ASHBY HERRINGFLEET & SOMERLEYTON PARISH COUNCIL

ADVICE INFORMATION & INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP

REPORT TO PARISH COUNCIL MARCH 2026

The independent inspection of the play equipment on the Green last year identified problems with the Columbus climbing frame and the seesaw. As reported to the January meeting, the seesaw was badly rotted and was removed and disposed of. Estimates have been sought for a replacement seesaw and repairs to the climbing frame. The last of these was received on 4th March. They show costs as follows:

Columbus climbing frame full repair £4,111.00 ex VAT

Replacement seesaw installed £3,612.00 ex VAT

The Columbus repair includes remedial work to all of the support posts (9) and replacement of the platform at the top of the slide. Only one post is damaged at this time but timber play equipment on the Green has a history of rotting relatively quickly. It would be possible to repair only the platform at a cost of £988.80 ex VAT but any subsequent repair of the support posts would incur additional charges for transport, H&S assessments and waste disposal (£358.80 ex VAT).

The seesaw chosen as a replacement is timber, in accordance with the original specification that the play equipment on the Green should be of a rural appearance.

All of the play equipment on the Green is well used, especially after school.

Questions for the meeting:

1. Should the equipment be maintained or should it be removed as it deteriorates?
2. If to be maintained, which costs should be incurred at this time – Columbus part or full and/or seesaw?
3. How to fund this?