



BEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

The Clerk to the Council, 5 Foreland Road, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, PO35 5XN

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PRESS RELEASE – STEYNE PARK PROJECT – PEOPLES MILLIONS GRANT

Bembridge Parish Council has taken on a long term lease of Forelands Playing Field from the Isle of Wight Council with a term of 50 years on a peppercorn rent. The playing field is immediately adjacent to Steyne Park recreation ground.

The Parish Council set up a project group in April 2014 to look into the provision of sports and facilities across Steyne Park and Forelands Playing Field with the aim of maximising use, increasing the variety of sports and participation.

The public consultation concluded on 1st August and responses at the Summer Festival stall. The results were as follows:-

- Outdoor Gym
- Tennis
- Running track
- Cricket nets
- 5 a Side Football
- Nature Trail
- Skateboard area extension
- Wildlife Garden
- Youth football
- Garden area
- Rugby
- Basketball
- Senior football
- Netball
- Hockey

The Steyne Park Project Group decided that the top 10 outcomes will feature in the delivery plan over the next few years.

Therefore the Outdoor Gym as the top priority was included in a grant application for the ITV Peoples Millions funds via Big Lottery. The grant total is £49,979 for the installation of an outdoor gym area, resurfacing of the existing 3 play and swing areas plus new benches, bins and picnic tables.

Bembridge has previously won 2 project appeals from the People's Millions for Play Equipment in 2006 and the Community Bus in 2007.





RESULTS

Unfortunately Bembridge did not receive the highest number of public votes yesterday and were beaten by the winners Bournemouth Borough Council's Winton Play Garden.

However we did win the best runner up prize across all projects aired during the week by ITV Meridian news and still received the full grant funding applied for £49,979.

Please see below photograph of the dedicated volunteers who took part.



The removal of the old cycle mound, installation of the outdoor gym equipment and new play area surfaces will commence in January and hopefully be ready for a grand opening in the spring.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who spent hours handing out leaflets and spreading the message to vote for the Steayne Park Project and to all of the residents and members of the public who voted for us. Without your commitment none of this would be possible.

Emma Goldring
Bembridge Parish Clerk
27th November 2014 (embargoed until 6.30pm)