Churchill Gardens Community Association
Wednesday 15th July 2026

1. Attendance
Committee: Adam, Becky, Abby, Julie, Nick, Sune, Shell
Guests: Roy (Sutcliffe), Tim (Sutcliffe), Rebecca (BCP Parks)
Apologies: Jack, Patrick, Cath, Tea

2. Playground Redevelopment Update (Sutcliffe)
Roy, Tim and Rebecca from Sutcliffe attended the meeting to present updated proposals for the first phase of the playground redevelopment.

2.1 Phase One Overview

- Phase One has a budget of £60,000 and will focus primarily on equipment for junior-aged children.
- The committee reviewed opportunities to substitute several items previously identified as needing further consideration.

2.2 Equipment Discussion
The committee discussed a number of alternative play items, including:

- The Junior Multiplay Unit, which continued to receive unanimous support from the committee.
- The existing proposal was considered less suitable for older children, with members noting that this age group is generally attracted to more challenging, thrill-seeking and risk-based play equipment.
- The Sling Rotator was discussed as a possible alternative. This accommodates two users and is approximately £1,000 less expensive than the four-person rotator.
- Members also discussed replacing the existing Mobilis spinner, which remains well used, with a newer version.
- Costs discussed included:
    - New Mobilis – approximately £25,000
    - Four-person Rotator – approximately £16,000
- It was noted that retaining the four-person rotator could potentially allow sufficient budget for the addition of a large dish roundabout.

- The Cyclops Swinger was also presented as an option that would appeal to a wide range of age groups.

Discussion also took place regarding whether the existing roundabout could be retained to reduce costs. However, concerns were raised about its remaining lifespan and long-term viability.

Agreed Actions

The committee requested updated costings for:

- Junior Multiplay Unit
- Cyclops Swinger
- Sling Rotator
- Large Dish Roundabout

In addition, members requested a comparison of the cost difference between the Sling Rotator and a new Mobilis unit. Should the preferred option exceed the available budget, the committee agreed to explore additional fundraising opportunities.

The committee also requested that the Junior Multiplay Unit be costed with a full stainless steel slide, as this would be less susceptible to graffiti than the proposed composite-sided version. It was noted that decisions will need to be made promptly, as contractor availability is becoming limited. If agreed quickly, installation could potentially be completed before Christmas.

3. Financial Update

- Current balance: £755.60
- No significant change since the previous meeting.
- The invoice received for repainting the swings was found to be incorrect and has been queried.
- £26.17 was raised during the AGM through refreshments and donations.

Funding Update

- Becky has submitted an application to the Neighbourhood Fund, with decisions expected in the autumn.
- Committee members were encouraged to continue identifying grant opportunities that could support neighbourhood projects, events and wider community activities.

4. Election of Committee Officers

Following the AGM, the committee officer positions were confirmed as follows:

- Chair: Becky
- Vice Chair: Sune
- Secretary: Michelle ("Shell")
- Treasurer: Adam

The committee congratulated all appointed officers and thanked everyone who put themselves forward to support the association.

5. Next Steps

- Receive revised playground costings from Sutcliffe.
- Agree final equipment package for Phase One as soon as possible.
- Continue exploring grant funding and fundraising opportunities.
- Await the outcome of the Neighbourhood Fund application.

6. Next Meeting - Weds 19th Aug @ 6.30 - 7.30pm