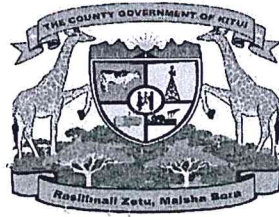


COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KITUI



THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY

SECOND ASSEMBLY – (SIXTH SESSION)

COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, SPORTS AND CULTURE.

REPORT

ON INSPECTION EXERCISE OF THE PLAYGROUNDS IN KITUI COUNTY.

**CLERK'S CHAMBERS,
COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KITUI,
P.O. BOX 694-90200
KITUI.**

JANUARY, 2022

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CHAPTER ONE

1.0 PREFACE

Mr. Speaker Sir,

On behalf of the Committee on Tourism, Sports and Culture and pursuant to the provisions of the standing order No. 190(5), it is my pleasant privilege and pleasure to present to this House the report of the Committee on the findings on the inspection exercise of County Playing Grounds. The Exercise took place on 20th to 22nd October, 2021.

1.1 Committee Membership

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Committee comprises of the following members: -

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| 1. Hon. Elizabeth Ndunge Peter, MCA | Chairperson |
| 2. Hon. Deiys Mukala, MCA | Vice chairperson |
| 3. Hon. Stephen Katana, MCA | Member |
| 4. Hon. Alexander Munuve Mbili, MCA | Member |
| 5. Hon. Alex Ngau Musili, MCA | Member |
| 6. Hon. Mary P. Ndumbu, MCA | Member |
| 7. Hon. Jefason Ngui, MCA | Member |
| 8. Hon. Nelson Kivali, MCA | Member |
| 9. Hon. Eliud Muteti Ndiguri, MCA | Member |
| 10. Hon. Annastacia Mwathi, MCA | Member |
| 11. Hon. John Mutuku Mbaki Kisangau, MCA | Member |

1.2 Committee Mandate

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The mandate of the Committee is as spelt out in Standing Order No. 190(5), which entails the committee to: -

- i. Investigate, inquire into and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operation and estimates of the assigned department;
- ii. Study programs and policy objectives of departments and the effectiveness of the implementation;
- iii. Study and review all County legislation referred to it;

- i. Study, assess and analyze the relative success of departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;
- ii. Investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the County Assembly;
- iii. To vet and report on all appointments where the constitution or any law requires the County Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order 185(Committee on Appointments); and
- iv. Make reports and recommendations to the County Assembly as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.

1.1 Acknowledgement

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Committee extends its appreciation to the Offices of the Speaker and the Clerk of the County Assembly for the support and facilitation accorded to it in the execution of its mandate, and the opportunity granted to its members to undertake this exercise.

I also wish to express my appreciation to the Honorable Members of the Committee who sacrificed their precious recess time to execute this assignment. Your committed participation is invaluable.

Finally, I also wish to extend my sincere gratitude to the Secretariat for the input and valuable contributions, during and after the visit, principally in compilation of this report.


Mr. Speaker Sir,

I wish to confirm that the findings and recommendations of the Committee and any other information as contained in this report were unanimous.

It is therefore my pleasant duty and privilege, on behalf of the Committee to present to this House, the Committee's report for debate and adoption.

Thank You,

Date: 18-12-2021

Signed: for 

**HON. ELIZABETH NDUNGE PETER - M.C.A.
CHAIRPERSON - COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, SPORTS AND CULTURE.**

CHAPTER TWO

2 BACKGROUND INFORMATION.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

In her history, the County government of Kitui has never earned any salient recognition in the world of sports. This has largely been attributed to among others, poor sporting facilities. Thus, the County has embarked on initiatives that will enhance development and promotion of sports for a vibrant sporting industry, as well as development and promotion of the County's diverse creative artistic talents.

In her efforts to achieve these objectives, the County Government, initiated projects to develop and upgrade sporting facilities across the County with an aim of improving and promoting sports in the County.

Mr. speaker sir,

These projects require huge sums of money to implement and therefore the County Government resolved to do them in phases which has seen budgetary allocation towards this purpose being made progressively in subsequent financial years.

Mr. Speaker Sir, soon after commencement of the work, there arose public outcry as some Members of the County Assembly started registering complaints with the Committee over the shoddy and substandard work that the contractors were doing in respect to the upgrading of the playgrounds.

