

# Agenda

## South Morningside Parent Council Meeting

19 June 2023 at 6.45pm face to face at Comiston Road

- |   |  |                 |
|---|--|-----------------|
| 1 | Welcome, attendees and apologies   | Co-chair        |
| 2 | Review and approval of the 24 April 2023 meeting minutes                                 | Bobby Pathak    |
| 3 | Deputy Headteacher's update  | Elaine Jones    |
| 4 | Chair's report   | Co-chair        |
| 5 | Treasurer's update   | Jack Bruck      |
| 6 | Fundraising update   | Elisabeth Quinn |
| 7 | Transport Update   | TBD             |
| 8 | Subgroups' update  | Various         |
| 9 | AOB  | Various         |
|   | - The PC needs a new secretary. Bobby will be stepping down at the 19 June 2023 meeting. | Bobby Pathak    |

### PC meeting dates:

- 2023 AGM **TBD**

## Supporting Papers

### South Morningside Parent Council Meeting

19 June 2023 at 6.45pm face to face at Comiston Road

- 1 Draft Minutes of the PC meeting 6 March 2023 (Bobby Pathak)
- 2 Clubs Report (Alison Reeves)
- 3 Communications Update (Shelagh Halford)
- 4 Accommodation Report (Andrew Leiper)

# Meeting Minutes

## South Morningside Parent Council Meeting

24 April 2023 at 6:45pm via MS Teams

### PC Voting Members – Attending

Louisa Dall	Helena Castro
Angela Robinson	Claire Forsman
Bobby Pathak	Dan Farthing
Ellie Maizels	Andrew Leiper
Shelagh Halford	Helen New
Thom Kenrick	Abigail Cabrelli

### PC Voting Members – Not attending

Stuart Herring	Alistair Haig
Jack Bruck	Emelia McMenemy
Brendan Hyland	Reuben Carr
Tatiana Tantarouda	

### PC Non-Voting Members – Attending

Grant Gillies	Elaine Jones
Nikki Wright	

### Councillors – Attending

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### Attending Parents/Carers/ Guests

Rosslyn Stephenson	Maira Gibson
Eliza Lam	Peter Sandys
Karen Hawkes	Lizzi Boyce
Calum Eshan Clarke Abdullah	Eva Fraser
Kate Liversidge	

#### Welcome, attendees and apologies – Louisa Dall

Attendees were welcomed, thanked and the agenda was summarised. Apologies were received from Cllr. Neil Ross and Cllr. Ben Parker.

#### Review & Approval of Minutes of 6 March 2023 meeting – Bobby Pathak

The meeting minutes were approved by the parent council (PC).

#### Headteacher's update – Grant Gillies

Grant thanked the parents in this his eighth day as headteacher. It was noted that he is actively familiarising himself with the school, its students, and also the PC run clubs. Grant noted that the pupils seem to be greatly benefiting from the clubs' provision and also achieving considerable success.

Gail Canning was thanked for her work as interim head teacher and, now this period of instability has ended, Grant noted he has a clear goal of bringing the school community across both school sites closer together and prioritising activities that facilitate this, such as sports day, despite the logistical complexity involved. It was also mentioned that he is working closely with Elaine Jones and Nikki Wright to draft a school improvement plan. It is intended this will be presented to the entire school staff for consultation. The plan, which will concentrate on various areas, including teaching and learning, assessment and the constructive use of assessment results, as well as the pupil feedback, will, it is hoped, serve as a roadmap for the school to follow.

In addition to meeting the school, its staff, and students, Grant said he has been familiarising himself with the PC and some of its priorities. These have included engaging in discussions with Edinburgh Council concerning the playground at Comiston Road and preparing the school building for the eventual return of the P1s and P2s.

It was also noted that the school is in need of funding support from the parents regarding short term renovation projects including painting the dining hall.

#### Chair update – Ange Robinson

A warm welcome was extended to Grant on behalf of the PC and his initial short, interim and long-term goals were welcomed with interest.

It was noted the PC has been busy in various ways which will be covered in more detail by the various subgroups (below). Notably, these included Clubs and football club securing funding from a community grant of almost £7,000, the accommodation committee leading a discussion on possible playground upgrades at Comiston Road, the transport committee updating the Council on the Canaan Lane road closure plans, and the fundraising committee sharing plans for upcoming events.

