

WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

SPECIAL FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
7TH AUGUST 2000

Present: Mr. Maynard (Chairman), Mr. Dennis, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Vearncombe and the Clerk.
In attendance: Mr. Lehner

Play Area Project.

This meeting was taken in Part II.

Last week it became known that there were problems with Miracle (UK) as they had gone into liquidation. At that point it was thought that it could all be sorted out so the work continued. The equipment that had been reserved by Miracle (UK) had been impounded but alternative equipment was offered from Miracle (Europe) stores to replace it, although no swing was available. This had all been arranged through the agent for Miracle Europe. The revised equipment duly arrived, but it was not what had been ordered and the installer who brought the equipment was unaware that a double stage lift and longer slide were required. The registered installer found an alternative swing which was ordered and this has now been installed. Also there were problems with the sub-contractors wanting to be paid. On Saturday amid concerns about the equipment and the company it was decided that all work on the site should stop until the situation had been resolved with the receivers, James McIntyre.

On 7th August Miracle (Europe) stated that they had taken over the whole contract from Miracle (UK) and that an agent had been appointed would deal with it within the UK. A fax concerning this was received but was in need of clarification.

The legal advice that has been given to the Council is that, provided there is written confirmation that the contract has been taken over by Miracle (Europe) and their representative has been identified there should be no problem, although no money should be discussed or paid until further legal advice has been sought.

The receivers cannot give any information until Monday when the person who is dealing with it is back from holiday. The Order is before the Court but has not yet been heard.

The Clerk will contact Miracle (Europe) to clarify the position of the agent in relation to Miracle (Europe) and to establish that we are dealing solely with Miracle (Europe), who our contact is, how the companies fit together and what rate of VAT will be payable. She will also contact the receivers when they are available.

Mindful of the delicate situation and the lack of communication between individuals and the appropriate Committee and the need to bring the whole project together it was proposed that the Finance and General Purposes Committee with the Chairman of Environment and Leisure, as a guest on that Committee for this issue, should in future deal with this. This proposal was carried and will be recommended to the next Council Meeting.

Closure: There being no further business the meeting was closed at 6.55 p.m.