Thus, it's upon this basis that the committee resolved to undertake projects inspection tour across the County in order to establish the genesis of the complaints, and thereafter prepare a comprehensive report on their findings and recommendations for any possible solutions to the alleged complaints.

Mr Speaker Sir, the Committee set out on a three-day project's inspection exercise. During this exercise, the Committee randomly sampled out and inspected the following projects: -

1. Mutito Community Playground in Mutito/Kaliku Ward.
2. Mutomo Sports ground in Mutomo/Kibwea Ward.
3. Ikutha sports ground in Ikutha ward.
4. Nuu Primary School Playground in Nuu Ward.

5. Kyuso Stadium in Kyuso Ward.
6. Kitui Stadium in Township Ward
7. Matinyani/Kwa Mukoma Sports ground in Matinyani Ward.

2.1 Inspection challenges.

Mr. Speaker sir,

The major challenges experienced by the Committee while executing its mandate are as follows;

- Failure to get to projects/sites on time due to the pathetic conditions of roads in most parts of the County which also subjected the members to a bumpy ride leaving them totally exhausted and some feeling unwell.
- Time constraints also affected the itinerary of the Committee.

However, it is the Committee's sincere hope that appropriate measures will be undertaken to address the challenges in future in order to ease the work of Committees while handling field assignments. Regardless of the above stated challenges, the Committee discharged its duties as provided by the Standing Orders.

2.2 Methodology

Mr. Speaker Sir,

In carrying out the task, the committee used the following methods to obtain the information it needed: -

- Direct observation of the Sites/projects.
- Oral interviewing of the stakeholders and County Executive Staff who had accompanied the committee during the tour.
- Recording of information and;
- Taking photos of the Sites/projects.

CHAPTER THREE

3.0 COMMITTEE FINDINGS AND OBSERVATIONS ON INDIVIDUAL PLAYGROUNDS VISITED.

a) Kitui Stadium- at the County Headquarters

Mr. Speaker Sir, following inspection of this project, the committee wishes to report the following;

- i. The football pitch is well levelled though needs greening program/planting of grass especially on the football and volleyball pitches to control soil erosion. Otherwise, the playgrounds remain susceptible to soil erosion once heavy rains pour.
- ii. Although the stadium has been fenced; part of the fence has been destroyed/vandalized paving entry for intruders in various parts of the stadium. The gates installed are broken thus need immediate repair.
- iii. There were no County employees/security officers deployed in the sports ground to ensure unauthorized functions are not held.
- iv. There is an existing dilapidated Dias which lacked proper ramps and rails for PLWDs.
- v. During the time of visit the floodlights were not functional thus not possible for an outdoor sports event to be held during low-light conditions.
- vi. The toilets were damaged and misused thus in a bad state requiring thorough repair, maintenance and cleaning.
- vii. There were Shrubs around the sports ground which needs to be cleared.
- viii. The sports ground has no proper drainage system.
- ix. Running track is not marked.
- x. The Committee observed that intruders had turned the area into a dumping site as evidenced in the photo attached.
- xi. The Football goal post and volleyball post installed were metallic contrarily to the international standards of using synthetic ones.
- xii. The offices constructed remains unused which is a clear evidence of misuse of taxpayer's monies as there was no value for such investment.

b) Kyuso Community Playground- Kyuso Ward in Mwingi North Sub County.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this project has stalled as a result of a land dispute between the County Government and a personal developer. As a result, a court injunction stopping further works was issued and the case is still pending in court. However, upon inspecting the project, the committee gathered the following information;

- i. Chain Link fencing had been completed and a gate fixed though both were vandalized.
- ii. Light grading had been done leaving the field relatively levelled.
- iii. Construction of a Dias had stalled at the foundation level.
- iv. Construction of a pit latrine had not commenced.
- v. There exist private buildings within the fenced grounds.
- vi. Goal posts for both football and volleyball had not been fixed.
- vii. Shrubs and bushes around the track had not been cleared.
- viii. Running track had not been marked.

c) Mutomo Community Playground- Mutomo Ward in Kitui South Sub County.

