

**MILTON ABBAS PARISH COUNCIL  
PLAYPARK COMMITTEE**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Playpark Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021  
At The Hambro Arms, Milton Abbas at 7.00pm

**PRESENT**

Mrs J. Cooper

Mr T. Ives

Mrs L. Perry-Warnes

**IN ATTENDANCE** Mrs E. Sellen (Clerk), Ms K. Finlayson (left at 7.45pm)

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Mr G. Bridle, Mr S. Gould & Mrs S. Woodhouse  
JC took the chair in GB's absence.

**2. DISPENSATIONS** None

**3. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Due to pressures of a new job, GB had asked to step down as Chairman. It was proposed by JC, seconded by TI and unanimously agreed that LPW would become Chairman.

**4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021 had been circulated. It was proposed by JC, seconded by TI and unanimously agreed by those who had attended the previous meeting, that they should be accepted as a true record.

**5. MATTERS ARISING** None

**6. REVIEW OF NOVEMBER PLAYPARK INSPECTION**

JC had attended the first 15 minutes of the inspection and was not satisfied that the inspection had been as thorough as previous inspections. The inspector had referred to the service as a "Pre-Inspection" Service, he left soon after JC left and only reviewed issues pointed out by JC. Additional concerns had not been identified by the inspection, but include the exposed concrete behind the slide, and around the Tractor installation, bolts protruding above the nuts on the basket ball installation. The Clerk confirmed that Steven Day from Elite Playground Inspections had supplied his RPII certificate but would liaise with him again to reassess the scope of his service. It was suggested that a further inspection should be sought from the previous inspection company due to the concerns that the level of inspection had not been thorough enough.

TI offered to saw the bolts down in the spring.

The Clerk was requested to obtain three quotes for additional tree works (lowering boundary height and removal of dead bushes etc).

## **7. PROPOSED WILDFLOWER MEADOW**

The Committee agreed that they would not be willing to take responsibility for the meadow, and would prefer it not to be located within the vicinity of the Play Park, due to the fact that there are other preferable locations within the community.

## **8. CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

LPW offered to see if a replacement artificial tree could be borrowed locally or spend up to £20 buying one. JC & LPW offered to decorate with dried fruit, cinnamon sticks, paper robins and dried flowers sprayed gold. TI agreed to see if there were spare decorations in his loft.

## **9. FINANCE INCLUDING REVIEW OF DONATIONS RECEIVED**

The Clerk confirmed that donations had been received from the Milborne St Andrew Gardening Club and Milton Abbas Chilli Competition and from donations from customers of Steeptonbill Farm Shop, through Steve Gould. In addition the Play Park element of the precept and the VAT rebate had been transferred into the Play Park Account.

## **10. FUNDRAISING**

LPW suggested that it was important to decide which phase of the plan was most viable (eg skatepark, exercise equipment, parkour). Whilst there are always children on the skate park and it is near the end of its life, it is unlikely that a replacement park would get planning permission. LPW suggested a questionnaire should be compiled and circulated by various means, and ballot boxes should be located in public spots such as the pub, post office, farm shop etc to enable as many people as possible to respond. Consider whether the Queen's Jubilee event on the Millennium Green could be used to canvas a large group of people (sell squash and cakes, face painting, arts and craft table)?

Winterborne Stickland Solar Fund are often advertising for viable projects to request funding and recently assisted the Winterborne Whitechurch Cubs. Since WS residents use the Milton Abbas surgery, it was suggested that the Committee request assistance from the Solar Fund to provide exercise equipment for surgery visitors. The Clerk to enquire about deadlines/criteria.

It was suggested that the Committee could consider one major event and several minor events for 2022, to include an auction of promises, musical entertainment, bingo, "Find the elf/fairy", a children's cook out (firepit/asado etc), tug of war, bonfire, coconut shy, bar etc. Consider aiming individual events towards young families, older adults, empty nesters etc.

Consider whether aim is to raise as much as possible, raise awareness/support, increase volunteer support/committee members or advertise future events before settling on spread of events. Consider requesting support from local schools.

Following successful bid to Viridor the committee will be eligible to apply for the larger grant.

## **11. BUDGET 2022/2023**

In acknowledgement of the fact that the Millennium Green Trust intend to cease within the next twelve months, it is essential to seek an increase in the maintenance

budget. Some repairs required on the MG, such as replacement lighting posts and bench repairs. Equipment maintenance will require additional income (question what equipment is necessary). Some trees require attention (branches down etc). Note each tree in the orchard must be strimmed around, many bushes will require regular trims, the Catherine's Well boundary hedge will require regular attention. It was agreed that a "worst case scenario" should be anticipated for the purpose of setting a budget. TI suggested that the Committee should request a capital replacement budget to be accrued annually to replace existing equipment at the end of its term. The Clerk was asked to request £4,000 in addition to the existing maintenance budget.

**12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS** None

**13. NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Signed:  
(Presiding Chairman)

Date: