**Bishopton Playground Association**

**Minutes of the Bishopton Playground Association (BPA) General Meeting held on Wednesday 4th December at 7:00pm in The Blue Bell Public House, Bishopton Village**

# Present: S. Pilkington, N Melaney

# Supporters & Guests Jayne Robins, Gill Scott Robert Bowes L Guest

# Apologies for Absence: L Foggett, S Harker, P Slater. S Elliott, L Bowes

# K Coupland

1. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**
   1. The minutes of the meeting dated 6th November were accepted.
2. **Matters Arising**
   1. S. Pilkington confirmed additional playground Competition entry forms had not been handed over to Bishopton & Redmarshall Primary School pupils and the entries received (6 No) will be the basis for the winning selection. The competition end date has been extended and is now 17th December. This will enable the parish council to choose the winners in their December meeting and award the Cinema Prizes before Christmas.
   2. The Committee agreed that Committee meeting minutes will in future be issued to all Members and Committee Supporters. It was deemed important that all those who put time and effort into the project should be kept informed of the Ideas proposed, Outcomes and progress being made.
   3. The issue of Committee Minutes issue date was discussed and it was agreed that the minutes will be issued in DRAFT FORM 2 WEEKS before the due meeting date with the revised minutes issued 1 week before the due meeting.
   4. Committee members will RESPOND WITHIN 2 DAYS to the Draft Minutes to enable the timely issue of the minutes for the due meeting.

1. **Financial Report**
   1. Bank Account set up is ongoing, application forms have been completed and submitted to the bank. The account will be on line by 24th December until then funds will remain with Bishopton Parish Council.
   2. The monies raised at Quiz night have been handed to L Foggett for payment into the Parish Council Playground account.
2. **Update from Bishopton Parish Council (BPC)**
   1. N Melaney reported that the Playground had been add to Darlington Borough Council Public Space Protection Order list of Dog Control protected areas.
   2. N Melaney has been issued with signs by DBC and will attach them below the Playground Sign board.

# Access

* 1. There have been no further reports of dog walkers using the field. The exclusion of dogs has been enforced with the Public Spaces Exclusion Order is in place.

# Health & Safety

* 1. N Melaney confirmed that the suppliers of the play equipment as installers are all CHAS and Construction Line approved and their equipment meets BS standards and certifications.

# Equipment:

# Playdale, Playscheme and Sovereign are all submitting revised prices based on the list of equipment issued following discussions between S Pilkington and N Melaney. All 3 suppliers have visited the site and will issue designs based on the list. The list was derived from the Children’s survey results and includes the most requested equipment and facilities.

# The 3 quotations were sought to meet the requirements of the major funders and maybe increased if the Committee decides the quotes are not value for money, do not satisfy the Committee’s requirements or are deemed expensive and unsuitable to the Parish Council, who as the leasehold owners of the site, insurance providers and maintenance providers are deemed to have final approval of the project equipment.

# The quotations will be available by the end of December; however, it is hoped we are in receipt of the quotations by the 18th December. The quotations will be discussed/reviewed at the 8th January Committee meeting. The appointment of a preferred bidder will be discussed and if agreed, discussions regarding price adjustments and reductions will take place.

# Potential funds have been identified which will allow a small amount of equipment to be purchased in the short term. S Pilkington has offered a list of equipment for N Melaney to pursue funds. The funding is limited and will produce approx. £7000 if successful.

# The funds referred to be would allow if successful the following equipment to be installed-

# 1 No Play hut

# 5 No Activity boards including Noughts and Crosses, Dice Spinner, Maze Ball,

# Snake Panel, Snakes and Ladders.

# 1 No Wooden Goal post/Hoop panel with goal net.

# The meeting discussed the provision of Wildflower planters to the North and South corners of the Playground. This is in line with the Children’s request listed in the survey carried out by the Parish Council and Playground Committee.

# Jayne Robins suggested that providing Sensory Planting would better serve the Playground being less prone to weeds and requiring less maintenance. In addition, the planting provides for all senses a helps development of same.

# The Committee agreed and asked Jayne Robins to draw up a list of plants and planting details.

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# Fundraising and Publicity

* 1. The committee confirmed that the quiz night on 29th November was hugely successful

and raised £1090.00 for the Playground.

Local business Property and Land Information (PaLI) kindly sponsored the event by way of covering the majority of catering and venue hire costs. Further funds were raised by way of a raffle and auction, with prizes donated by:

* 1. A small children’s event, originally intended for Christmas was discussed and due to time limitations, it was decided to relocate the planned event to February 2020 (actual date to be advised). The main aim of the Children’s Party is raising awareness of the playground and recruiting a children’s panel. Future Fund-raising events are planned, including

Wine & cheese tasting event.

Various entertainment events.

Summer Fete

Children’s Party

8.3 . The meeting discussed further ideas for fund raising with a number of proposals

put forward that need further development.

Gill Scott proposed a “Buy a Wellie scheme”. This involved the committee investing in Joiner made wellingtons which would be mounted on the long fence to Playground. The wellingtons would be brightly painted and include a Business name and contact details.

The wellingtons would be sold to local businesses as promotional/advertising facilities.

It was generally thought to be very good idea and will be further explored at the January meeting where cost and sale price will be sought and a member/supporter appointed to develop it further.

8.4. The meeting discussed and agreed to place an advert in the Parish News in January

confirming the success of the Quiz night and thanking all concerned.

Other planned events will be added if dates are firmed up.

# Donations & Acknowledgements

* 1. Nothing additional donations have been received since last the meeting
  2. The Committee wishes to acknowledge the input of the following Members and Supporters in Planning, organizing and hosting the Quiz/Pie & Pea’s evening.

The committee confirmed that the quiz night on 29th November was hugely successful

and thanks, were proposed to all who helped make the evening successful, including-

Alan Pilkington

Sam Pilkington

Sandra Elliot

Will Elliot

Linda Guest

Rachel Guest

Laura Bowes

Robert Bowes

Kerry Coupland

**AND**

Paul Frost provided his Auctioneering skills

The meeting closed at 8:45pm.

Then next meeting will be held Wednesday 8th January at 7:00pm in the Conservatory room in the Blue Bell Public House.

Signed: Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_