

## **PRUDHOE TOWN COUNCIL: CASTLEFIELDS PLAY AREA**

From: Michael Etheridge [mailto:michael.etheridge@bellway.co.uk]  
Sent: 12 October 2016 11:45  
To: Mike Jeffrey  
Cc: Sarah Eden; Sam Talbot; Eileen Burt  
Subject: RE: Play area at Castle Fields, Prudhoe

Of course, I have asked the same of our contractor so I will forward any information received.

Mick

Michael Etheridge – Adoptions Engineer, Bellway Homes Limited (North East) | Bellway House, Kingsway North, Team Valley, Gateshead, NE11 0JH  
Tel: 0191 482 8800 | Fax: 0191 491 4537 | W: [www.bellway.co.uk](http://www.bellway.co.uk)



From: Mike Jeffrey [mailto:mike.jeffrey@northumberland.gov.uk]  
Sent: 12 October 2016 11:43  
To: Michael Etheridge <michael.etheridge@bellway.co.uk>  
Cc: Sarah Eden <prudhoetc@hotmail.com>; Sam Talbot <sam.talbot@northumberland.gov.uk>; Eileen Burt <eileen.burt@northumberland.gov.uk>  
Subject: Re: Play area at Castle Fields, Prudhoe

Thanks Mick, that is appreciated. Could you keep us informed on progress.

Mike

Mike Jeffrey, Countryside and Green Spaces Manager, Neighbourhood Services, Local Services, Northumberland County Council, County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 2EF  
Tel 01670 623020  
Email: [mike.jeffrey@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:mike.jeffrey@northumberland.gov.uk)

On 12 October 2016 at 09:13, Michael Etheridge <[michael.etheridge@bellway.co.uk](mailto:michael.etheridge@bellway.co.uk)> wrote:  
Mike,

I have spoken to my contractor and he has agreed it should have been taken care of by now. He has suggested that whilst we were enduring some wet weather it was unsafe to use plant in the area. I have asked him to make the area safe, removing any damaged equipment and secure the area with a lock until such a time the rest of the works can be completed. He has agreed to do this before the date below.

I apologise fir the delay and resulting complaints.

Regards

Mick

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From: Mike Jeffrey [mailto:[mike.jeffrey@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:mike.jeffrey@northumberland.gov.uk)]

Sent: 12 October 2016 08:46

To: Michael Etheridge <[michael.etheridge@bellway.co.uk](mailto:michael.etheridge@bellway.co.uk)>; Sarah Eden <[prudhoetc@hotmail.com](mailto:prudhoetc@hotmail.com)>; Sam Talbot <[sam.talbot@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:sam.talbot@northumberland.gov.uk)>; Eileen Burt <[eileen.burt@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:eileen.burt@northumberland.gov.uk)>

Subject: Play area at Castle Fields, Prudhoe

Dear Mr Etheridge,

I understand that my colleague Sam Talbot, (our Green Spaces Officer) has recently been in touch with you in relation to a play area on Castlefields Estate in Prudhoe. This play area is on land owned by Bellway and was constructed as a planning condition during construction of the estate. It appears that no satisfactory arrangements are in place to ensure that this site remains safe and well maintained and we are now in receipt of a number of complaints relating to the poor condition of the site from members of the public and from the local county council elected member who represents the area. The swing is broken and appears to have been for some time. The unsafe condition of this site is not acceptable in a public place and while the site is still offered for use by children. Furthermore, I can confirm that to the best of our knowledge the site is still needed by and used by the public who live on the development. Irrespective of any dispute you may have with other partners involved in the Castle Fields development I would urge you to take immediate steps to repair the equipment and to put in place a safety inspection regime for the site. If following this you wish to pursue the possibility of the site becoming adopted, you should contact Prudhoe Town Council to discuss this. The Clerk to the Council is called Richard Whinney and I have copied the Town Council in to this email for information.

I would remind you that (as the registered owner of the land) Bellway are liable for the safety of the public using it. However, if the dangerous defects are not addressed by Monday 17th October we will have no option but to take direct action (under our general duty of care) to make the defects safe in order to protect the public.

I look forward to your early response.

Yours sincerely

Mike Jeffrey, Countryside and Green Spaces Manager, Neighbourhood Services, Local Services, Northumberland County Council, County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 2EF  
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