The committee gathered the following information;

- i. Levelling had been properly done.
- ii. Fencing had been done and two gates fixed.
- iii. Four pit latrines constructed are poorly maintained.
- iv. Dias lacks ramps for PLWDs.
- v. The football goal posts are old and of substandard quality.
- vi. Volleyball posts had been fixed though lacked net.
- vii. Running track not marked.

d) Mutito Community Playground- Mutito /Kaliku Ward.

Naturally, this playground was relatively flat and therefore very little needed to be done in terms of levelling. Only light grading was done around the circumference of the playground. Further the Committee noted that;

- i. There were no volleyball fixed poles only for football which lacked nets.
- ii. Running track had not been marked.
- iii. The pit latrines were in bad state as some doors had been broken while some walls had cracked.
- iv. The Dias was not constructed.
- v. There were shrubs around the track which needed to be cleared.
- vi. The committee noted that there were no grass on the football and volleyball pitches to control soil erosion thus, the playgrounds remain susceptible to soil erosion once heavy rains pour.

e) Matinyani / Kwa Mukoma Sports ground- Matinyani Ward

Committee Findings

Generally, the committee was pleased with the management of the facility, though it wishes to report the following finding;

- i. Sports ground is relatively flat and there was Evidence of attempted grading.
- ii. There were two gates in place, a big one for the main entrance and a small one to serve in case of emergency.
- iii. The playground is well secured since it is fenced.
- iv. Existing football goal posts are in good condition though lacked nets.
- v. Volleyball pole posts are not fixed and running track is not marked.
- vi. The committee noted that there was no grass on the football and volleyball pitches to control soil erosion thus, the playgrounds remain susceptible to soil erosion once heavy rains pour.

- vii. A 5000ltr water tank donated to the facility was not connected to the roof of the Dias thus unable to tap rain water for use in the facility.
- viii. The pit latrine needed routine maintenance and cleaning.

f) Ikutha Secondary Playground- Ikutha Ward in Kitui South Sub County.

Committee Findings

- i. Levelling had been properly done.
- ii. Fencing had been completed and a gate fixed.
- iii. There was no Dias neither pit latrine in the playground.
- iv. The football goal posts fixed were of poor quality..
- v. Volleyball pole posts had not been fixed.
- vi. Running track was not marked.

g) Nuu primary school Playground- Nuu Ward in Mwingi Central Sub County.

Committee Findings

- i. As per the submission of the head teacher, the Contractor/County Government never informed the school administration when commencing contractual works.
- ii. The Contractor cleared some of the indigenous trees around the perimeter of the playground leaving the field bare and exposed to erosion from strong winds and running rain water experienced in the area. These trees have taken years to grow and mature and therefore considering the dry climate of that area, this was a huge blow since such trees can now be considered extinct.
- iii. Football goal posts were fixed though lacked nets.
- iv. Running track had not been marked.
- v. The ground is well secured since it is fenced and has installed Gates.

- vi. Levelling not properly done (Very light grading was done and therefore the playground is still sloppy), and volleyball pole posts were not yet installed.
- vii. A four-door pit latrine was at a final stage. (Awaiting installation doors, roofing and paint works).

CHAPTER FOUR

3 GENERAL COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS

Mr. Speaker Sir,

On successful completion of the inspection exercises, the Committee made the following general observations: -

i.) Levelling of playgrounds.

Despite the fact that this was the core activity for the upgrade of the playgrounds, the committee observed that over 99% of the playgrounds that the committee inspected were poorly levelled. Only very light grading was done, leaving the playgrounds still very sloppy. Some were even left in worse condition than they had been initially.

ii.) Funding of the Projects.

The Committee observed that the funds allocated to develop a particular playground were insufficient and could not fully accomplish the scope of work as contained in the Bill of quantities (BOQS). As earlier noted, some playgrounds were very sloppy with deep gullies, which would have necessitated higher allocation of funds in order to achieve the desired outcome. For instance, some playgrounds would require heavy grading which involves earthworks done using heavy machinery like bulldozers and excavators. This exercise alone would require more than the total sum that was allocated for a single project. A good example is Ikutha Secondary School Playground where the principal informed the committee that only ksh.250,000 was allocated.

iii.) Public/Community Awareness.