Lucy Reddish was singled out for her help in securing the community grant funding which will support Friday loves music and provide a new football container at Meadowspot which had outlived its purpose and was becoming an eyesore to local residents. The PC would like to thank Lucy for the support she provided.

Ange emphasised the PC's success is reliant on the involvement of all the volunteers to support the various subgroups and it was noted we welcome any help offered, regardless of how much or how little time can be offered.

Care inspectorate report for after school club on toilets links to conversation that Accommodation will have.

#### Treasurer's Update – Louisa Dall

The treasurer, Jack Bruck, was not able to attend this meeting; however, his treasurer's report was issued ahead of the meeting showing PC accounts to be in a healthy state. It was stated Jack is happy to field any questions by email regarding accounts.

#### Canaan Lane playground funding request – Nikki Wright

Nikki updated the PC on a revised funding request for playground equipment at Canaan Lane. Slides were presented and it was noted that the P1&2 equipment had been requested by SMPS parents having expressed a keen interest in acquiring them for their children at Canaan Lane.

It was noted that the equipment will consist of a range of materials and toys that enable imaginative play and will ultimately belong to SMPS. While sharing the building at Canaan Lane, the equipment will be shared with Canaan Lane Primary School, but it will be relocated to Comiston Road when the P1s & P2s move site.

It was further noted that existing playground equipment that was housed at the old Deanbank House site did not make it over to Canaan Lane possibly because it was too old and therefore disposed of. In addition to that, any equipment bought using early years budget would have been retained by the Council and redistributed. It was confirmed that some equipment was retained including water and sand trays.

The safety requirements associated with procurement were explained and as a result it was pointed out that some items may incur higher costs. In order to determine the necessary equipment required for the SMPS children at Canaan Lane, Nikki will provide a summary to the PC and an online vote will be held by voting members for the funding required. It is expected the funding request will be approximately £2,800 - £3,000.

#### Comiston Road playground provision – Andrew Leiper

Andrew presented the initial findings on the recent discussions held with the Council regarding the playground at Comiston Road. Slides were presented and it was noted that the PC has expressed a strong desire for improvements to be made in this area for a number of years but this is especially important with the planned return of the P1s and P2s to the school.

Andrew Leiper, Louisa Dall and Grant Gillies met with the Council to discuss the PC's involvement in this matter. It was noted that despite the absence of a budget for playground upgrades, there is an opportunity for the PC to collaborate with the school and Council to organise, plan and fund the necessary work.

To initiate any substantial modifications, several significant milestones must be identified and reached, including the development of a site plan to assess the impact of underground utilities. The cost of a scan of the underground utilities in the playground is estimated at £750.

The accommodation group has contacted landscape architects with experience in designing school playgrounds to determine the scope and costs of such a project.

It was noted the ideal objective would be to create an initial design that can be fundraised for and executed in part, by summer 2024. It was proposed that the plan be developed with the involvement of the children, and may include a phased program of works, depending on the desired level of ambition and cost. This plan is also anticipated to address ongoing accommodation issues, such as the preparations for P1 and P2 and the renovation of toilets.

In addition to long-term objectives, short-term measures were also discussed to improve the playground's immediate appearance. It was suggested these could include painting external walls that appear rundown and refreshing the planting, potentially as a school community activity to generate noticeable results quickly. It was also stressed this could be an opportunity to galvanise support from SMPS's local community.

#### Sub-group's update – Various Clubs

Alison Reeves was not able to attend this meeting; however, her Clubs report was issued ahead of the meeting. In addition, Louisa Dall reiterated the success in obtaining the community grant funding of over £3,700 for Friday's after school music club. It now has 60 pupils signed up from P5-P7 and is proving to be a success.

#### Transport – Thom Kenrick

It was noted the transport committee is working on the Safe Routes to School day and the banners concerning safe parking for Canaan Lane, both of which have been previously mentioned in newsletters.

Thom reiterated their concerns regarding the reopening of Canaan Lane at the Morningside Road junction. To address this issue, the committee reached out to local councillors to present an emergency motion to close the road again. This was unanimously passed during the Council's Transport Committee meeting. However, no specific date for the closure has been communicated yet. It has been decided that Canaan Lane will remain closed until the Council completes a school travel plan for the area. The Transport subgroup would like to thank all those who participated in the recent survey.

The Transport subgroup's concerns were also noted regarding the design of the upcoming modifications to the Comiston Rd / Greenbank Crescent junction. While this work has already been put out to tender, making it potentially too late to make alterations to the plans, the committee remains committed to engaging with the Council and ultimately, the contractor, on this issue.

