

**David Hiddleston**

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14 July 2015

Dear Dr Knott

**Re: Grove Wood**

I am writing to confirm our conversation regarding you preparing an independent Safety report for Grove Wood.

As I explained, the Parish Council has set up an Advisory Committee (PAAC) with the brief to recommend a suitable site for a formal children's Play Area. One of the short-listed sites is Grove Wood in the centre of residential Grovewood Close.

Having identified four potential sites, the PAAC requested the Play Advisors at Three Rivers District Council and the Police to prepare independent reports on each of the sites. I am not allowed to share these with you but I can tell you that the vitally important issues of Health and Safety were completely ignored.

In so far as Grove Wood is concerned, the residents of Grovewood Close submitted a report to the Parish Councillors in April which covered these issues in some depth. Unfortunately, this factual report has been labelled in some quarters as negative, biased and "nimbyist". A copy is attached.

To overcome these criticisms, the Friends of Grove Wood have elected to commission a professional and independent report which reviews their April Report and sets out the Safety issues relevant to children accessing and playing in Grove Wood.

You have kindly agreed to undertake this project and I understand that your fee will be in the region of £150. This is acceptable and will be met from the FoGW "fighting fund".

The next meeting of the PAAC is on the 17<sup>th</sup> September and I would like to be able to submit your report before that meeting.

Yours sincerely,

David Hiddleston  
Chairman  
Friends of Grove Wood