



THE FRIENDS OF ORSETT VILLAGE PLAYGROUND

Minutes of Meeting held on 10 September 2008

Present:

Joanne Cooper

Matt Jackson

Tracey Lovett

Anjie Gaywood

Arunika Gunasekera

Jacqui Megrn

David Kooyman (Guest)

Joanne Cooper opened the meeting at 7.45pm.

1. Apologies: None

2. Playground Costings and Proposal Plans

Joanne and Tracey had met with Stuart Petit from Playworld Systems on 04 July to discuss estimated playground costings. Stuart then provided the group with an estimated quote for the playground project of £60,000 plus VAT. He also provided a site plan and drawings.

It was suggested that for safety reasons we should look at having the gate entrance to the new playground on the field side rather than the School Lane side.

The drawings and plans were reviewed and the proposed locations were discussed:

- 1) on the recreation ground next to School lane and the cricket club
- 2) on the recreation ground next to School lane near to the football ground
- 3) where the old tennis courts are in between the bowls club and doctors surgery

It was agreed that site 1 would not be practical for health and safety reasons and would no longer be considered. Another site was proposed – on the field next to the recreational ground that has the football pitch.

3. Community Spaces Funding Application

Unfortunately the community spaces application (submitted on 14 July 2008) was unsuccessful. The main reason given by Community Spaces for rejecting the application was due to insufficient funds. Tracey has agreed to write a letter to them to find out a bit more information about their decision.

4. Playbuilder Funding Application

Joanne had a meeting with Andrea Winterflood on 08 September where further options for funding the project were discussed. Andrea explained that we would be able to apply for year 2 funding from the government playbuilder fund (funding play areas for 8-13 yr olds), providing the location of the playground had been decided. This means that our priority now is to hold a consultation process with residents and other interested parties, to obtain people's views on the proposed locations.

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The following plan of action was agreed:

- Hold a 28 day consultation process
- Produce a consultation document which will be posted onto the forum website on or before Day 1 of the consultation period. This document will include a comments page to enable people to give their views on the location. They can then post or email their comments, or bring their comments to the consultation meeting. Anjie agreed to draft up a document for comment.
- Arrange to hold an evening consultation meeting at the Orsett Cricket club at the end of the second week of the consultation period.
- Arrange for the meeting to be advertised in the Thurrock Gazette, Yellow advertiser and Bulletin Board – Matt to arrange
- Produce a poster to be put up on the notice boards, post office and village store – Matt to arrange
- Ask the post office and village store if they would be happy to have flyers on the counter for people to pick up – Joanne to ask
- Ensure that the following people are sent a letter of invitation to the meeting/phoned together with a copy of the consultation document, asking for their views
 - o Andrea Winterflood
 - o David Kooyman – Chairman of the Orsett Cricket club
 - o Derek Carter - Orsett Bowls Club
 - o Councillor Suzanne McPherson
 - o Orsett Ward Councillors Dianne and Mike Revell.
 - o Ed Hanson – Orsett Church Vicar
 - o Residents of School Lane??

Joanne agreed to write the letters/contact

- Ask David Shaddock from Orsett in Bloom if the Friends Group could borrow their presentation boards for the meeting -Joanne to contact
- Ask Orsett School if they would be willing to distribute the consultation papers to parents - Matt to contact Iain Bendry
- Contact Playworld Systems and get drawings and proposal plans together for the 3 sites – Matt to arrange
- Arrange for consultation papers to be distributed at the Orsett Toddler Group and ask for them to be distributed at the Playgroup – Joanne and Tracey to arrange

Andrea advised that the playbuilder application forms will be available in October and will come from either ngage or the Horticulture department. She also advised that the closing date for applications will be in December. Joanne agreed to find out the exact date.

Andrea explained that these application forms will be sent out to 20 forums and the average amount that would be given to each site would be £50,000. She suggested that we should request £45,000 for our project. Andrea also

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advised that we need to show in our application that we have a lot of community support for the project and that the community is willing to have a lot on input both during and after the playground has been built.

5. Other Funding Sources

Geoff Howell from Cory Environmental Services has confirmed that they are not funding any projects that are council maintained.

Andrea Winterflood had suggested that we should apply for a £30,000 grant from Veolia ES Cleanaway in October at the same time as applying for the playbuilder grant. Anjie suggested that Veolia may not be willing to fund anymore playground projects at the moment due to the fact that the playbuilder fund is available.

David Kooyman suggested contacting Jean Angus from the Thames Gateway Development Corporation. Jean has a lot experience in completing funding application forms and her charge is £25 an hour. Joanne agreed to contact Jean.

David Kooyman also suggested that the group could contact Natalie Warren (Thurrock Council Community Development Manager) to discuss the new "funding clinic" and options available to us.

Other options put forward:

- Youth Opportunities Fund - contact is Tom Flynn.
- Awards for All - up to £10,000
- Essex Community Foundation – Average Grant £3500, maximum grant £10,000
- Hew Watt Foundation
- Community Chest

6. Petition

Joanne and Anjie formally submitted the petition to full council on 25 June.

7. A.O.B

In response to the Friends group raising concerns about the safety of the existing playground equipment, the council has taken down the logworld.

David Kooyman mentioned that the National Association of Playing Fields have got a lot of information on how to design playgrounds.

The issue of what we could do to prevent new play equipment being vandalised was discussed. It was suggested that we could look at having CCTV with additional lighting. Matt mentioned the company CDA Solutions based in Newquay.

It was suggested that if the playground was going to be located in School Lane, privet could be planted in between the road and play area to reduce the visual and noise impact to residents.

8. Date of Next Meeting

T.B.A. Joanne thanked everyone for attending. The meeting closed at 10.30pm.