#### Communications – Shelagh Halford

A parent volunteer was requested to update the PC's Facebook page. During the meeting Rosslyn Stephenson offered to help. This was warmly taken up.

#### Fundraising – Kate Liversidge

It was noted that unfortunately the planned parents quiz night scheduled for 28 April had to be postponed. A new date will be confirmed soon, hopefully in late September/early October. Those who purchased a ticket have been told they can have it transferred to the new date or can contact the fundraising committee via Classlist for a refund.

It was also noted that planning for the Summer Fair is currently underway after a highly successful Winter Fair. The provisional date for the Summer Fair is set for Saturday 3 June and a Lets application is needed to be sent to the Council. The fundraising team will soon be searching for volunteers to assist with a range of tasks, both small and large, which are always an enjoyable undertaking.

It was stressed that these events rely on the support of volunteers, even if it is a one-time commitment, as well as those who attend. Those willing to lend a hand are encouraged to contact the Fundraising subgroup via Classlist or email.

Following the success of the Halloween disco, a provisional date of 25 May was discussed; however, it was noted an end of term disco may be better.

Elaine Jones pointed out a possible clash with the annual P7 leavers disco at the end of the year.

#### AOB

It was also noted that the PC Secretary is due to stand down this year. Ange underscored that these roles must be filled to enable the Parent Council to continue making a difference in our school community.

It was also noted that class P4C have had five teachers so far this year. The concern was noted by the Co-chairs and the headteacher and a further update to the parents would follow.

The meeting was closed at 20:21 by Louisa Dall.

## Clubs Update

By the time you read this, Clubs will have submitted the let request for the use of Comiston Road school building next academic year. All current clubs are continuing, and this is one more than started next year; we now have the Sounds Like... music sessions running on Friday afternoons and they will be able to continue from September, although at an increased cost to families following the end of the community grants funded period. We are even able to continue with Creative Writing as the tutor is much recovered. There are two evenings where the hall is not used for Parent Council Clubs, so Active Schools may programme activity in these. And it is likely that Stage Club will use the spillover of Greenbank Church Halls for the P7s, with P6s in the school.

To get ahead of ourselves, we have met or spoken to all convenors in the last few weeks to check any changes that need to happen to their operations next year. We have asked all clubs to delay starting until at least 4 September (except Stage Club which will start on 1 September). We can now produce a short flier to trail which clubs will be running next year, and will get this out to all families in the next week, particularly concentrating efforts on comms to the new P3 families who will arrive in Comiston Road in August.

We've asked Clubs to try to move their admin tools to Google platform (filing etc) for next year and we'll provide a template application form, encouraging Clubs to move to using online forms for sign up which should prove simpler for convenors.

There are some new volunteer convenors getting started for the coming term – for Creative Writing, Recorder and Friday Night Football – so thanks to them for coming aboard and many thanks to the outgoing (Michelle, Sue and Iain) for their time over the past years. We still need a parent council member for the Clubs Admin team to ensure accountability to the PC, something that really needs to be rectified at AGM if not before – volunteers can be assured of an easy ride and a friendly welcome!



## Communications Team Update

Comms are continuing to put PC related posts on the Facebook page (thank you Rosslyn!), drafting an update newsletter after PC meetings and updating the PC's website and mailing lists, as needed. Ellie recently put together a leaflet to promote the Parent Council, tell people more about what the PC does and to encourage volunteers. These were distributed at the school fair, including at the Parent Council stall, and will be available to new P1 parents in August during transition mornings. We hope they will help to generate a bit of interest and ensure we can replace any PC members stepping down this year. If anyone needs any support from comms, please get in touch!

Shelagh Halford

# SMPS ACCOMMODATION GROUP UPDATE

## 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023

HILL STREET

PARK STREET

MIDDLETON STREET

# SMPS Accommodation Group Update

SMPC Meeting Pack

Actions since last PC meeting:

- 1) Emailed Julie Kelly (School Estate Planning Officer from CEC) to request quotes for below ground services scan for the playground. No response, chased up email.
- 2) Contacted "Learning Through Landscapes" a charity based in Stirling and Winchester, they can provide grants (~£500) and audits of playgrounds and play spaces. I am seeking to develop an understanding of what they can offer, and any associated scopes of works/ fee quotes for works associated with this pathway
- 3) I spoke to and emailed Martin Stevens Director of locally based Landscape Architects Harrison-Stevens to seek a second quote for development of a playground feasibility study. Harrison Stevens have designed an number of play spaces in Edinburgh, including Sciennes. ***<https://harrisonstevens.co.uk/our-work/ourplace-cramond>***
- 4) Attended school visit with Mr Gillies, Ange and a number of other interested parties to look at potential near-term jobs which could be actioned by parent council organised work groups.

