



**Minutes of the extra meeting of the Somerton Parish Council Meeting held on
18th August 2022 at 9pm in the Village Hall**

Present: Alison Smith (AS)[chair], Neil Good (NG), Neil Clare (NC),
Members of the Public: Bryony Afferson, Andy Slater, Robert Gardiner

08.22 01 To receive apologies for absence: John Gattley (JG), Andy Corner (AC) Cathy Fleet

08.22 02 Declarations of Interest. There were no declarations of interest.

08.22 03 To receive the minutes of the last meeting
N/A these will be discussed at the regular September Meeting

08.22 04 Public Participation see Play Area

08.22 05 Play Area

Following the latest ROSPA report The PC met to discuss the situation, review quotes and agree a budget so action can be taken ASAP
Focus was on the very HIGH priority flags from the report some other issues were addressed.

- The basket Swing to be removed and the frame needs to be replaced. The wood from this can be repurposed to provide structural support to the picnic area.
- Picnic table– moving due to dry ground. Andy can secure with additional structure
- Wet slime on climbing frame-Pressure wash or oxalic acid (not child friendly) rubber mats
- Cows' ears– Andy S has an idea

Andy Slater has offered help but only on voluntary basis as public liability insurance he has of 5million is not enough.(The standard for public playgrounds is 10M.) He can address the smaller issues immediately FOC, but liability and site access are a sticking point for future larger repairs. Andy agreed he will look at the following issues:

- Broken Step
- Rotten wood moving (tree trunk)
- Structural support to picnic area – using repurposed wood from basket swing
- Matting (when approved)
- The Cableway - zip wire, remove and take away for inspection and greasing.
- Protruding bolt on gate post

NB. Steve Ritchie was also approached to quote but has a similar issue regarding public liability only of 5M

Quotes for playground equipment maintenance requested from:

- HAGS – equipment maintenance contract – **BA**
- Caladonian playground for replacement of basket swing frame(wooden frame with metal fixing). Andy S waiting for this quote and will f/u thought to be approx. 2.5K)**AndyS**
- Sovereign play quote- require a down payment before visit which is offset- **BA**
- Costs for matting needed ?? **BA**

The PC members agreed a budget of £1Kto cover repair costs between now and end of Sept should any spending be necessary.

In the longer term, It was suggested a committee to be formedfor managing a budget and to fund raise for bigger requirements. To consider options: Recycled plastic playgrounds? Composite plastic? Traditional wooden playgrounds, pros and cons to be considered. ?
BA

08.22 06Grass Maintenance- to review quotes and agree a budget

PC members agreed budget of £1600 for playground maintenance /annum if a contractor can be found.

It was thought the Countrywide quote to expensive, Green Scythe don't have the capacity for small jobs. Clarified with RB; he does not have liability insurance and does not want to do an invoice so cannot be considered. **BA** to chase up Scott Gardener

08.22 07 Traffic Mitigation - to review metal art for edge friction and discuss and agree a budget.

Budget agreed by PC -£300 for metal art.
Investigate getting a few metal work items
Need to consider how to fix down securely
Need Photographs of roughly where they can be placed.
Can they be moved around different points in the village?

Signed Alison Smith, Chair