

**MELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL
MELBOURN PLAY PARKS WORKING PARTY**

**Notes of the meeting of the Melbourn Play Park Working Party
held on Monday, 7th March at 19:30 at Melbourn Community Hub, 30 High Street, Melbourn, SG8
6DZ**

Present: Cllrs Travis, Clark, Cowley, Kilmurray

In attendance: Sophie Marriage, Assistant to the Clerk (SM), Claire Kent, Hannah Cockerill, Rhys Westcott

1 To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllr Hart and Naomi Westcott

2 To accept the notes of the Meeting held on 7 February 2022

Notes were accepted

3 Report on actions from the Meeting held on 7 February 2022

The public consultation was held from 14th February – 1st March online as well as in the Melbourn Community Hub during the Half Term week (14th-19th February). The working party thanked the Hub for facilitating the in-person consultation and thanked the public for their engagement. There were over 160 responses to the consultation.

4 To discuss and evaluate the responses from the public consultation

74% of the responses preferred HAGS' design, 18% preferred Wicksteed's design, and 8% preferred Playground Facilities.

As HAGS was clearly the preferred option by the public, the working party agreed to work on refining this design based on the suggested improvements put forward by the public.

The public suggested improvements to the HAGS design relating to the swings, mound, climbing opportunities for younger children, and size/number of trampolines. Following a comment from the consultation SM to query with HAGS the need for a safety bar at either end of swings to stop children running in front of swings. The WP agreed to the removal of multi-user springer.

SM to also query about the red rectangles on the design plan near the zip wire. Some comments requested more natural play elements e.g boulders. The WP said this could work near the tree near zip-wire.

SM to ask HAGS to confirm details of activities and games on Orchard Tree Top Tower to ensure sensory elements for children with additional needs.

SM to be clear when writing to HAGS that overall the design is strong and innovative, but following the public consultation the WP has a few suggested refinements. HAGS should use their professional judgement to decide what aspects of the design needs changing, and if they believe a refinement is not possible or appropriate they should advise the WP.

5 To discuss and consider the next stage of the project

SM to write to HAGS informing them that the WP is overall happy with the design but following the Public Consultation have some suggestions to improve the design.

(SK joined the meeting)

Members queried how these improvements may impact the budget. Within the tender document it specified that the budget was £90,000, however there are £105,000 of S106 funds available for this project. HAGS tender response was £90,000 exactly, and members agreed the WP should not specify a new budget in the letter. The letter will read, *We would appreciate it, if you could make any refinements for the most competitive price, and if your final design strongly meets all expectations, then the Parish Council may be able to slightly increase the budget for this project.*

Letter also to requested details of possible start date and long it would take.

SM to write to Wicksteed and Playground Facilities to inform them their designs are still under review following comments from the consultation.

As this project will be fund from S106 monies, Full Council will need to make the final decision.

6 To accept notices and matters for the future agendas

SM to confirm details of budget e.g. how much contingency is needed on a project of this type.

SM to thank the public for their engagement in the public consultation.

SM to write to HAGS requesting a refined final design based on comments from the public consultation.

7 To note date of next meeting

SM to arrange meeting, once HAGS' response has been received, and the MPPWP will meet to review the response and discuss final recommendation to full council.

End of meeting: 20:49