[PREVIOUS MEETING NOTES >](#)

# SMPS ACCOMMODATION GROUP UPDATE

## 24 April 2023

# **SMPS Accommodation Group Update**

SMPC Meeting Pack

Actions since last PC meeting:

- 1) Contacted Julie Kelly (School Estate Planning Officer from CEC) and arranged a meeting to help us understand what constraints there may be within the SMPS playground and what constraints there may be in terms of the approach to equipment/planting which could be introduced.
- 2) Chaired meeting with Julie Kelly, Alan Grevers (Technical Officer, Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries CEC), Grant Gillies, Louisa Dall, John Cameron
  - 1) Notes attached in appendix
- 3) Contacted Felicity Steers director of ERZ landscape architects to discuss their thoughts on approach to development of a concept design/masterplan for the playground space...what could be achieved, what would a vision look like, what would a concept design cost?
  - 1) Fee offer and Example Reports Attached



# SMPS Playground – Meeting Notes

SMPC Meeting Pack

## SOUTH MORNINGSID PLAYGROUND, NOTES OF CEC MEETING – NO. 1.

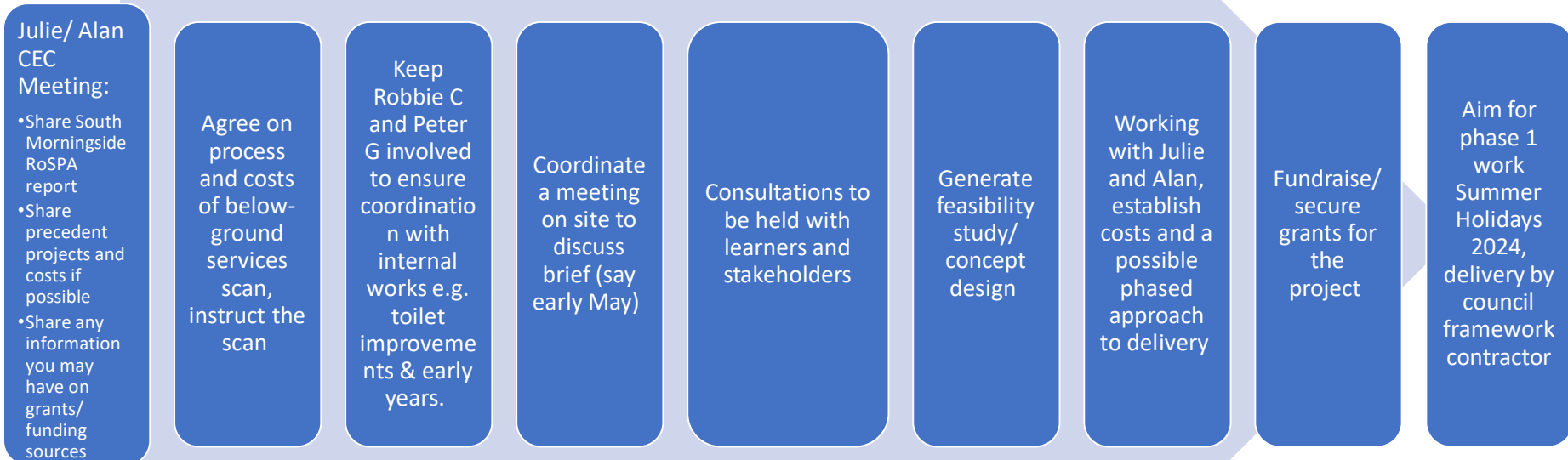
<b>Time</b>	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2023 11.00am until 12.00pm
<b>Attendees</b>	Julie Kelly (School Estate Planning Officer) , Alan Grevers (Technical Officer, Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries CEC), Grant Gillies (HT SMPS), Louisa Dall (Co-Chair SPMS), John Cameron (SMPS Acc Grp), Andrew Leiper (SMPS Acc Grp)
<b>Apologies</b>	Ange Robinson (Co-Chair SMPS)
<b>Distribution List</b>	All the above + SMPS PC + SMPS Playground Group

