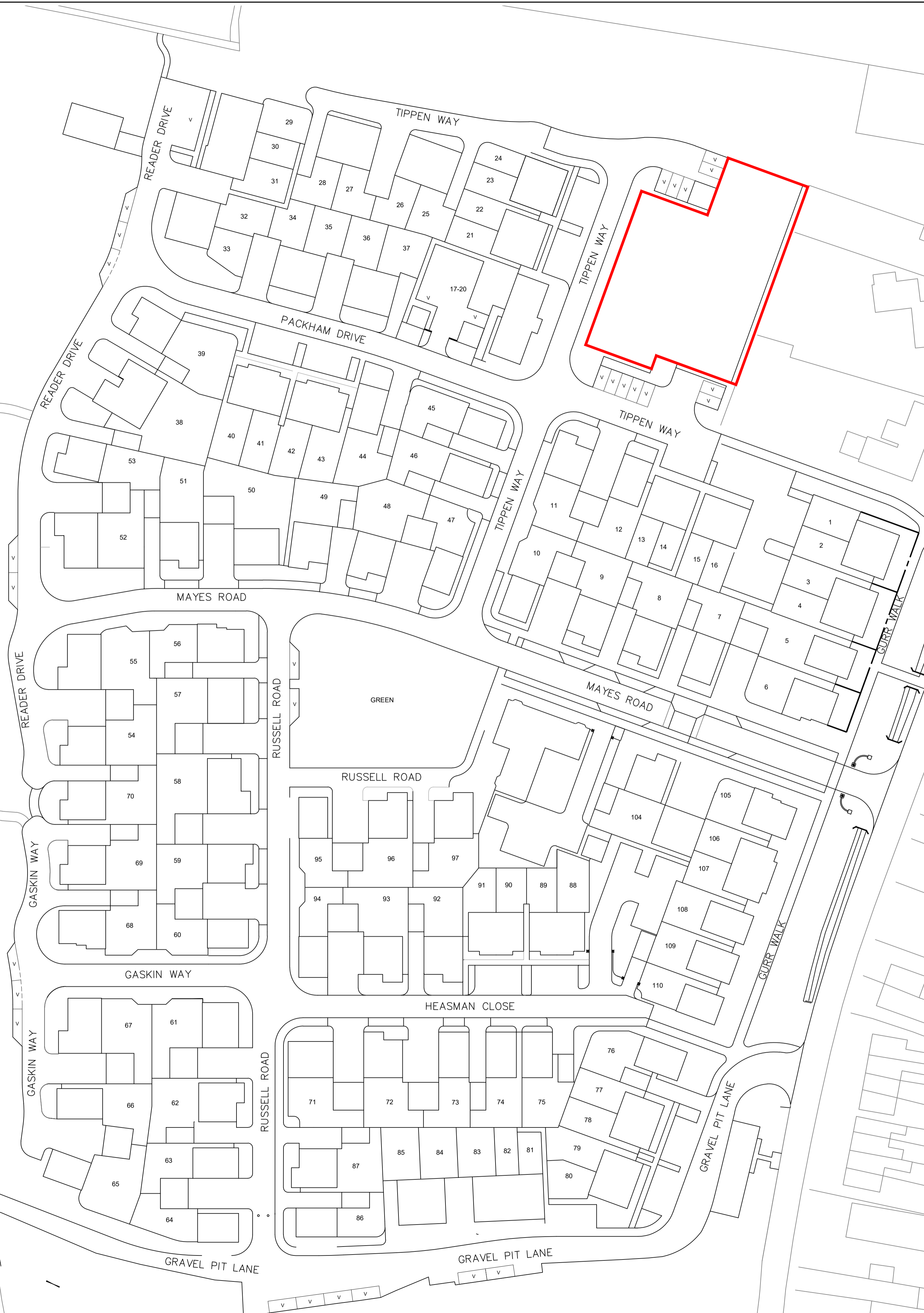
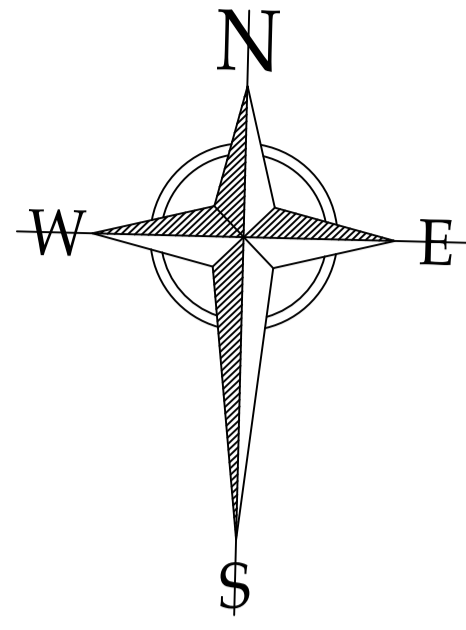
I would like to be able to park my van on the field as it will have my rugby equipment for the sessions.

I'd really like to keep [REDACTED] in the village over the summer break as it serves the children within the village and my only other option is Collier Street. Logistically, parents would park at the library car park and then walk around to Southons Field.

Please can you let me know at your earliest convenience so that I can plan accordingly.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



scale 1:500

Scale 1:500  
0 10m 20m 30m 50m

Rev	Date	Amendment	Initials
A	13.06.24	Transfer extended east onto site boundary.	ORC

Development	Title
Goudhurst Road, Marden	ALLOTMENT TRANSFER 1
Dwg No: 2655-21-10-016	Revision: A Scale: 1/500@A1



_____ Managing Director	_____ Technical Director
_____ Commercial Director	_____ Sales Director

**Summer Play Scheme 2024**  
**Report to Amenities Committee – 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

Registration was opened on 3<sup>rd</sup> June (forms available via Microsoft Teams and electronically/hardcopy) but by lunchtime on 4<sup>th</sup> we had to delete from the systems as was already oversubscribed on many of the days. As previously reported we have had to reduce numbers to 48 children due to space.

It has calmed down now and there are still one or two spaces available if required. Payments are steadily coming in and we have given parents a deadline for these to be paid. Lisa is sending reminder emails a day before the payment due date and hopefully we will not have many outstanding. I don't want to say we will not honour the place if payment not made in the timeframe but on days that we have a waiting list this may be the case.

If anyone is interested the timetable for the two weeks can be viewed at: [Microsoft Word - MARDEN SUMMER PLAY SCHEME 2024 Timetable \(mardenkent-pc.gov.uk\)](#) and the end of scheme party is planned for Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August with inflatable assault course and sausage and chips.

All staffing in place and I will be sending confirmation letters with details of hourly rates and hours to be worked shortly along with meeting with Jen to discuss if there are any materials required for activities that need to be purchased. The Parish Church has a table tennis table and pool table that they have kindly donated to us for play scheme so will need the caretakers to collect shortly and take to Southons for storage.

All Cllrs are welcome to pop along during the two weeks.

# AMENITIES OUTSTANDING ISSUES LIST

Action No.	Minute Item No	Action	Allocated to	Status	Date Completed
A1/23		Chase Golding Homes regarding the CCTV on the Playing Field.	Alison Hooker	Ali emailed 8/2/24. Still awaiting a response from Golding Homes. Chased again 26/2/24. No further update as at 24/5/24	
	80/23	Bollards at the Cemetery	Rachel Gillis-Coates	The memorial has been installed and the Clerks are speaking with a supplier to supply.	
	130/24	Noticeboard for Marden Playing Field	Rachel Gillis-Coates	The Clerks have contacted MBC regarding a grant. Quote from the company used before was used for the amount. Awaiting a response.	