

### **Playground Committee -Report**

The Committee's main task continues to be to progress the renewal of the Bourdillon Field playground. This has involved applying for planning permission for an extension to the playground, inviting tenders from potential suppliers of playground equipment, evaluating the tenders received and deciding on a preferred supplier to recommend to Council.

#### **Planning Application:**

The planning application submitted (ref: P24/S3823/FUL) for the proposed extension to the existing playground area has now been approved. When the final design, the equipment to be supplied, and the nature of any works required are known the Council can apply for approval as permitted development which should take 2 weeks. If more substantial 'engineering' work (e.g. the laying of extensive poured surfacing) is involved, a full planning application will be needed which will require biodiversity and arboricultural reports. A contract with the preferred supplier cannot be signed until planning permission has been secured.

#### **Tenders**

Tenders were received from six suppliers on 7<sup>th</sup> February. The suppliers bidding were:

Wicksteed, Eibe, Komplan, Playscheme, Proludic and Sutcliffe.

#### **Evaluation**

The Evaluation Work Group developed an evaluation scheme setting out the principal criteria and, within those criteria, their elements and the weighting to be attached to them. Each member of the Evaluation Group has individually and separately assessed and scored the tenders with their scores then aggregated to form a basis for ranking bids.

The Evaluation Group has met three times to review the bids in detail. At its last meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> February, when the aggregated scores were evaluated, it decided on a preferred supplier/design to recommend to the Playgrounds Committee. The Evaluation Group considered that the preferred supplier's design required some changes and there will be discussions with the supplier accordingly without at this stage letting them know their status.

References from three Councils that currently use the preferred supplier are being taken up..

#### **Council Decision**

The Playgrounds Committee are planning to put their recommendation for a supplier to Full Council at an extraordinary meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> March. The recommendation will include options for variations in design and associated costs.

.