### NOTES:

1. Introductions made
2. Background to the meeting set out:
  - a. Pre-pandemic fundraising had been underway for SMPS playground equipment and improvements. Pandemic stopped these plans.
  - b. P1&P2 early year children will be returning to SMPS after summer 2024 for the first time in many years, they are currently sharing the new school facilities at Canaan Lane Primary School.
  - c. The facilities at SMPS need upgraded if the children in the south of the Morningside catchment are not to be left behind surrounding schools. Canaan Lane catchment and families have had £14M spent on their facilities, James Gillespie's is a new build primary school, Sciennes has just had its new teaching annex completed and has its 2015 play facilities etc.
  - d. SMPS Parents are keen to develop plans and vision for playground improvements
3. Julie clarified that there is no central budget available for playground improvements. Their remit covers fixed playground equipment and safety surfaces. The School's RoSPA (Royal Society for Prevention of Accidents) report is a key document relating to the playground and covers items such as school gates, perimeter fences, slabbing, handrails etc
4. Current RoSPA report (see appended document) highlights the following key risks: Seating classed as "medium risk", some projecting bolts, the outdoor classroom, finger entrapments associated with fencing of MUGA
5. Anything installed in the playground will need to be inspected by RoSPA and comply with EN1177 standard, there is a useful document
6. Responsibility for the safety of the playground lies with the head teacher
7. Alan and Julie mentioned Notts sport "chidsplay" safety carpet as a type of safety surface
8. Alan can assist with the design of play equipment; they both have access to council framework play equipment providers and framework landscape contractors. Julie and Alan can coordinate and organise playground works through these framework suppliers/contractors.
9. Parent council can fund works planned and organised through the council. Julie and Alan seem very "can do" and using the CEC team to finalise designs, procurement and delivery would likely be the best route.

10. Robbie Crockatt is Julie and Alan's boss; Peter Garner also works in their team. John mentioned that we should ensure that they are kept informed/involved as well to ensure that designs for any school building modifications are coordinated
11. If there is to be Planting – it may just be a case of digging up the tarmac and planting – this would be approved through Murdo McCleod Facilities Management, and he would also comment on maintenance going forward
12. Andrew asked about whether planning application or building warrant would be required, Julie suggested that they would not be needed.
13. Work would likely be undertaken during holiday periods. Likely be Easter or Summer holidays next year.
14. If some of School budget is used, summer spend has to be ring fenced from previous academic year, if PC funding required this doesn't matter
15. Sport Scotland funding was briefly mentioned, may require access to the playground
16. To help understand the constraints in the playground and underground services scan (approx. £750) would likely be an early action/spend.
17. Mr Gillies (Head teacher) made the following points:
  - Consultation, equity and disaffection needs to be carefully managed amongst the pupils.
  - Advise going through delivery with the council
  - Scanning report will be useful
  - Should organise a meeting on site as some near term next steps
  - Applying for community funding/ joint funding will be key in addition to fundraising
18. Summary key next steps:
  - Julie/ Alan Share information (next PC meeting is Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April):
    - Share South Morningside RoSPA report
    - Share precedent projects details and costs if possible (Leith walk etc)
    - Share any information you may have on grants/funding sources
    - Share playground below ground services scan quote
  - Agree process and costs of below ground services scan, instruct the scan
  - Keep Robbie C and Peter G involved to ensure coordination with internal works e.g. toilet improvements & early years.
  - Coordinate a meeting on site to discuss brief (say early May)
  - Consultation to be held with learners
  - Generate feasibility study/concept design
  - Working with Julie and Alan, establish costs and a possible phased approach to delivery
  - Fundraise/secure grants for the project
    - Aim for phase 1 work Summer Holidays 2024, delivery by council framework contractors and suppliers

# SMPS Playground – Meeting Next Steps



# SMPS Playground Meeting – Precedent Projects and Example Costs 1

## To supply only

BUBBLE TUNNEL UT/BUB	£ 2,462.40
CITY GRAVITY BOWL CGBL	£ 1,223.10
ROPE WALK (CHAIN) – SGF RWK/C/S	£ 576.45
ZIG ZAG STILTS – SGF SLZ/S	£ 791.10
Clamber Stack 3 with Stainless Steel Slide	£17,294.85

