

September 2023

Barley with Wheatley Booth Parish Council (BPC)

Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on
Monday 25th September 2023

Present: Cllr. D. Heap (Chair) Cllr. D. Goldsbrough Cllr. L Hunt
Cllr. J. Harthan Cllr. G Grimshaw

In Attendance: C. Heap (Acting Clerk / RFO) **Public:** None

1.	Apologies: Cllr J. Connor & Cllr. L. Rushworth
2.	Councillors Declaration of Interest: None
3.	Public Participation: None
4.	<p>Members to consider the design bids received to undertake improvement works to the Barley Playground, with a view to selecting a preferred supplier. Part 1.</p> <p>Background Update from Chairman The PC had invited four suppliers to participate in a playground “design and build” project back in 2022. All suppliers visited the site but two withdrew stating that the site layout limitations were too problematic.</p> <p>The Council subsequently received two bids; from Kompan Ltd and ESP Ltd. Both had visited the site on at least two occasions with Cllr. Gouldsbrough and Cllr. Heap in attendance and probably on more occasions.</p> <p>The Council received initial designs which we then shared with residents at an engagement meeting led by Cllr. Jayne Harthan. The feedback was that more swings were required, a climbing frame was a good addition and a see-saw was popular.</p> <p>A Playground Sub-Committee (PSC) was formed (Cllr. Goldsbrough, Harthan & Heap) who then asked the two Companies to amend their designs to meet our new requirements and they both submitted amended designs and quotations. The Council also set a budget of £32k around this time.</p> <p>Prior to the meeting the following information was circulated to members by Cllr. Heap:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">I. The design drawings from Kompan & ESP.II. An outline comparison of the two designs,III. A briefing note on playground surfaces,IV. A briefing note on warranties offered,V. A summary of the quotations submitted. <p>The following matters were considered by Members:</p> <p>Design, Equipment Layout & Safety Zones Three designs had been submitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">D1 Kompan – 3 Swings – Basket Swing – Climbing Frame – See / Saw,D2 ESP – 3 Swings – Basket Swing – Climbing Frame – See / Saw,D3 ESP – 3 Swings – Basket Swing – Climbing Frame – Trim Trail Climb Frame.

Confirmed Minutes

Derek Heap

Date:

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Members eliminated design D3 preferring a see-saw to a second climbing frame. There were also concerns that a safety fall zone might not be achieved due to the narrow widths at the village green end of the playground.

Whilst both companies had provided 3 swings, the layouts were very different. ESP had included for a treble swing frame that was orientated perpendicular to the river and were confident the arrangement would fit between the two fences and meet safety standards.

Kompan had included a single and a double swing as separate structures and this took up more space. A treble swing had been requested by the PSC but Kompan had informed that they had remeasured the site again and this confirmed their view that there was not sufficient space to fit a treble swing and achieve safety standards.

Cllr Heap reported that he had asked ESP on two occasions if they were satisfied with their treble swing design and orientation and they had confirmed they were.

Given this contradiction between the two designs Cllr. Heap had taken advice from Pendle BC and their view that there was insufficient space for a treble swing.

Cllr Goldsbrough proposed the ESP design was eliminated on safety concerns but members resolved to consider all other issues before selecting a preferred supplier.

Basket Swing

Cllr Heap reported that the ESP bid offered a refurbished basket swing (a new timber cross beam) and Kompan offered a new swing with a steel cross beam.

See-Saw – it was agreed that both see-saw designs were acceptable.

Climbing Frame

Members discussed the age profile of users of the playground and felt the ESP design would offer more for older children whereas the Kompan design favoured the under 10's. Safety issues and falling space were discussed, the synergy between the Kompan climbing frame and the existing slide was thought to be a positive and it was agreed that options to amend both designs to provide a broader age attraction could be considered later.

Safety Surfaces

Members discussed the briefing note issued by Cllr. Heap.

Rubberised mulch was eliminated based on appearance, views on durability keeping clean because of the open texture and the potential for colouring to transmit to hands.

Wetpour rubber granules with polyurethane binder was agreed to be acceptable but the main concern was shrinkage around the edges which meant that repairs would be required in the future to prevent trip hazards. Various colours were available.

Sports carpet was the third option and some members were concerned about possible rippling or tearing of the carpet. The correct installation of the carpet was a critical factor to eliminate rippling.

It was reported that all the above surfaces can be repaired, that the costs of wetpour and carpet were similar and that mulch was a cheaper option.

	<p>It was noted that the designs appear to show a greater area of safety surface is offered by Kompan.</p> <p>Members agreed their preference was for green sports carpet.</p> <p>Materials to be Used (Steel, Timber & Plastics etc) & Warranties Material preferences were for timber structures to all swings with steel crossbeams, ESP could only offer a timber crossbeam to the basket swing. Foundations – ESP offered concrete foundations to structures and Kompan offered steel footings – both were acceptable.</p> <p>Warranties Members discussed the briefing note issued by Cllr. Heap. Cllr. Harthan commented that she had found that warranty information was much easier to source on the Kompan website (with good product data sheets) than the ESP website. Cllr. Heap added his view that the warranty offered by Kompan was marginally better than the ESP warranty and more transparent. He also stressed that warranties may become invalid if the Council does not undertake regular inspections (and maintenance) of the equipment as recently implemented by Cllr. Harthan.</p>
5.	<p>Part II Exempt Items – Exclusion of Public & Press (Local Government Act 1972 Sch. 12A). Resolution to Exclude Public & Press for the purpose of considering tenders</p> <p>Members to consider the financial bids received to undertake the playground improvement works and references . Part 2.</p> <p>Members considered the quotations received.</p> <p>Members considered the two references received for Kompan and one reference received for ESP (second reference requested has not been provided).</p> <p>Decision on Preferred Bidder Members discussed and considered the Part 1 and Part 2 matters.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to appoint Kompan Ltd as the preferred bidder as overall the design, safety aspects, warranties and price offered best value for the Council.</p>
6	<p>Chairmans Update – Delegated Authority to Playground Sub-Committee (PSC). The committee members would be Cllr Goldsbrough, Cllr. Harthan & Cllr Heap supported by the Financial Officer who will raise orders, confirm variations and pay agreed accounts. Members RESOLVED to delegate the following authority to the PSC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • agree terms and conditions and a start date. • oversee the construction works on behalf of the Council, • agree amendments and variations up to a total added cost of £2k, • maintain records of variations, instructions, agreements and costs etc. • publicity for the project, the on-going works, and the opening.
8	<p>Chairmans Update on any pressing matters - None</p>
9	<p>Date of the next meeting: 11th October 2023, (agenda items by 5th October 2023)</p>