Upon interrogating some members of the Community, school administrators, and in consideration of the complaints raised by some Members of the County Assembly of Kitui, it was incontestable that most contractors literally didn't commission the Projects neither the concerned County Ministry conduct public participation and they commenced works without involving those responsible within the particular communities, which should have been

the norm. Members of the Community and schools' administration were caught unawares by the noise from the graders and the dust emanating from the playgrounds.

This caused serious conflicts between some of the contractors and members of the public.

iv.) Expectations of the Consumers.

On interviewing the consumers who included school administrators and members of the Community, only a few of them expressed satisfaction with the quality of works done by the contractors. Majority of those interviewed described the works as substandard, and instead blamed the poor performance on the County Government of Kitui for failure to strictly supervise implementation of the Projects. Over ninety nine percent (99%) of the playgrounds that the Committee inspected were poorly done.

v.) Manning and management of facilities.

The Committee noted that in all the playgrounds visited there were no County employees/security officers deployed in the sports ground to ensure unauthorized functions are not held.

vi.) Installation of nets.

The Committee noted that all the playgrounds lacked volley and football goal nets.

vii.) Greening program.

The committee noted that there was no grass on the football and volleyball pitches to control soil erosion thus, the playgrounds remain susceptible to soil erosion once heavy rains pour

CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.

Mr. Speaker sir,

The Committee makes the following recommendations

- (i) The County Government should fast-track the court's ruling on the conflict surrounding Kyuso Community playground. But, for purposes of prosperity, the County Ministry should identify and develop another Sub County level playground in Mwingi North like residents from other sub counties, residents of Mwingi North are entitled to this facility and it is not prudent to keep them waiting indefinitely.
- (ii) The County Government, through the relevant Ministry to ensure that all the playgrounds are properly fenced, gated as well as provide nets for the football and volley posts as soon as the levelling is rectified and ensure standard goal (Synthetic) posts are fixed.
- (iii) The County Ministry should mobilize the community/schools to conduct making of cut off benches, tree planting along the perimeter of the playgrounds, as well as planting of grass especially on the football pitches to control soil erosion. Otherwise, the playgrounds remain susceptible to soil erosion once heavy rains pour.
- (iv) Disciplinary action(s) be taken against any officer who is found to have neglected their duty or acted unprofessionally in executing their duties especially in developing the BoQs and during the inspection of the projects. This negligence and unprofessionalism are likely to cost the County Government of Kitui huge losses amounting to millions of monies, if and when shoddy work done by contractors is approved for payment.
- (v) The County Ministry must identify all contractors with a poor track record in execution of County Government contracts and blacklist them from being awarded County government contracts. Further, the County Ministry should ensure that an up-to-date data base on the

performance of contractors is maintained and that the data should be publicized at all times to enable Government departments make informed decisions when awarding contracts.

- (vi) That within 90 days after approval and adoption of this report by the County Assembly, the County Department of Youth and Sports to repair vandalized fence, gates, pit latrines, implement greening program, Clear garbage at Kitui Stadium and all other playgrounds and provide cleaning services to the pit latrines, and the daises.
- (vii) That the County ministry of Sports, Culture and Gender to establish at least one good stadium in each of the forty County wards (40) with a good Dias, VIP latrines, changing rooms so as to enhance talent at ward level.
- (viii) The County department of Youth and Sports as well as the Committee to benchmark with other stadia of that level such as Machakos Stadium in Machakos County, Bukhungu Stadium in Kakamega County, Afraha Stadium in Nakuru County, City stadium in Nairobi County, Jomo Kenyatta International Stadium in Kisumu County and Kipchoge Keino Stadium in Uasin Gishu County, facilities known to hold national sporting activities in order to develop Kitui facility to those levels.

CONCLUSION

Mr. Speaker Sir,

In conclusion, projects inspection exercise was a success and this committee wishes to reiterate its commitment towards executing its mandate in respect to County Assembly Standing Orders No. 190 (5) and subject to the provisions of Article 185 (3) of the supreme law of Kenya.

Mr Speaker Sir, the development of sports facilities will bolster talent development among our youth especially in soccer and athletics and this Committee remains optimistic that in the near future, this County will boast of representation in global

competitions like the international Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) World Championships, where Kenya records its best performance.

Mr Speaker Sir, this Committee sincerely hope that the County Government shall not relent in this noble task of implementing development projects, not only in this sector, but in all other sectors.

