



The Parish of Thriplow & Heathfield

Report from Parish Council Sub-Committee meeting, 23rd Jan 2019 at Green Man pub, Thriplow at 8:00 pm

Present: Terry Smith, Mark Brogan, David Schneider and Darren Mullett

Others Attending: None

1. Welcome & Apologies for Absence: None

2. Minutes of last meeting

Agreed and released through website 09th No 2018

3. Fundraising – Status update

Awards for all have granted us £10K toward zip wire.

Wren submission in for full amount – should hear in March

Amey submission – cannot submit without adoption of policies circulated for approval before Christmas.

CCF – Also needs policies

Tesco – Only £4K max and they want to be the majority provider so with the equipment we want, not worth pursuing at this time

New 'pocket Parks' fund set up recently by government for pieces of land up to 0.4 hectares, which unfortunately we don't qualify for (100 x 100 m = 1 hectare)

Postcode lotter opens soon – looking to apply to this as well.

Unfortunately no progress made on fitness equipment – both these applications turned down.

This means we have a total of £23.5K promised; £10K in the bank and £13.5K on draw down.

It was agreed that until we get a decision about the VAT we have to progress down two avenues: Primary preference (Zip wire and Climbing frame) or fall back plan (zip wire and cantilever swing).

With a fair wind we could look to install the first pieces of equipment for this summer, negotiations willing.

VAT is a stumbling block.

(Action: DM)

4. TPC Feedback to questions / situation

Regrettably the questions needed weren't posed due to time constraints. MG and TS to take up the challenge to get us an 'agreement' prior to waiting for a confirmation at the next TPC meeting in 2 months so we can progress in parallel.

There are two aspects we desperately need direction on: VAT and policies

What we are asking is:

"Knowing TPC can claim back VAT on spend, would they be amenable to cover the additional VAT impact so we can look to utilise the entire £23.5K on equipment?" and

"Can we please adopt the policies on Equality and Diversity and Safeguarding vulnerable persons by email vote as these were circulated for feedback / comment well before the meeting?"

(Action: MB, TS)

With VAT at 20% it makes a huge impact to the budget. DM will try to negotiate as much down as possible to limit the exposure but if TPC cannot cover then we may have to opt for option B, as the cantilever swing is cheaper than the climbing frame.

(Action: DM)

5. Equipment – Trampoline; swing (decision needed)

Issue is many of the quotes are based on purchase of more than one item, so if we buy only one piece from each supplier the price increases. DM needs to discuss specifics with each Supplier as we may need a degree of customisation to ensure it is not too small for our target audience, we cannot just buy standard and hope it's suitable. Standard contact mail to be created to explain and contact each potential supplier again.

(Action: DM)



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Cantilever swing. Decision made to go with wooden but we need alternate quotes. There are two options – see pics below. Option A is more expensive but looks more robust, option B is less expensive but more available. DM has identified one source for each but we need another for competitiveness.

(Action: DS to contact FHS in Germany)



OPTION A



OPTION B

6. AoB

DS suggested a stand at Heathfest to publicise. This will need to be staffed by a member of TPC as HeART team will be busy managing the festival. **(Action: MB and TS to consider)**

DM suggested signage within park, much like they have for “coming soon – new development” housing areas to try to show what’s happening. Two signs will be needed, one at each entrance. Same construction as HeART signs. The temporary advertising ones can then be replaced by official park signs after completion.

(Action: DM to set a date with DS to discuss and sort artwork)

Name decided upon by team: Heathfield Open Space

7. Date, time and venue of next meeting

27th March 2019, 8pm in Green Man, Thriplow.

Signed Organiser

Dated 09th Nov 2018.....

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