

## **Minutes of Skipwith Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2017**

**Present:** Councillors Glynnis Smith, Noel McCool, Andrew Faulkes and Trevor Britain

**427. Apologies –** Sharon Worrall and Mike Ward

**428. Declarations of interest:** None

**429 Public Session:** a number of members of the public present

**430 The Play Area** The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the public. Councillors Glynnis Smith and Andrew Faulkes had attended a seminar on play areas during July and feedback was provided. Chair provided an update on the play area. No real progress had been made and the PC had decided to wait till the seminar had taken place before making any further decisions, in particular, the fencing to surround the play area. The Council had made a commitment to install the fence.

The Chair had been in contact with the preferred supplier David Swinglehurst of Stillingfleet to ensure that the fencing met the guidelines for playground inspections. The original drawing submitted for the tendering process showed palisade fencing of 1 metre high with angular edges at the top and a rough finish. The guidelines indicated that a metre high fence just met the requirements and that the angular edges could pose a risk.

David Swinglehurst revised his quote for plained palisade fencing of 1.2 metres with curved 'lollipop' tops. The new quote is £5060.

Members of the Parish Council explained that the land has been provided by Escrick Estate as part of the planning process for Park farm and is on a long term lease. Maps were available for the public to see together with a diagram provided by Playscheme of sample play apparatus. This diagram has been part of the planing process submitted to Selby District Council in 2016 and approved.

Members of the public came forward to express their frustration and dismay that the Parish Council had made little or no progress with the project. Some members of the public had been involved in the early stages but had lost interest over time. Members of the public were divided as to what should happen next and how the piece of land could be used. Some members of the public strongly questioned the need for, and desirability of a Play Area. Parish Councillors indicated that the idea had been that the land should be used as a play area for primary children although it was noted this was not definitive.

Councillor Faulkes referred to the lease which stipulates the land is 'solely for the purposes of a children's play and recreational ground'.. The idea of providing members of the community with an option form with costings was raised and this seemed to have general approval together with a more open question as to how the village would want to see the land used

Questions were raised as to how the project would be funded. No final decisions had been made though the Parish Council has some capital funds. Further housing developments in the village were likely and contributions from the developers to the Community Levy Infrastructure Fund (CIL) may be forthcoming to provide funds for equipment.

The following decisions were made:

David Swinglehurst's quote for the fencing was approved and fencing work undertaken once the entrance is completed to Highway Authority requirements  
Proposer Andrew Faulkes  
Secunder Trevor Britain

Tendering process initiated for the work on the macadam entrance to the play area with support from NYCC

It was agreed that the play area should be pegged out

It was agreed to circulate a form to all members of the community asking for ideas on how the recreational land could be used. Forms returned by the 10<sup>th</sup> September prior to the next meeting of the PC

It was agreed that an options forms should then be circulated drawing on ideas generated from the ideas form

Further PC meeting to be arranged in October 2017

A number of people came forward to offer support to the Parish Council and the PC wishes to express their thanks.

**431. Next meeting of the Parish Council Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at 7.30**