

# ST STEPHEN PARISH COUNCIL

Bricket Wood, Chiswell Green and Park Street



## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF AN EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE (EXTRA) HELD AT THE PARISH CENTRE, STATION ROAD BRICKET WOOD, ST.ALBANS, HERTS ON 29 OCTOBER 2015 at 3 pm

**Members Present:** Cllrs Bill Pryce (Chair), John Bell, Dorothy Kerry and Mick Freeman  
**In attendance:** No members of public  
**Officers in attendance:** Juliet Pienaar (Clerk), Gary Field (Head Groundsman) and Matt Huddleston (Groundsman)

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Eileen Whittaker and Wendy Berriman.

### 2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None declared.

### 3. TO CONSIDER YEARS 1 & 2 FOR REJUVENATION OF SATELLITE PLAY AREAS

It was noted that funds for Year 1 of £20k were currently available to the Committee and of that a sum of £10k had been committed to a new slide and 'play ends' for Woodbury Field. Three quotations had been obtained for 'play ends', and one for a 'snooker wall'. The Grounds team recommended the purchase of the 'snooker wall' as it offered far greater play value than a 'play end'. The 'snooker wall' was made of hard composite plastic panels with rubber damping on to reduce noise. The proposal was to install it on one corner of the hard standing area so as not to affect use of the basket ball hoops. Taking into account the discount obtained, the 'snooker wall' would cost £2k more than 'play ends'.

RESOLVED: Proposed: Cllr Bell                      Seconded: Cllr Freeman                      **Motion Carried**  
That the Woodbury Field budget be increased by an additional £2k to enable the purchase of a 'snooker wall'.  
*Votes in favour: unanimous*

Quotations had been obtained from three suppliers for improvements to play areas (excluding Greenwood) for years 1 and year 2 of the programme. Members referred to the quotations from Kompan, Proludic and Hags. A quotation requested from Wicksteed had not been received. The Clerk thanked Mr Huddleston for producing a breakdown of comparative quotations, including the estimated cost of safety matting and in-house installation. It was noted that if items for Years 1 and 2 were ordered together, far greater discounts could be obtained and savings made on freight costs. The Grounds team recommended the equipment from Kompan as it was easy to install in-house and a saving of approx. £8k could be made by ordering years 1 and 2 together. The Head Groundsman confirmed that the team would aim to install all new items of equipment before the end of July 2016.

RESOLVED: Proposed: Cllr Pryce                      Seconded: Cllr Freeman                      **Motion Carried**  
That it be recommended to Main Council the funds for year 2 be brought forward in order to achieve a saving of circa £8k on play equipment.  
*Votes in favour: unanimous*

Proludic offered a double-decker bus which would be an ideal replacement for the ageing bus in Park Street play area in year 3 or 4.

RESOLVED: Proposed: Cllr Freeman                      Seconded: Cllr Bell                      **Motion Carried**  
That the quotation from Kompan be accepted as it offered the most suitable equipment and could be installed easily in-house.  
*Votes in favour: unanimous*

#### **4. TO CONSIDER PROGRESS OF THE GREENWOOD PARK 'SUPER NET' PROJECT**

The three comparative quotations for Greenwood Park from Kompan, Proludic and Hags were noted. The project proposed by Kompan was the preferred choice and would cost £83701.45 plus costs for complementary necessary items. £88,743.53 was currently held by the District Council from s106 agreements arising out of developments within the parish.

Members referred to the letter from the District Council. The Committee agreed that the project could not proceed with only a partial sum of £18k. It was noted that it may be possible to offset the £12k allocated to Woodbury Field to free up a further £12k for the project but this would still not enable the project to proceed.

It was agreed that the Committee should generate support from the District Councillors by engaging them in the project. To that end it was agreed that an invitation be arranged to a presentation on the future plans for the satellite play areas and for the Greenwood Park 'super net' project.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 4 pm.

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NOTE: These minutes are to be considered as 'draft' until the Committee has approved them.



