

Summary of current play from information provided by Burwell 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 Burwell 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 Burwell, using information provided by Burwell Parish Council in September 2012.

Map Ref	Location	Category ¹	Age Group(s)	Size (hectares)
2A	Weirs Drove	Play Area	T, J, Y	0.029846
2B	Westhorpe	Play Area	T, J, Y	0.053206
2C	Hall Lane	Play Area	T, J, Y	0.136058
2D	Heath Road	Play Area	T, J, Y	0.014442
3A	Chestnut Rise	Informal Open Space	N/A	0.150882
3B	Westthrope	Informal Open Space	N/A	0.255825
3C	Rear of Burghley Rise/Kentwell Place	Informal Open Space	N/A	0.54068
3D	Pound Hill	Informal Open Space	N/A	0.057677

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.

3E	Parsonage Lane	Informal Open Space	N/A	0.175025
3F	Mill Close	Informal Open Space	N/A	0.056943
3G	Spring Close	Informal Open Space	N/A	4.422912
3H	Reach Road	Informal Open Space	N/A	0.062772
3I	Bloomsfield	Informal Open Space	N/A	1.000188
3J	Priory Close	Informal Open Space	N/A	4.071941
3K	Holkam Mead	Informal Open Space	N/A	0.089318
BUR101	Meadowlands/Spring Close	Informal Open Space	N/A	0.141094
BUR102	Hatley Drive	Informal Open Space	N/A	0.115905
BUR103	Parsonage Close	Informal Open Space	N/A	0.31942
BUR104	Kingfisher Drive	Informal Open Space	N/A	0.122474

T = Toddler (2 to 5 year olds)

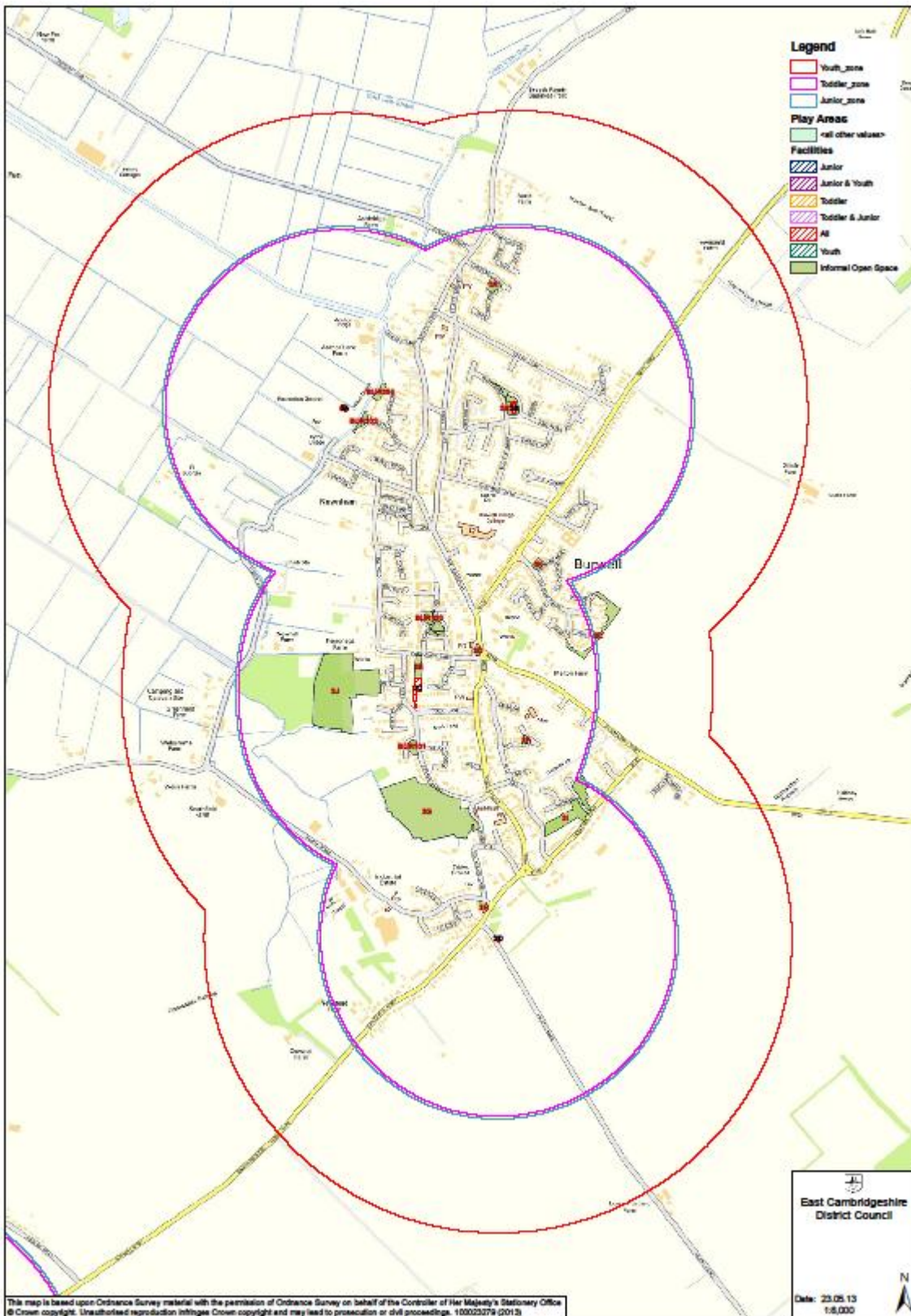
J = Junior (6 to 12 year olds)

