

Title of Report:	Cloughmills play provision / asset disposal
Committee Report Submitted To:	The Leisure & Development Committee
Date of Meeting:	16 th March 2021
For Decision or For Information	For Decision

Linkage to Council Strategy (2019-23)	
Strategic Theme	Resilient, healthy & engaged communities
Outcome	Citizens will have access to Council recreational facilities and protected natural environments which help them to develop their physical, emotional and cognitive health.
Lead Officer	Head of Sport & Wellbeing

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	N/A
Included in Current Year Estimates	NO
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	
Staffing Costs	

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek Members approval to release a disused play area in the village of Cloughmills and forward the site to Corporate Services for further consideration as an asset for disposal.

2.0 Background

When Councils merged in 2015, Play Park asset records noted one play park located in the village of Cloughmills – Cloughmills Bio Park. The Play Audit completed in 2017 rated the play park in the upper mid category for play value (Score 555). Equipment was listed in good condition and offering a good level of play value.

The audit acknowledged that there may still be a level of demand for further fixed play within the area which could be met through expansion of the Bio Park.

(Play Investment Strategy; extract page 121)

3.0 Current Position

An area of council ownership in the village has been identified as having the potential for residential development/asset realisation. Further investigation has shown that the area was previously used for play / recreation space but was abandoned in legacy Ballymoney BC times due to frequent and costly anti-social behaviour. All play equipment was removed and residents now have use of the Bio Play Park at the “Old Mill” site.

The area continues to be subject to antisocial behaviour which is causing upset and disturbance to the residents in nearby houses. (see red outline area as marked in attached photograph Annex A)

Officers are currently taking a project through Council's Capital Project Programme for a pitch and associated pavilion building in the village. Subject to affordability and completion of the project there will open recreational space available for the residents of the village to participate in outdoor games / recreational activities in addition to the Bio Play Park.

4.0 Recommendation

The old play area at Strand Park, Cloughmills is now surplus to requirements and the recommendation is that the site is transferred to Corporate Services for consideration as a Land & Property matter i.e. asset disposal.

Annex A: Strand Park, Cloughmills