Mini basket swing £ 2,455.65

Delivery £ 560.00

**Total project cost £25,363.55**

Preliminaries	item	1	£700.00	£700.00
Install Bubble tunnel with concrete ramp	Nr.	1	£3,985.00	£3,985.00
Install Zig Zag Stilts	Nr.	1	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Install Rope walk	Nr.	1	£740.00	£740.00

Install Mini Basket Swing	Nr.	1	£1,250.00	£1,250.00
Install Gravity Bowl	Nr.	1	£450.00	£450.00
Install Clamber Stack	Nr.	1	£4,980.00	£4,980.00
Cut check in tar to boulder carpet	m	90	£7.95	£715.50
Supply and lay Nottsport EPP tiles	m2	246	£23.40	£5,756.40
Supply and install Nottstiff	m2	284	£6.45	£1,831.80
Supply and install Nottssport edge tile	Nr.	85	£21.20	£1,802.00
Supply and install Nottssport carpet	m2	332	£29.60	£9,827.20
Supply and spread sand 18-20Kg	m2	246	£6.00	£1,476.00
Nottssport Material delivery cost	item	1	£700.00	£700.00
<b>Total</b>				<b>£35,713.90</b>



<https://www.scotplay.co.uk/catalogue/junior-play/bridges-and-playmounds/bubble-tunnel/>



<https://www.scotplay.co.uk/catalogue/adventure-trail/coordination-and-balance/zig-zag-stilts/>



<https://www.scotplay.co.uk/catalogue/adventure-trail/active-crossing/rope-walk/>

<https://www.playandleisure.co.uk/wp/project/mini-basket-swing/>



<https://www.scotplay.co.uk/catalogue/junior-play/movers/gravity-bowl/>



<https://www.aeevans.co.uk/product/clamber-stack-3-with-slide/>

<https://www.aeevans.co.uk/product/clamber-stack-3-with-slide/>





# SMPS Playground – Precedent Projects and Example Costs 2

Playspace 3 £4,831.95 supply only Price doesn't include vat.



Cost to install into tarmac with Nottsport, shock pads and edging tiles (15 year guarantee) below £13,969.

Cost to install into tarmac with Nottsport, shock pads and edging tiles (15 year guarantee) below £13,969.70

Breakdown below as you can purchase these items individually:

Install combo 9	Nr.	1	£900.00	£900.00
Install log walk	Nr.	4	£80.00	£320.00
Install mini web	Nr.	1	£900.00	£900.00
Install Roll n Rope	Nr.	1	£820.00	£820.00
Install Wavy Bars	Nr.	1	£850.00	£850.00
Install Zig Zag stepper	Nr.	1	£780.00	£780.00
Cut check in tar to bolster carpet	m	66	£7.95	£524.70
Supply and lay Nottsport EPP tiles	m2	54	£23.40	£1,263.60

Supply and install Nottstiff	m2	60	£6.45	£387.00
Supply and install Nottssport edge tile	Nr.	35	£21.20	£742.00
Supply and install Nottssport carpet	m2	154	£29.60	£4,558.40
Supply and spread sand 18-20Kg	m2	154	£6.00	£924.00
Nottssport Material delivery cost	item	1	£700.00	£700.00

Premiarities

£300.00

# SMPS Playground – Precedent Projects and Example Costs 2 (alternatives)

Playspace 1 £10,059.30 Price doesn't include vat (supply only)

None of the Edinburgh Schools have purchased this option below.



Playspace 2 £6565.50 supply only Price doesn't include vat.

Delivery charge £280.00



Cost to install into grass £5300. This price includes removal of 3 pieces of old equipment.

# SMPS Playground Meeting – Natural Play

SMPC Meeting Pack

*“working in partnership to design and build high quality outdoor spaces can support both learning and healthy behaviour”....*

*“It is thus clear that there are significant benefits to engaging children in natural play within school settings”....*

Conclusions from “Natural Play: Making a difference to children’s learning and wellbeing”, A longitudinal study of the Forestry Commission Scotland-Glasgow City Council-Merrylee Primary School partnership 2008-2011 By Leslie Groves, Ph.D

# SMPS Playground Meeting – Natural Play Concept Design

SMPC Meeting Pack

Hi Andrew,

Very nice to talk to you just now. Here is a magically quick fee quote for a school feasibility study including a day of workshops with staff and kids.

