

**From:** WL - Communications Team [Communications.Team@west-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:Communications.Team@west-lindsey.gov.uk)  
**Subject:** Play areas and open spaces update  
**Date:** 15 May 2020 at 10:36  
**To:** [clerk@bardneygroup-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@bardneygroup-pc.gov.uk)  
**Cc:** Andy Gray [andy.gray@west-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:andy.gray@west-lindsey.gov.uk)



Dear Parish and Town Council,

I thought it would be useful to send some additional information to you in relation to the changes that have come into effect since the Prime Minister's Announcement on Sunday May 9<sup>th</sup> regarding play areas and open spaces that you own or are responsible for.

The main points are as follows:

- Playgrounds should remain closed and we continue to advise that they should be locked where possible with appropriate signage in place
- Unlimited exercise can now be taken, therefore open spaces are likely to become busier
- Outdoor sport courts can now be opened subject to people following Government guidance on social distancing

The guidance on this link will be useful to you in regards to thinking about any open spaces that you have. It may also be useful for thinking about any other buildings or spaces that you own moving forward.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/safer-public-places-urban-centres-and-green-spaces-covid-19>

You may also wish to update any signage you have in place to reflect the changes made.

### Sports Courts

This guidance makes little mention of outdoor sports courts other than "Consider how existing e-booking systems can be utilised to support the effective capacity management of public spaces, such as outdoor sports courts and provide key guidance for usage" At this stage, I would advise you to consider whether you have the ability to manage any outdoor sport courts safely. This will mean considering issues such as entry and exit to the court, how bookings can be made and managed, hygiene measures at the court, advice and guidance for court users etc.

There is no requirement for you to open any courts immediately, however given the relaxing of restrictions and the potential for some form of social distancing to be in place for an extended period of time in these spaces, it may be worth considering how these well used community facilities can be reopened sooner rather than later.

Our community grant funding schemes have temporarily been suspended and replaced with a COVID-19 Community Fund. This fund is providing grants to support the initial response by community groups, charities and parish councils to the pandemic. We will be reviewing our funding support and exploring ways we can help organisations adapt to meet social distancing guidance going forward

forward.

For more information about grants available from us and other funding bodies please visit: [www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/funding](http://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/funding)

If you are encountering any issues relating to gatherings or social distancing in these public spaces then they should be reported to the Police via the 101 number.

If you have any questions in regards to the above please feel free to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

**Andy Gray**

Housing and Environmental Enforcement Manager

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