Y = Youth (13 to 18 year olds)

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 Burwell.

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
 6,309²

² 2011 Census, Neighbourhood Statistics, January 2013

Informal Open Space (hectares)		
Actual	Requirement	Deficit/ Surplus
11.583 hectares	15.772 hectares	-4.189 hectares

Toddlers (facilities)		
Actual	Requirement	Deficit/ Surplus
23.36 facilities	12.62 facilities	10.74 facilities

Juniors (facilities)		
Actual	Requirement	Deficit/ Surplus
5.84 facilities	12.62 facilities	-6.78 facilities

Youths (facilities)		
Actual	Requirement	Deficit/ Surplus
2.34 facilities	6.31 facilities	-3.97 facilities

- deficit
- surplus
- no response
- incomplete response

Analysis of existing provision in Burwell

There are currently four play areas and fifteen areas of informal open space in Burwell. All play areas cater for toddlers, juniors and youths.

Deficits and surpluses of provision

Although Burwell's play areas cater for all age groups, the audit identifies shortfalls in provision for juniors and youths. This is also backed up by Burwell Parish Council who have identified that there are insufficient play areas to meet existing community needs. There is a surplus of toddler play provision in Burwell.

Burwell 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 Burwell fall within the radial travel distance of toddler, junior and youth play provision.

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

- North end of North Street towards Baulk Farm
- South east of the village, including part of Newmarket Road, part of Isaacson Road, Barkways, Cornfields, the farms along Weir's Drove and parts of Kentwell Place.

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

- Lower Portland Farm
- Slade Farm

The Parish Council state that "There are several small sites suitable for younger children but we would welcome larger areas to accommodate teenagers and extra sports facilities."

Play experiences

Burwell 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 parish council identified three of the four play areas as needing some improvements to the range of play experiences provided. The parish council stated that the areas identified had either weak or average usage levels. This is a particular concern of the play area at Westhorpe as it was also identified as being in an 'good' location, therefore it may be worth considering this aspect if the play areas were to be improved.

Consultation

At the time of the audit, consultation was being carried out as part of the Burwell Masterplan.

Accessibility

Burwell Parish Council has advised that there are no specific disabled facilities but this is dependent on level of disability

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