

# Cranborne Play Area

In 2025, the Parish Council was notified of Cranborne Estates' intention to take back the play area at a future date. Cranborne Estates is the landowner. Cranborne Sports Club is the leaseholder. Given that Cranborne & Edmondsham Parish Council is neither, the Parish Council resolved to return responsibility to the leaseholder, Cranborne Sports Club, and notified Cranborne Sports Club in November 2025 of its intentions.

There is no legal agreement between the Parish Council and Cranborne Sports Club regarding maintaining the area. All support provided to date has been provided in good faith even though there was no legal framework in place that required the Parish Council to do so.

Any decision concerning the future of Cranborne play area rests with Cranborne Sports Club as leaseholder and Cranborne Estates as landowner.

The Parish Council wishes to place on record that it remains wholly supportive of the play area. It recognises its longstanding value to the community and its importance as a much-loved local amenity. With this in mind the Parish Council resolved to provide grant funding to Cranborne Sports Club for:

- Quarterly play inspections
- Annual safety inspection
- Grass cutting and grounds maintenance

This funding will apply from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2028.

Since November 2025, there has been ongoing communication/dialogue with Cranborne Sports Club including notification that the Parish Council will cease responsibility for maintaining/insuring the play area at midnight on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026. As a result of this decision, the Parish Council has been able to lower the precept (Council Tax) for both parishes from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026.

Issued on behalf of Cranborne & Edmondsham Parish Council

20.03.2026