**Bishopton Playground Association**

**Minutes of the Bishopton Playground Association (BPA) General Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd September 7:00pm via Zoom**

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

# 

1. **Apologies**
   1. None
2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**
   1. These had been agreed electronically in March.
3. **Declarations of Interest**
   1. Nothing declared.
4. **Matters Arising**
   1. L Foggett has offered to take the position of Treasurer on an interim basis as this is an essential role. This was accepted by SP, SH and NM with thanks. New treasurer still to be sought.
   2. Arranging a date to confirm the design of the playground sign with the competition winner is still on hold due to covid-19 situation.
   3. Jayne Robbins has attended the last few meetings as a guest and has expressed an interest in becoming an officer. This was unanimously accepted by all present.
5. **Financial Report**
   1. Setup of a bank account in the name of Bishopton Playground Association is ongoing; LF to confirm current balance of funds.

# Equipment and Quotations Review

# A wooden goalset has been purchased from Sovereign and installed using funds secured earlier this year. Unfortunately due to a quality control error related to the materials supplied, the completed installation did not pass ROSPA inspection and the playground has regrettably had to remain closed for a number of weeks while this was rectified. Sovereign have since worked to rectify this, and are due to issue new certification and reports in order that the inspection can be passed and the equipment insured. Sovereign will also supply appropriate signage regarding appropriate use of the equipment. Bishopton Playground Association has sought reassurances that there will not be recurrence of these issues for any future orders.

# Funds of £2,700 have been secured from Banks Lambs Hill, with a £300 (10% of the £3,000 bid) contribution due from Bishopton Playground Association.

# The deadline to apply to Banks Moorhouse is due, from which £5,000 will be requested (Bishopton Playground Association would need to contribute £500 of this).

# 4 suppliers have provided quotations for a range of equipment to date: Playdale, Playscheme, Kompan and Sovereign. The former two were priced well above the latter two so have been disregarded for the forthcoming purchase. The following factors were taking into consideration when deciding who to place an order with;

# Value for money; up-front outlay versus maintenance and length of guarantee/ lifespan of equipment

# Appearance/ aesthetic; it was agreed that wooden equipment is preferred for a village playground should lifespan be long enough.

# Level of demand from initial survey, bearing in mind the vast majority of responses were from those aged 5-7 years old.

# Those present discussed the merits of Sovereign and Kompan’s tenders for the supply of a double swing set (nest swing to one side, with a standard and cradle seat to the other, preferably as one unit) and a toddler/ young children’s playhut with slide. All agreed that the aesthetic of Sovereign’s product was more in keeping with a village playground, and Sovereign’s toddler hut with slide was a more engaging design for young children. In addition to this, Sovereign’s guarantee on the equipment is 20 years in comparison with 10 years for Kompan, making it better value for money with a similar purchase prices. NM advised those present that Kompan do supply equipment with a 25yr guarantee however at a higher price point which would make it lower value for money, certainly above the current budget for the 2 items of equipment proposed. Those present unanimously agreed to purchase from Sovereign in this instance, but to seek assurances regarding the installation and required safety standards being met.

# LF has purchased anchors for the benches, and these will be installed in the coming week. LF to be reimbursed for this via the Parish Council.

# Fundraising updates

# A bid has been prepared by NM to submit to National Lottery, however this funding source has been reallocated towards covid-19 relief so has been placed on hold for now.

# SP is in the process of applying to the Postcode Lottery (to lay a path and purchase a gazebo) and Tesco Bags of Help (looking to develop a small sensory garden in raised beds).

# The tea dance planned for 1st April and the Games Night planned for 19th June unfortunately had to be cancelled due to covid-19 related regulations coming into place in late March.

# Any other Business

# No further business.

**The meeting closed at 8:00pm.**

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

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

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