



# St Andrews Parish Council

**Minutes of the Play Areas Committee Meeting  
held at Justin Tomlinson Constituency Office, First Floor  
Customer Service Hub, Orbital Shopping Park, Thamesdown  
Drive on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 11:00am**

**Councillors Present:** Jake Chandler, Mary Friend, Steve Heyes (Chairman), Sue MacDonald, Vera Tomlinson and Vince Williams  
**Officer Present:** Emma Sylvester, Parish Clerk  
Luke Jones, Grounds Maintenance Manager  
**Public Present:** 0

## 11. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

## 12. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

## 13. MINUTES

Members received the minutes of the last meeting and **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

## 14. PUBLIC RECESS

No public wished to speak.

## 15. PLAY AREAS

- (i) Members noted the play issues and the Grounds Maintenance Manager (GMM) highlighted that over the summer there had been no big issues just broken glass and graffiti. The GMM informed the committee that Buscott play area surface was cracking. It was agreed for the GMM to obtain quotes for a new surface as well as reviewing all other play area surfaces.
- (ii) The (GMM) reported that the play area surface at Addinsell play area was failing. The surface is cracking, and children and foxes are pulling it up. Small repairs have been completed by the Grounds Maintenance Team, but the areas are becoming too large.  
The Clerk reported that responsibility of the play area remained with Swindon Borough Council as negotiations over ownership had not been finalised. It was agreed for Cllr Vera Tomlinson, Chairman of the Parish Council, along with the Clerk would email Swindon Borough Council's Property Officer.
- (iii) The Clerk reported that two recent grant applications had been unsuccessful. The feedback that had been given was the project did not have enough community involvement. The Clerk explained that another application said that the parish council had too large an income and the Funding Manager had explained that they don't usually fund a project 100% and look to support applications where there is match funding.  
Members were informed that the Clerk and Cllr Heyes had a meeting schedule with the CEO of Wiltshire and Swindon Sport to discuss funding options for a new MUGA.  
Cllr Tomlinson had concerns that officers were not qualified to write bids and

requested that training courses are looked into. It was agreed that the Clerk look into training courses regarding grant funding applications.

**16. OUTDOOR GYM EQUIPMENT**

The GMM reported that Kompan have removed the chest press as they were unable to fix the noise issue. Members considered alternatives.

**RESOLVED** to accept a double chest press as alternative as it was still inclusive.

**RESOLVED** to add an item on the next Full Council agenda regarding the colour of the new piece of equipment.

It was agreed for the GMM to obtain quotes on painting the item orange.

**17. LEASES**

Members received a draft lease for four play areas – Wallis, Groundwell, Highdown and Standen.

**RESOLVED** to move forward with the four leases requesting that the date and Vice Chairman be changed.

The meeting closed at 12:00pm.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_