An initial report that sets out the needs and requirements for the grounds and which offers a sketch design that can be used for fundraising and promotion of the works, as well as to establish a ballpark cost would be my advice as a first step. Our fees are based on a rate of £600 per day to include basic expenses (not large format printing or any exhibition materials, but travel-two trips to Edinburgh-and basic document printing).

I have set out a fee below:

RIBA Stage 0-2 Sketch design fee proposal (ex vat).

Task	Person Days
Initial site visit and workshop day	2
Desk study/site analysis	1
Sketch Design	3
Refine ideas in client review workshop with staff and kids	1
Finalise and produce report	3
	Total No. Days: 10
	Total Stage Fee: £6,000

I am also attaching a couple of recent similar studies to give you an idea of what the report would look like. These are not an exact match to your needs but show you how we package up a design report for funding etc. I also attach a Forestry Commission report on the benefits of "natural" playgrounds which is really useful for justifying good design.

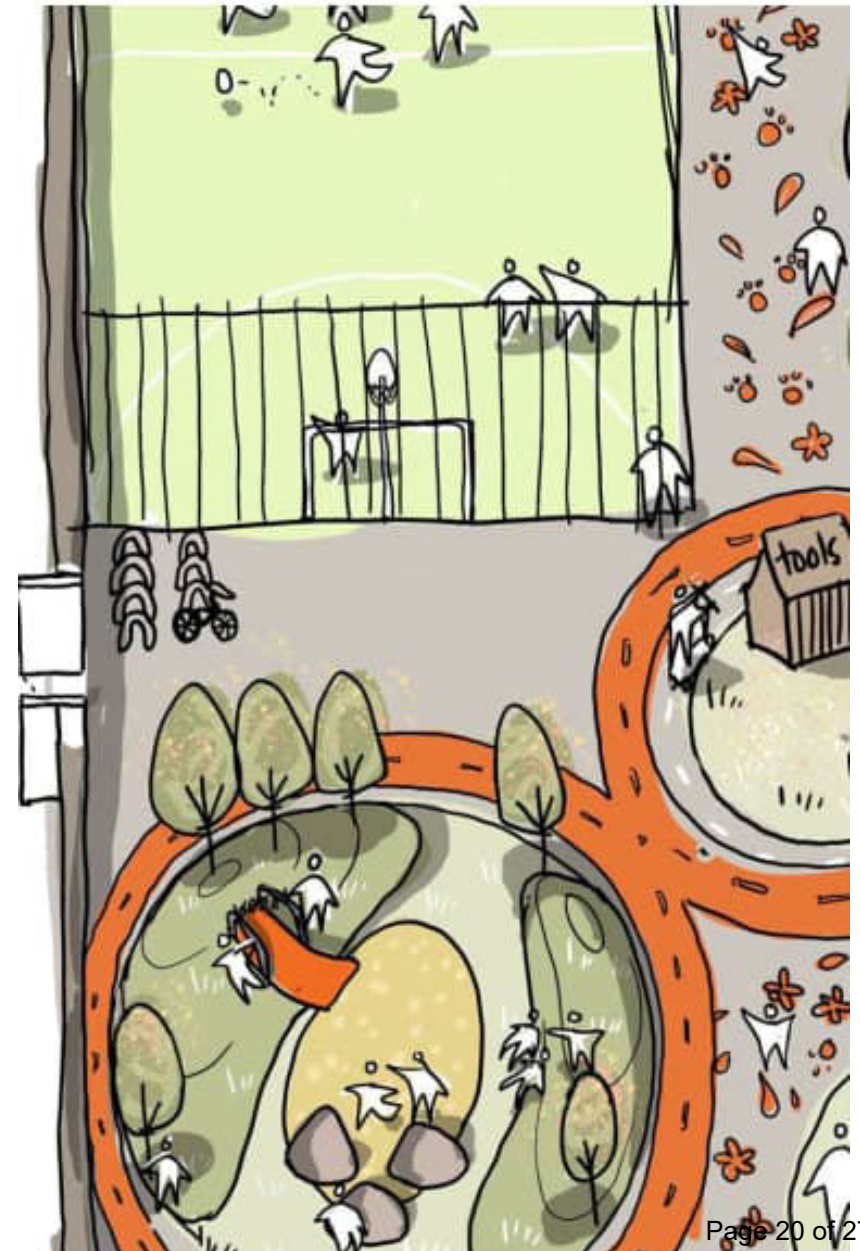
In addition, we could get a ballpark cost from our QS David Benton for about £500 ex VAT, which would be based on the sketch designs. We can also arrange a study trip to look at other school grounds – this is a really worthwhile thing to do if it can be arranged.

