

KINGSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

calls out for votes to bag a share of bag charge fund

Kingsbridge Town Council is bidding to bag a massive cash boost from the **Tesco Bags of Help initiative**.

Tesco teamed up with Groundwork to launch its community funding scheme, which sees grants of £4,000, £2,000 and £1,000 – all raised from the 5p bag levy – being awarded to local community projects.

Three groups in every Tesco region have been shortlisted to receive the cash award and shoppers are being invited to head along to Tesco stores to vote for who they think should take away the top grant. Kingsbridge Town Council is one of the groups on the shortlist.

Our project is to install a top quality outdoor table tennis table in the Recreation Ground, Kingsbridge, for all ages and abilities to enjoy and have fun!

The Recreation Ground, Kingsbridge is an asset of, and managed by, South Hams District Council. In partnership with our principal authority, we have worked very hard to enhance the park from a sorry state in 2007 to its present status as the only Green Flag park in the South Hams. It includes a children's play area, teen zone, café, bowling green and tennis courts. The Town Council has also introduced a putting green, sensory flower beds, picnic tables, public seats, petanque court, goalposts and Trim Trail exercise equipment.

However, we do not wish to sit on our laurels and recognise the need to enhance the recreational facilities available. Time and time again, during conversations with the local community, requests for an outdoor table tennis table have been received and we aim to deliver! They are extremely popular and we have viewed them at other locations. The District Council support the proposal and a suitable location has been

For more information contact the Tesco Press Office on 01707 918 701

Tesco is a team of 480,000 colleagues, in 11 markets around the world. We are dedicated to serving shoppers a little better every day.

agreed near the children's play area. The Town Council intends to supply a concrete plinth for the table as the playing surface needs to be perfect. This will be suitable for wheelchair users. Several models of table tennis tables have been considered and the Cornilleau park table has been earmarked which is ultra-resistant and completely waterproof.

Chris Povey, Kingsbridge Town Mayor, said: "Everyone loves a game of 'ping pong' as it's fantastic fun whether you're a novice or expert. Indeed, we are confident that it will be played by different generations during different times of day as evidenced by use of the Trim Trail exercise equipment. I really feel that table tennis will be a very welcome and exceptionally well used addition to the Recreation Ground's menu. We hope you will support it. Thank you."

Voting is open in stores throughout May and June. Customers will cast their vote using a token given to them at the check-out in store each time they shop.

Tesco's Bags of Help project has already delivered over £28.5 million to more than 4,000 projects up and down the UK. Tesco customers get the chance to vote for three different groups every time they shop. Every other month, when votes are collected, three groups in each of Tesco's regions will be awarded funding.

Lindsey Crompton, Head of Community at Tesco, said: "We are absolutely delighted to open the voting for May and June. There are some fantastic projects on the shortlists and we can't wait to see them come to life in hundreds of communities."

Groundwork's National Chief Executive, Graham Duxbury, said: "We've been thrilled to see the diversity of projects that have applied for funding, ranging from outdoor classrooms, sports facilities, community gardens, play areas and everything in between. We're looking forward to learning the results of the customer vote and then supporting each group to bring their project to life."

Funding is available to community groups and charities looking to fund local projects that bring benefits to communities. Anyone can nominate a project and organisations can apply online. To find out more visit www.tesco.com/bagsofhelp