

**Eilean Eisdale Directors' meeting minutes**  
**21st September 2022, 6.30pm, EE Office in the Hall**

Present: Jess Hill, Lynn Noble, Rob Hadfield, Sam Payn,

Apologies: Rob Grigg, Jackie Inch, Iain McDougall

Invitees: Bethan Smith, Neil McCrerrick

**Agenda – Easdale Island Play Area Project**

Hard copies of the following were circulated at the meeting:

Infographic (Timeline)

Easdale Island (play area) Powerpoint presentation

Play Area (proposal) document

Play park appendices

These have now also been circulated electronically to all directors.

Bethan Smith presented the proposal based on the powerpoint presentation, and invited questions from the directors.

Rob H referred to the post installation inspection, approving of this step

Neil added that there were some costs not included in the outline presented, specifically signs. He also referred to the timescale: RoSPA are available in the area to inspect on December 16<sup>th</sup>, and would need to be invited to come to inspect by 16<sup>th</sup> November.

Jess asked if the area would be fenced off in any way. Neil responded that the question would be raised in the risk assessment and the opinion of RoSPA (preferred post installation inspectors) sought.

Neil asked if the post installation inspection should be part of the capital cost of the project, or funded by EE as part of measures relating to insurance cover. No decision required now, but for discussion at the next directors' meeting.

Rob H asked about how effective the planned surface would be for bouncing the basket balls. It was agreed that throwing, rather than bouncing would be the primary activity.

Rob H queried the volume of sand needed for the sandpit den – 50kg seems low. Bethan confirmed this was the amount in the equipment specification. It was agreed this would need topping up and should be viewed as a consumable.

Neil added that a donations box would be fitted to one part of the equipment to help with fundraising for consumables.

Rob H asked about clean-up facilities for children enjoying the mud kitchen. After some discussion it was agreed that most parents should be equipped to cope with their own children, but maybe also signs indicating where there are taps would be a good idea. Access to the taps to be included in the risk assessment.

Sam raised the question of the smaller play items blowing away. Bethan said that a storage box would be sited outside the Hall under the office window and parents/islanders would be encouraged to put stuff away towards the day's end. The ferrymen have also offered to look out for stray items before the last ferry of the day.

Neil stated that the mud kitchen and sandpit den would be anchored to the ground.

Locations for the equipment on the green opposite the Hall/Puffer are, approximately:

Hyland climbing frame – over site of old sandpit where there is the remains of the concrete for an old sandpit (fuchsia bush growing there now).

The picnic bench to be moved nearer to the Puffer, for parents to sit on as childre play.

The flower beds to be moved away towards the septic tanks to be part of an informal barrier that side.

The Captain Cook to stay as is, as part of the equipment.

Neil said that those involved in the siting of the Titanic (Pirate Ship) had been consulted who had said their main error was in not levelling the site first of all. This time round, stone to be taken from below the tide line in the harbour, crushed and spread.

The previously laid rubber matting to be located and reused where possible, though there are funds for replacement where necessary.

Delivery times for the items: the climbing frame could be delivered to Glasgow in 6-8 weeks from ordering, and costs of Derek Wilson bringing it on to Ellenabeich are included in the budget. All other items are to be delivered to Ellenabeich. Tony Hill has offered to bring the equipment over to the island.

Neil pointed out that a major cost and risk factor at the start of planning the project was the requirement for and availability of a joiner to construct the equipment, but Bethan's choice of the Hyland frame is self-build, not even requiring inspection on completion, avoiding this problem.

Jess wondered about other equipment considered –rockers perhaps? Bethan answered that rockers were considered but cementing them was a major problem, whether that could be “self-build” or would need professional input. In the end it was decided to avoid these for now.

Bethan rounded off by pointing out that this is an interim solution. Many of the items could last quite some time if cared for, but if something more elaborate was needed, this solution gives the island time to work on that in the longer term.

Neil rounded off by adding that the existing swings would be included in the risk assessment and RoSPA check, to ensure they meet safety requirements.

All of the directors present agreed that the project should proceed, and added that as far as they were aware the directors not present would not object.

Meeting closed.