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| **Agenda Item: 11** | **Council**  **Date of Meeting:** 10April 2024 |

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| **OAKHAM TOWN COUNCIL** |

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| **Report Author:**  Cllr S-A Wadsworth | **Title:** Play area |
| **Subject:** Cutts Close Play Area refurbishment | |
| **Applicable Strategy: Objectives & Aims**   * To protect and enhance amenities in Oakham Town * To improve the quality of life for residents and businesses in Oakham Town * To work with residents to improve Community Resilience * To work effectively with the County Council and Councillors and other service providers. | |

The Cutts Close Pay Area needs refurbishment, and normally the options listed below could be all considered as quoted. However as the Council is aware this is an area of Heritage Protection , which means that any disturbance below the existing surface would require English Heritage to be involved.

The site of the Play Area was in the past a paddling pool which would suggest that below the existing play area the concrete infrastructure may well still exist.

The Town Clerk has in the past had multiple quotations for the replacement / upgrade of the play surface at Cutts Close play area, one of which is included. There are basically three ways to rectify the situation with prices varying from 15K to upwards of 40K.

1. The simplest and cheapest method is simply to repair the existing surface however there is no guarantee as to the duration.
2. The next cheapest method is to repair the existing surface and overlay a new surface. The advantage with this is the existing surface is used to ensure the fall height safety of 1.5m is covered and a new fresh look is achieved.
3. The most expensive option is to take up the existing surface , check the existing ground conditions and improve if required and then lay a course underlay followed by a finer surface. Obviously, there is also the issue of disposal of the existing underlay which could be expensive and have an environmental impact. This would require English Heritage to be informed and a likely extra cost for supervision of the works.

It is therefore proposed that option 2 is approved and the Clerk obtains three quotes.