We, Honorable Members of the Committee on Tourism, Sports and Culture, do hereby append our signatures to affirm our approval and confirm accuracy, validity and authenticity of this report on inspection exercise of the playgrounds in Kitui County.

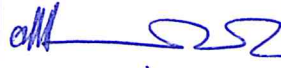
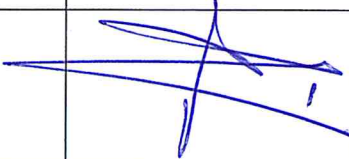



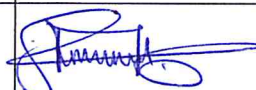
S/NO	NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGN
1.	Hon. Elizabeth Ndunge Peter.	Chairperson	
2.	Hon. Deiys Mukala	V/Chairperson	
3.	Hon. Alexander Munuve Mbili	Member	
4.	Hon. Nelson Kivali	Member	
5.	Hon. Mary P. Ndumbu	Member	
6.	Hon. Anastacia Mwathi	Member	
7.	Hon. Jefason Ngui	Member	
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10.	Hon. Stephen Katana	Member	
11.	Hon. John Mutuku Mbaki Kisangau,	Member	

PHOTO GALLERY



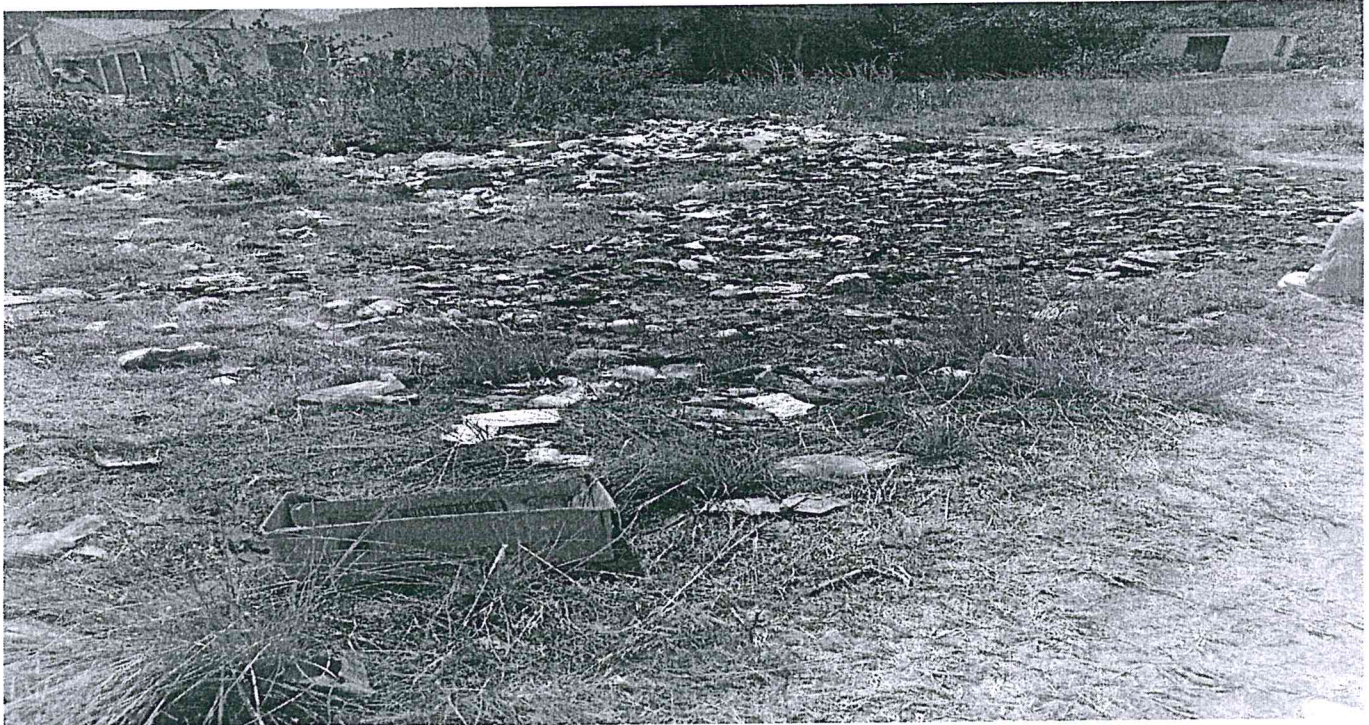
Members of the committee at Mutito primary play ground.



