

Minutes of Parent Council Meeting with Friends of Hazlehead 13th April 2021

Meeting was to share what's been going on for the development of the play area and to update parent council on current status of concept, design, fundraising and prospective build timings.

Donald Shaw introduced the meeting.

School had a consultation process a few years back on the play facilities within the park, specifically involving the pupils at Hazlehead.

The project has moved forward and has no boundaries and the sky's the limit! The property is City Council owned and after consultation locally and with school Ian and Rosie from 'Jupiter' were brought on to take the ideas from the Friends of Hazlehead and local pupils forward.

Rosie has done some conceptual work making best use of the play park taking into account the wide age range of users from tiny tots to teenagers.

The current facilities are coming to the end of their useful life after 30 years or so. More recently Covid has put a halt to progress however going forward the next stage is to start the fundraising and grant application process.

The plan being to work collectively to create something good for the area. The concept has been created, the focus now has to be how we tackle the funding part.

Rosie and Ian talked us through the design process and how they have settled on the conceptual design they showed us. Based upon the narrative of the Story of Robert the Bruce and the Freedom lands, the history of Hazlehead and Aberdeen, a plan was drafted creating a bespoke play area for the park specific to the city of Aberdeen. 'Jupiter' have a vision of the park as becoming a flagship site for their company. Very careful consideration has been given to disabled users and their carers. The design promotes play amongst all ages across 6 different zones ;

Hazlehead Castle
The Battlements
Jousting Area
Ye Old Village
Knight training school
Outlaw Hideout

Jupiter really tried to use ideas from the children's designs and think about the needs of disabled users as well as the age ranges using the park. Storytelling and imaginative play being a big feature as well as encompassing the 'fort' that so many Aberdnnonians will relocate from their own childhood and playing at Hazlehead Park.

DS
Lead time from ordering is around 20 weeks.

BJ
School focus for interdisciplinary learning is The Power of Play, this project ties in well with the school focus and partnerships.

SG
Spoke briefly about an additional project which the school have in mind linking the March stones with Hazlehead Park too.

DS Fundraising will take time and effort and a collaborative approach..

Bringing in the school PA and linking with Aberdeen Parent Council Forum to aid in the fundraising process would be advantageous.

Various methods to bring in funds:

- Fundraising by schools and interested parties
- Grant applications of which BJ has a list of volunteer writers.
- Crowdfunding
- Purchasing of named plaques
- Local Philanthropists
- Local businesses sponsoring areas.

Meeting on the 29th @ 5.30pm at the Tram Shelter. This meeting will be for interested parties and specifically for those wishing to take on a role and offer help in the fundraising process.