



FEEDBACK REPORT: 2026

Name of Site	Ball Grove Park
Managing Organisation	Trawden Forest Parish Council
Date of Assessment	28 th May 2026

OVERALL RESULT	Pass	☒	Fail	☐
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NOTES ABOUT THIS REPORT
Strengths and recommendations are provided for each criteria. Photographs are included, where appropriate, to support the feedback from the judge(s) in relation to both strengths and recommendations. Please refer to the Raising the Standard guidance manual here for further information on the criteria.

DESK ASSESSMENT

(Management plan and supporting documentation)

Criteria	Strengths	Recommendations
1-Presentation	The management plan been written to align with the criteria of the Green Flag Award. MP is concise and includes photographs to illustrate, a plan of the park and an action plan The clarity of vision and objectives that management has set for this park. It's great to see a clear direction for the park's development.	

Criteria	Strengths	Recommendations
2-Health, Safety & Security	Inspection regime is in place for the play area (weekly) and whole site (monthly) and friends volunteers who visit the park very frequently also report incidents There are some dog bins and dog waste can go in normal bins Risk assessment is in place. Café is open 51 weeks of the year 10 – 4pm which provides a constant presence and encourages visitors and this creates a safe environment Gates to car park are locked at night. Toilets in café when open	Consider provision of drinking fountain/bottle filler Progress provision of inclusive toilets as identified in MP. Consider increasing priority from medium to high.
3-Maintenance of Equipment, Buildings & Landscape	Management plan identifies the work done within the park by the Friends group and PBC staff. Responsibility for building maintenance identified Tree work undertaken PBC	
4-Litter, Cleanliness, Vandalism	Volunteers manage litter in the park. PSPOs are in place including dog fouling	Clarify in MP whether waste collected from bins goes into a sorting and separation stream with LCC's waste service or whether it goes straight to landfill/incineration.

5-Environmental Management	Good policy of recycling green waste into usable material is an excellent policy that promotes	consider whether solar panels could be installed on the large south-west facing roof of the café

Criteria	Strengths	Recommendations
	sustainability and helps preserve the environment. As per the management plan, trained staff use herbicides in the park.	as part of the redevelopment of the toilet.
6-Biodiversity, Landscape & Heritage	Effort to use peat-free compost for bedding and shrubs. It's a positive step towards promoting a sustainable and eco-friendly environment	It would be helpful to receive information on the data of the last tree inspection and the frequency of inspections and record keeping.
7-Community Involvement	The friends of group play an active role in the park's activities and actively support the council in their efforts to engage with the community. Their involvement is an example of how collaboration between local groups and the council can lead to positive outcomes for everyone involved.	Clarify whether anglers attend the friends group meeting. Provide more details of the friends group meetings, including frequency, location and link to minutes in the community involvement section of MP. The Nov 25 meeting minutes that there were no reports and no progress from previous meeting Change photo of Chelmsford litter pickers for some proper northern Ball Grove Park litter pickers. Find someone new to manage the Facebook page as there is very little recent activity

8-Marketing & Communication	Ball Grove Park has a good webpage on the TFPC website. There is a Facebook page but this has few updates	Find someone new to manage the Facebook page as there is very little recent activity Remove the leaflet link on webpage as it doesn't work. Reference some of the planned improvements
9-Overall Management	The TFPC in partnership with PBC and the friends appear to be	
Criteria	Strengths	Recommendations
	actively managing BGP and have a good vision and action plan	

FIELD ASSESSMENT

Criteria	Strengths	Recommendations
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1-A Welcoming Place	Brown tourist sign in place and plenty of signs announcing arrival in car park, etc. Anti-slip ramp with handrail is an improvement. Entrances are well maintained and good sight lines. Plenty of users present (half term) so park feels safe	Consider providing sign at entrance from the north western Spring Garden approach. Review disabled access provision around the lake and wider site, removing unnecessary steps and resurfacing some sections of stone paths that are deteriorating. Consider providing a ramp to either end of the timber bridge to allow wheel chair access. Consider providing a stone surface path across picnic field from Spring Garden to café. Consider improving the informal path at rear of café.
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Criteria	Strengths	Recommendations
2-Healthy, Safe & Secure	The play area is well maintained with all signs appropriately displayed. Seats and bins are in good condition. Plenty of picnic benches No dog fouling evident	The edges of the rubber surfaces in play area are beginning to lift which will create trip hazards and plans need to be made remedy. Consider providing artificial grass beneath goal mouths and a length of ball stop fence behind the goals as it must be a pain having to run to retrieve footballs after every shot on goal. Old dog bins could be removed

3-Well Maintained & Clean	The park is generally very well maintained, clean & tidy. Friends explained how quickly PBC attend to playground maintenance issues, usually on the same day.	Progress renovating the disused outdoor toilet facilities to make them available when the cafe is closed. Remove all the very old toilet and toilets closed sign and put up information about 'new inclusive uni-sex toilet coming soon'. Café lease is being negotiated and there are plans for a new toilet. Remove tree stakes and ties from silver birch and other recent trees.
4-Environmental Management	No peat is used. Minimal herbicide use.	Mulch around orchard trees to improve growth. Replant dead cherry
5-Biodiversity Landscape & Heritage	There is a bio-diverse landscape in Ball Grove Park, with lake, river grassland, trees and areas of woodland. Built heritage such as cobbles, lake, weirs, etc are preserved and interpreted.	Further areas of currently mown grassland could be managed as meadow and cut once or twice per year, especially if hay crop can be removed to progressively reduce fertility and increase biodiversity.
Criteria	Strengths	Recommendations
	An area is being sown as pictorial meadow.	

6-Community Involvement	The Friends group actively contributes to managing Ball Grove Park. They attend local meetings to offer valuable insights and recommendations on how to improve the park's overall operation. Their contributions are instrumental in making Ball Grove Park a safe and enjoyable space for the community.	Identify how the currently available funds in friends account will be used and include this in the management plan action plan
8-Marketing and Communication	Good interpretive panels on café and information in notice boards. The Green Flag Award was flying,	Find a Face Book editor
9-Management	The park's management is fully committed to maintaining the Green Flag scheme. Items in the management plan are being actively implemented. There is a good relationship with Pendle Council. TFPC are very active in managing the park, councillors are involved and appear to have a good relationship with the friends group	Keep up the great work, making steady progress to improve the park.

Summary and additional comments:

(Highlighting the result, and the main areas of strength and recommendation)

It was a pleasure to visit Ball Grove Park, meet so many active and committed stakeholders and explore an interesting and well maintained park that is such an asset to the local community.