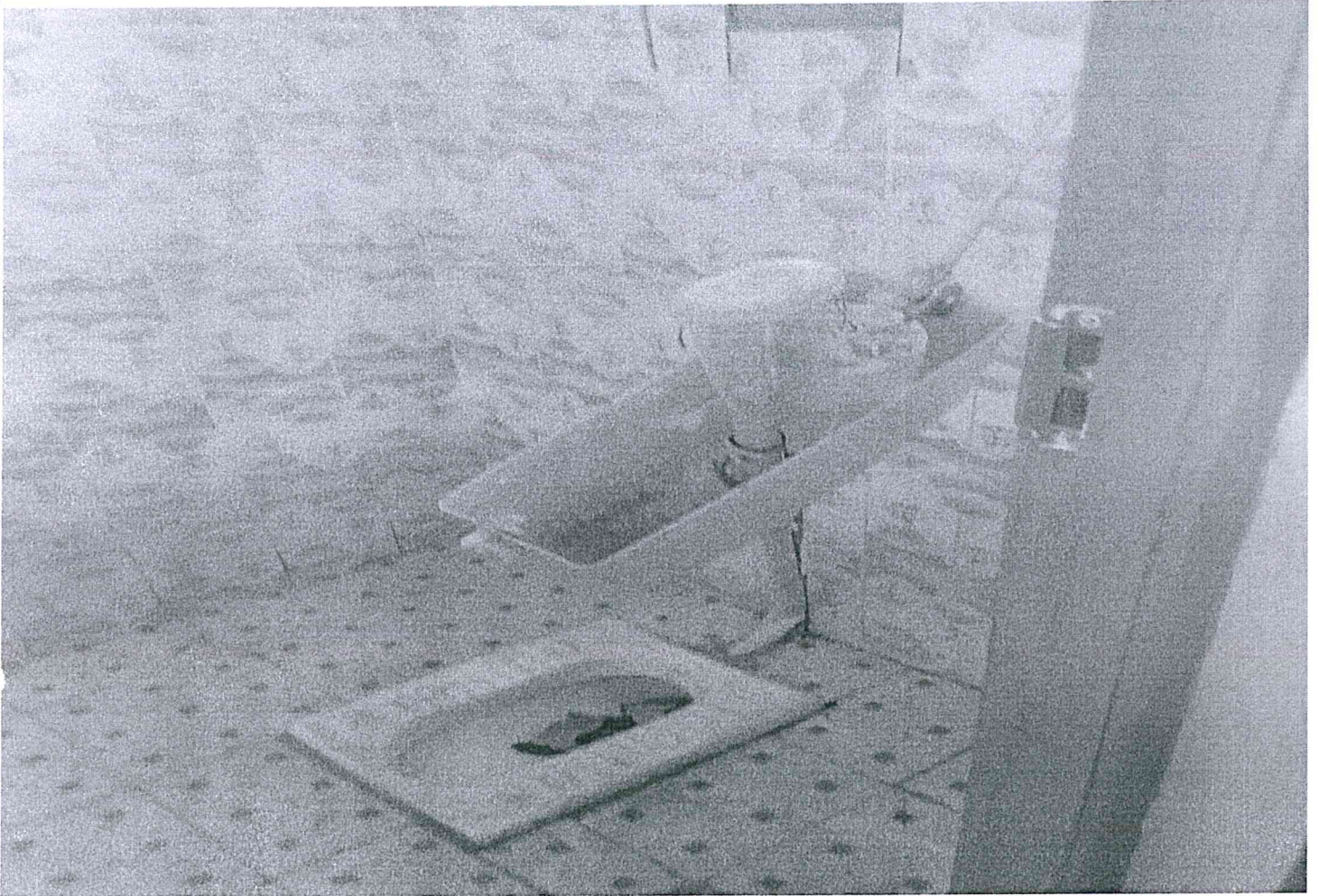
Pit latrine being constructed at Nuu primary Playground.