Best wishes

Felicity

**Felicity Steers CML**  
Director

19 June 2023



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JULY 2022

WEST DUMBARTONSHIRE ENVIRONMENT TRUST



# christie park school



"bringing the joy of the park into the school"



## creative workshop

19 June 2023

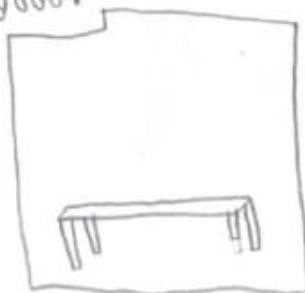
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So today  
I'm gonna tell you  
how to design a play  
ground or sound's  
good.



So if you want  
to design a play you  
need an astro turf  
foot ball pitch so you  
can get fit and when  
you fall you don't  
hurt yourself.

You are also  
gonna need a  
big grassy hill  
for children  
to run up and  
down.



### Areas for our Playground

- grassy areas
- not all flat - hills, different surfaces ie tyres, bark, grass, mud
- natural areas
- sensory areas
  - different plants
  - different smells
  - different textures
- loose parts play area
- things that'll attract wildlife

- areas that lend themselves to outdoor learning
- areas to attract wildlife
- play areas
  - raised beds for growing food/plants
- quiet areas
- sheltered areas
- areas which lend themselves to exploration, experimentation & enquiry.
- areas to hide in
- seated area
- benches

### surfaces/ground

- grass
- bark
- boggy/muddy areas
- hills
- places to climb
- tyres
- mud

### loose parts area

- crates
- wood
- tarpaulins
- ropes
- pallets
- bricks (wooden)







## SMPC Meeting Pack

1. Kitchen garden and pergola including growing beds, polytunnels and plant barrels in south-facing location.
2. New MUGA (26 x 16m) with 3m high fence and entrance gates for football, basketball etc.
3. Line of trees alongside the school building.
4. Green Play Circles; featuring different functions and characters such as storage sheds, play mounds, slides, sandpits, tunnels, trees, storytelling circles, bug hotels, willow hide-aways and natural play equipment. Circles also host essential storage sheds for play equipment such as bikes.
5. Parent drop-off zone(s) with tensile canopy for outdoor shelter and benches.
6. New carpark on the shady westerley side, new and safe walkway from back classrooms.
- Existing waste provision (large gated bin store) and bike storage (to be re-used as staff cycle parking). Existing storage container in playground re-located to here)
7. New fenced nursery garden with rill, wetplay and storage shed with a green shelter boundary to the carpark.
8. Coloured and nature-themed trail on asphalt and coloured bike trail around play circles.
9. New gateway to the park and new safe, shared surface crossing
10. New cycle storage area for pupils and new gateway to allow entry from quiet-er and safer Hill Street.

1. Kitchen garden and pergola including growing beds, polytunnels and plant barrels in south-facing location.



**Precedent:**  
- North Ayrshire School  
(erz Landscape)

Pergola and mud kitchen for sheltered play.



2. New MUGA (26 x 16m) with 3m high fence and entrance gates for football, basketball etc.



## Next steps:

The project is intentionally set up as a series of small and distinct interventions that can be developed independently as funds and time permit, building up incrementally to a complete playground transformation.

The first steps will involve establishing a project plan, that categorises each project by priority and seeks to establish timescales for delivery.

Each project will need to be designed and formally costed before serious fundraising can begin. We advise the use of a Chartered Quantity Surveyor for this purpose, unless manufacturer costs can be easily gained (for example for off the peg elements such as play boulders or climbing wall kits).

Establishing wider community support will help lend weight to any funding applications. Ideas for this would be a Friends of Christie Park School Group and a playground sub-committee in the parent and pupil councils. Funding applications will often need to come from an independent group rather than from the school itself.

## Funding:

Funding for school grounds, woodland and growing spaces is available from a variety of places, and can be supported by this document. Suggested funding partners are listed below:

Central Scotland Green Network Trust

Forestry Commission Scotland

Creative Scotland - specifically for arts projects outdoors

West Dunbartonshire Environment Trust

Local Council Area Committee

Tesco Community Grants/Bags of Help Awards

The Earnest Cook Trust

Big Lottery Fund - for Community Growing Spaces

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation - for education projects outside