

Summary of current play from information provided by Bottisham Parish Council

This Summary of Play report has been produced by East Cambridgeshire District Council following the 2012-13 Play Audit on behalf of parish councils to help guide their planning and funding for new or upgrading play facilities.

The report includes details of current provision and any issues highlighted by the Parish Council when completing the consultation. The findings are based on information provided by the parish council during 2012-13 and have been compared to the local planning standards which provide a benchmark on provision that should be available according to population size.

The findings indicate where there may be deficits and will be useful for parishes that are considering any improvements or enhancing play provision to address deficits or growth.

Play Provision and Informal Open Space

The table below identifies all play areas and areas of informal open space in Bottisham, using information provided by Bottisham Parish Council in September 2012.

Map Ref	Location	Category ¹	Age Group(s)	Size (hectares)
2A	Primary School / West Walk	Play Area	T	0.071315162
BOT001	Ox Meadow	Play Area	J	0.00625
3A	Lode Road	Informal Open Space	N/A	0.052691903
3B	Vineyard Walk	Informal Open Space	N/A	0.049212226
3C	West Walk	Informal Open Space	N/A	0.488971657
3D	Willow Way	Informal Open Space	N/A	0.071563035

T = Toddler (2 to 5 year olds)

J = Junior (6 to 12 year olds)

Y = Youth (13 to 18 year olds)

¹ Play Area: A space with equipment sited for the purpose of enabling children and young people to play legitimately (including Skate Parks)

Informal Open Space: Areas of informal space (not used for formal sports), including parks, kick-about areas, green corridors and village greens.

Map illustrating the locations of existing play areas and areas of informal open space.

The following map illustrates the locations of play areas and areas of informal open space in Bottisham.

Radial travel distances have been outlined to illustrate catchment areas for each play area. The radial travel distances are a part of the East Cambs planning standard for play areas set out in the East Cambs Sports Facilities & Play Areas Assessment 2005.

Toddler: Approx 600m straight line distance

Junior: Approx 600m straight line distance

Youth: Approx 1000m straight line distance

ECDC Assessment of play provision and informal open space against the local planning standard

East Cambs Planning Standards for Play Areas and Informal Open Space

Local provision standards set by the East Cambs Sports Facilities & Play Areas Assessment 2005 and the East Cambridgeshire Informal Open Space Study 2005 were used to measure against existing provision in order to determine whether or not there is a surplus or deficit of provision.

Category of Space	Space per person (m²)	Standard size of area (ha)
Informal Open Space	25 square metres (2.5 ha)	
Toddler Outdoor Play Space (2 to 5 years old)	0.2 square metres (0.02 ha)	0.01 ha
Junior Outdoor Play Space (6 to 12 years old)	0.8 square metres (0.08 ha)	0.04 ha
Youth Outdoor Play Space (13 to 18 years old)	1 square metres (0.1 ha)	0.1 ha

Population

2199²

² 2011 Census, Neighbourhood Statistics, January 2013

Informal Open Space (hectares)		
Actual	Requirement	Deficit/ Surplus
0.662 hectares	5.498 hectares	-4.835 hectares

Toddlers (facilities)		
Actual	Requirement	Deficit/ Surplus
7.13 facilities	4.40 facilities	2.73 facilities

Juniors (facilities)		
Actual	Requirement	Deficit/ Surplus
0.16 facilities	4.40 facilities	-4.24 facilities

Youths (facilities)		
Actual	Requirement	Deficit/ Surplus
0.00 facilities	2.20 facilities	-2.20 facilities

- deficit
- surplus
- no response
- incomplete response

Analysis of existing provision in Bottisham

There are currently two play areas in Bottisham. One of the play areas is owned by the primary school; however there is an arrangement with the school and the parish council that the gates remain open outside of school hours to enable all children in the village to use the play area. The parish council pay half of the maintenance costs for the play area.

Deficits and surpluses of provision

The two play areas in Bottisham cater for toddlers and juniors. There is no play provision in Bottisham for youths. The audit identifies shortfalls in provision for juniors and youths.

Bottisham Parish Council advises that there is adequate provision of informal open space, however the audit identifies that this is in fact a deficit based on the planning standard per head of population.

The map identifies that the majority of houses in Bottisham fall within the radial travel distance of both toddler and junior play.

The areas that fall outside of the radial travel zone for toddler play include:

- North west of the village (Lode Road, and streets including and around Jenyns Close and Arber Close).

The areas that fall outside of the radial travel zone for junior play include:

- South east of the village (south High Street, north Tunbridge Lane, Ancient Meadows and Peacock Drive).

Play experiences

Bottisham Parish Council scored the existing play areas using a modified version of Play England's Play Space Quality Assessment Tool Kit which considered the following criteria:

- Level of usage
- Maintenance
- Health & Safety
- Location
- Range of play experiences

The two play areas do not offer a range of play experiences, with the parish council scoring both areas '1' or '2' (weaknesses, improvements needed), therefore it may be worth considering this aspect if the play areas were to be improved.

The play areas do not allow children of different ages to play together.

Future development

The parish council have identified Bottisham Village College as the preferred location for future play provision. However the parish council has also indicated that in the past the college has resisted any approaches from them for play provision on their land. The parish council will approach the college again now that it has been established as an academy.

Consultation

During the consultation stage of Bottisham's Local Plan, a new play area was identified as one of the main priorities for the parish.

Accessibility

Bottisham Parish Council has advised that it would be difficult for disabled children to use the primary school play area.

Further information

Fields in Trust protection

Protecting outdoor recreational space is vital for the health and wellbeing of communities now and in the future, and to increase wildlife diversity and provide habitat.

Fields in Trust works with landowners to protect outdoor spaces with legal documentation. The landowner will nominate the site and a deed of dedication is drawn up by Fields in Trust and signed by both parties. There's no transfer of ownership or management to Fields in Trust.

For further information on safeguarding outdoor recreational space, visit www.fieldsintrust.org.

Best Practice Guidance

Attached you will find up-to-date, best practice guidance on play area development, with information on the following:

- Location
- Design
- Access and inclusion
- Consultation and participation
- Quality
- Risk Management

Promotion of online tools

The following websites may provide useful information regarding play and open space, along with helpful ways to promote your existing facilities:

Fields in Trust Protected Fields Map
www.fieldsintrust.org

East Cambridgeshire District Council
www.eastcambs.gov.uk