Members of the Committee at Matinyani Playground.



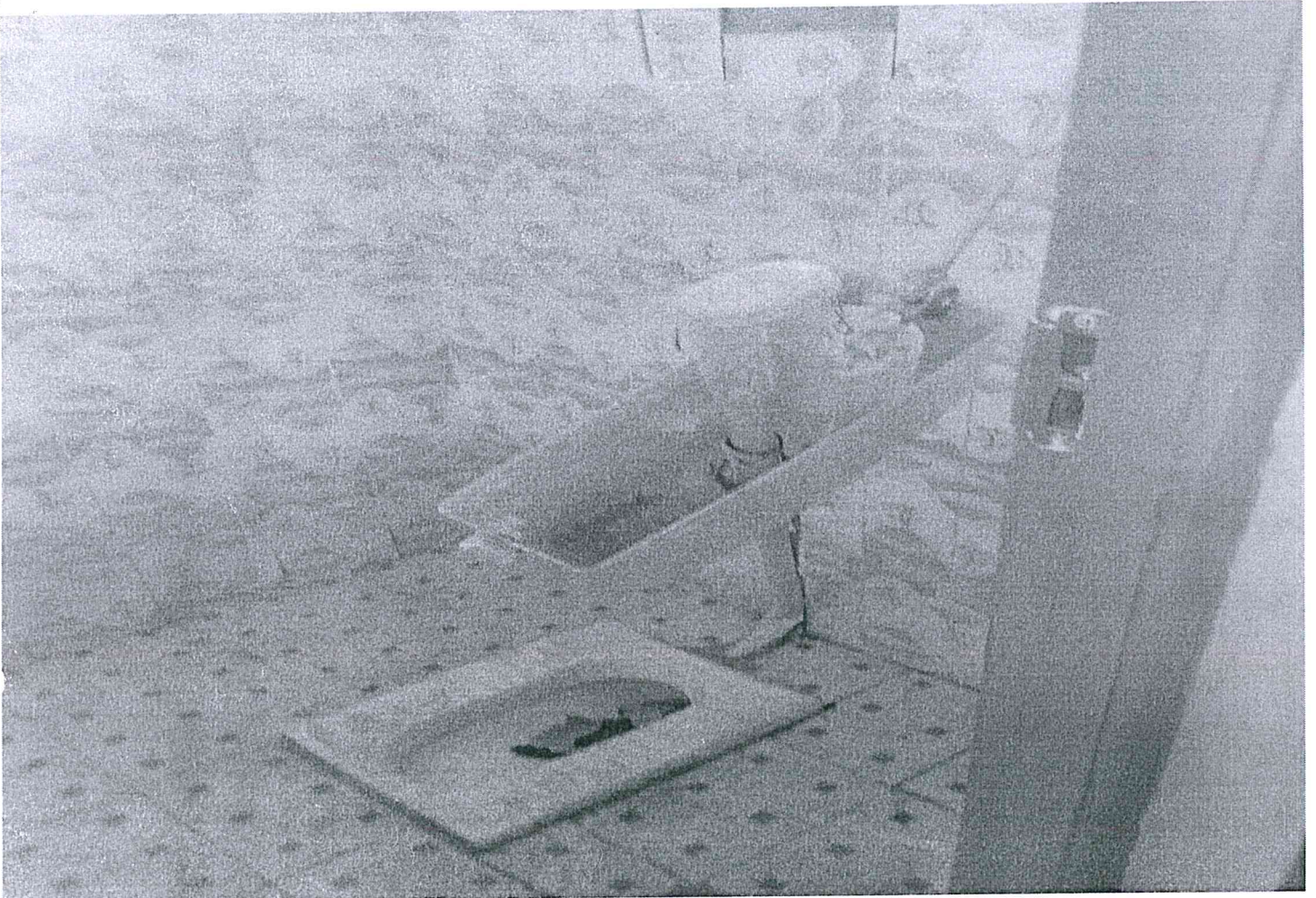
Dumping site within the premises of the Kitui Township Stadium.



A damaged dirty pit latrine at Kitui Township Stadium.



Members of the Committee at Kyuso stadium.



A damaged dirty pit latrine at Kitui Township Stadium.



Members of the Committee at Kyuso stadium.