**Bishopton Playground Association**

**Minutes of the Bishopton Playground Association (BPA) General Meeting**

**held on Wednesday 10TH March 2021 7:00pm via Zoom**

# Present: S. Pilkington, N Melaney, S Harker, L Foggett, J Robins, L Guest

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1. **Apologies**
   1. G Scott; Gill has advised that at present she cannot commit further time to fundraising work, SP has thanked her for her contributions to date.
2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**
   1. NM clarified that grass matting mentioned under 6.4 is also a safety feature to protect from falls, not just the surface from wear.
   2. It was agreed that the mention of individuals making donations should be amended to just state “a local resident” to protect privacy.
3. **Declarations of Interest**
   1. Nothing declared.
4. **Matters Arising**
   1. The shortfall in funding for grass matting has been resolved.
5. **Financial Report**
   1. LF confirmed that an order has been placed with Sovereign, proforma invoice and timescale is awaited.
6. **Update from the parish council.**
   1. The purchase from Sovereign was ratified by the Parish Council at an extraordinary meeting held on 10th February 2021.
7. **Playground Progress**
   1. A dedicated cherry tree is being relocated from the village green to the playground site, and there may be up to 4 refurbished benches available if required.
   2. NM has updated a proposed site plan following a site meeting on 3rd March 2021 with other playground association and parish council members, and forwarded this to Sovereign.
   3. A new accessible ‘trombone’ gate latch has been ordered by the Parish Council and will be fitted to the existing gate upon arrival.
   4. JR has been in discussion with a local business regarding obtaining best value for the raised beds project; NM has supplied specifications, which SP has used along with costings to apply for funding (see 8.2).
   5. NM intends to submit a new grant application to Banks for a gazebo, under which the parish council hopes to bury a time capsule.
   6. JR has removed all ragwort from the playground by hand, litterpicked and checked the new hedging has established.
   7. NM hedge cutting and grasscutting is booked for the next few weeks, with roller treatment if needed.
   8. LF has applied to Darlington Borough Council to install a waste bin outside of the playground gates which would be managed by DBC.

# Fundraising applications

# NM has submitted a funding application to The National Lottery.

# SP has written to Persimmon Homes to apply to their Community Championship Scheme for funding towards raised beds.

# Fundraising & Publicity

# SP will add a post on social media asking local residents for donations and assistance regarding fundraising for the raised beds.

# SP would like to start a newsletter, initially to update residents with the history and progress to date. This can be shared via the Parish Council Website, with the link shared on social media, as well as via direct email to those interested. LF confirmed that an additional page can be added to the Parish Council website to host a newsletter and fundraising updates for the playground.

# Gill Scotts original idea of painted wellies along the fence line, sponsored by individuals, was expanded to include other shapes to create a colourful display as well as raise funds. SP to send a draft specification out by Friday with responses by Tuesday to move this forward.

# Donations & Acknowledgements

# Nothing to add

# Any other Business

# None

**The meeting closed at 8:30pm.**

The next meeting will be held Wednesday 7th April at 7:00pm via Zoom. This will be set up and hosted by Les Foggett.

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

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