



**Community Assets & Opens Spaces Committee
Wednesday 20 May 2026**

Agenda Item 8 – Alexandra Park Play Equipment Repair

Purpose of the Report

Members are required to:

- **NOTE** the degradation of parts of the Kompan Galaxy play equipment
- **APPROVE** the proposed spend in order to repair the equipment

Introduction

The parish council has received a resident complaint relating to the degradation of parts of the Kompan Galaxy play climbing equipment damping mechanisms at Alexandra Park. The equipment has become sticky and unusable in places (see the black parts on the images below). This damage is typically caused by the weather and by frequent usage.

While the worn rubber has no effect on the structural functionality of the equipment, it is a problem because the black residue can get on children's clothes and skin. We estimate that this equipment is around 15 years old now.

The black damper units are made of polypropylene impact co-polymer resin, which is UV stabilized, and have an aluminium inlay. The rubber parts have been part of the Kompan design since the Galaxy structure was introduced, with typically 10+ years before replacements are required, though this is usually longer. The damper connection balls are still used in Kompan's equipment, and Kompan has no plans to withdraw them.

There are five of these parts (pictured in black) which are degrading, with an additional three that are still serviceable.



The problem areas have now been cleaned by the parish council's grounds team. They have checked all other pieces of play equipment on this site and no other items appear to require replacement.

We will continue to review our findings in relation to this site along with all the other council-owned play sites in the parish.



Recommendation

1. To **APPROVE** the Kompan quote for £2305.39 PLUS VAT (**Appendix A**) which will replace all black damper parts of this play equipment using earmarked funds for Alexandra Park Play Equipment (Budget Code EMR 370, £80,829).

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