**Items 3 & 4**

**Report of the Clerk to**

**Extraordinary Meeting of Llanllawddog Community Council of**

**28 July 2025**

**Parc y Rhyd Play Area, Rhydargaeau**

**3. Introduction**

3.1 The purpose of the report is to advise on concerns from residents living either side of the play area and to consider solutions to allay the fears of residents.

**4. Current Situation**

4.1 Sovereign Play have now completed the installation of the play area returning on 4 July 2025 to complete the remaining surfacing work for the safety zones around the play tower and swings. Sovereign have since removed the spoil and portable toilet from the site.

4.2 Following the completion of the play area, the Chairperson was asked by one of the residents next to the play area to meet with her. This he did, and in doing so the resident who had very recently moved into the property expressed concern at the height of the play tower with the garden to the property being overlooked. The resident also expressed concern as to the potential for noise from the play area and asked whether the gate to the play area would be locked each night.

4.3 In the course of those discussions, the Chairperson was approached by the resident living the other side of the play area, who raised similar concerns as to their garden being overlooked and potential loss of privacy. In addition, the resident had concerns regarding the potential for noise nuisance and anti-social behaviour emanating from the play area. Those concerns were echoed by the owner of the property although he was aware that the area was designated as a play area from the outset and conditioned as part of the planning consent for the development.

4.4 The Chairperson having listened to the concerns of the residents who reside either side of the play area assured them that their concerns would be considered by the Council to find a solution to allay the concerns raised.

4.5 In view of the concerns raised by the residents living either side of the play area, the play area although complete has yet to open with the Heras fencing remaining in place until it is deemed safe to remove.

4.6 Furthermore, the opening event agreed by the Council at its meeting on 30 June 2025 (minute no 350 refers) planned for 26 July 2025 has been cancelled due to the concerns raised by the residents living either side of the play area.

**5. Options**

5.1 Options have been investigated by the Chairperson to find a solution to give residents either side of the play area some added privacy from the play area.

5.1.1 The fixing of trellis panels to the existing boundary fence has been estimated to cost approximately £500. The Council could apply to the Wind Farm’s Grant Bach Fund to fund the cost of this work. The benefit of applying for a Grant Bach is that the application process could be turned around quickly.

5.1.2 A more costly alternative has been examined which would be to clad in timber the internal fencing. This has been estimated to cost £4,000. Again, the Council could apply to the Wind Farm but this would have to be for an additional grant for the play area as it exceeds the Grant Bach threshold of £750.

5.2 Whichever option the Council decides on would be the subject of discussion with the residents living either side of the play area together with the owner of one of the properties.

**6. Signage**

6.1 To reinforce that the play area is for use by younger children the Council is requested to authorise additional bilingual signage to this effect, which will be in addition to the signage purchased.

6.2 In accordance with minute no. 350 of the Council of 30 June 2025 trilingual and 3 bilingual BSL sings from the School Signs Shop have been ordered in the sum of £151.14.

**7. Final Invoice for the Play Area**

7.1 As Sovereign have now completed the play area, the Council has received their invoice for 75% of the cost of the play area in the sum of £33,931.26.

**8. Recommendations**

8.1 That the Council approve the fixing of trellis as in paragraph 5.1.1 above and the Clerk be authorised to apply to the Wind Farm Fund for Grant Bach funding.

8.2 That additional bilingual signage be authorised reinforcing that the play area is for use by younger children.

8.3 That Council authorise payment of the invoice to Sovereign Play in the sum of £33,931.26.

**4. Bills for Payment**

The Council has the following liabilities for which approval is requested to make payments:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Reference** | **Payee** | **Description** | **Amount £** |
| 300122 | WeDo Finance Limited  | 75% Balance for the Play Area  | 33,931.26  |
| 300123 | Print2Media | Trilingual and BSL Signage  | 151.14  |

**Andrew Rees, Clerk to Llanllawddog Community Council**