

King George V Playing Field Committee Meeting – 6th July 2016 7.30 at the Pavilion

Apologies: Andrew Holdsworth, Jane Donovan, Jonathan Taylor

Attendees: Reg Stone (Chair), David Richards, Kelvin Speirs (Cricket), Tina Lambert (Honeybees), Judy Lawrenson (Stoolball), Emma Elford

The minutes of the last meeting had been distributed prior to the meeting and were agreed/signed.

Matters Arising:

a) Radiator guards – Quote received for 5 radiator guards (much slimmer) £538 inc. VAT. One radiator to be moved to improve accessibility – a quote is being sought. This item will go before the Finance Committee meeting for a final decision. All present at the meeting agreed the matter.

b) Outfield – work had been done yesterday (5th July) and a good job done. £150 + VAT was quote given for the job. KS asked if Junior Football could do a bit of 'end of season' work to their pitch eg basic repair work around goalmouth. Junior Football may contribute to this.

User Reports:

Cricket – Currently struggling to get two 11's out most weeks which is disappointing. RS asked whether an 'ad' in the Parish Mag might bring in new members. KS suggested one of the problems was the lack of cricket being played in some Secondary schools.

Honeybees – The pre-school was doing well. A big effort had been made by the Fundraising team. September will be starting well with 26 children (a number of younger children coming and several from the 'new build' properties within the village). Most children come from within the village but interest has been expressed from outside the village. New qualified staff will be required for September.

Stoolball – We have had some good wins this season and some of the matches lost have been close games. There is a shortage of players for some games but we have always managed to field a team – some of our older members making up the numbers! We do have some younger players but they are not always available due to work commitments, injury for example.

There had been a Stoolball England Schools Tournament held on the field today. Where Stoolball is played in schools it is hoped youngsters would continue their interest in the game at village club level. It is thought that our local secondary school doesn't offer Stoolball as part of the summer PE curriculum.

Interestingly at present there are only two/three stoolballers living in the village – all the others coming from outside the village (though a good many have Plumpton 'roots'.)

No reports from Archery, Junior Football or Football.

General Maintenance:

a)Electricals – A shower problem had been reported; someone coming tomorrow (7th) to try and resolve it (and move the radiator, as discussed earlier in the meeting.)

A quote for £140 received for new lights in the 'social room' – the job has still to be addressed but is being looked at.

b) Alarm – Not working – awaiting Andy Upton to repair it. RS to email IE to find out what progress is being made on the matter. RS has an alternative contact if need be.

c) Play Area and Field – An observation from a village resident reported an area of fencing where dogs can get into the Play area. Sand needs replacing – bulk bags of sand have been delivered and someone is lined up for the job. The sand bags at present are preventing the gate from opening fully. KS asked if they could be moved by Sunday 10th July as access needed through the gate. The benches needed a permanent repair/fix in the Play area. Perhaps when that job is done, the person could look into fixing the fence as well.

Another local resident had written to the Parish Council about some issues:

Large bags on part of the field – KS to find out who they belong to (possibly the Football Club – sand)

Fallen tree by Percy's Patch – a tree specialist had looked at the tree and feels it is safe. A quote of £250 had been received for stripping leaves, mulching, chopping larger branches.

Barbed wire, rubbish, vegetation had been dumped – the local farmer had agreed to tidy it up.

The Parish Council owns Percy's Patch but a nearby area of land does not belong to the Parish Council.

d) Drainage – RS met with Ray Nye and a contractor who is preparing an estimate with various options for proper drainage. The field needs to be 'fit for purpose'. The matter is progressing. Most of the Playing Field will be drained. Depending on the type of drainage, it could be expensive. Work could be planned around the ground usage. Previous drainage was done but the gravel was placed too deep – it needs to be nearer the surface.

New Pavilion: views from users

Cricket – feel they could not support a large figure/fund raising.

Honeybees – not had chance to discuss it yet

Stoolball – Would support the majority view and would be willing to offer help in practical terms if the refurbishment route was taken.

KS – the project had been 'on the go' for 6+ years. He expressed disappointment that other users hadn't provided their current viewpoint.

Memorial Tree – Alice Brinkhurst

Mr Gregory had met with the committee before the start of the meeting. His suggestion was to plant a Rowan tree in the spot where a previous tree has fallen/been removed (not too far from the cricket nets.) He said the family were very happy with the suggestion of a tree being planted in memory of Alice. The committee fully agreed with the suggestion. RS will liaise with Mr Gregory.

Woodland Walk:

Mr R. Wells was no longer opposing it. The fence belongs to the Parish Council as does the patch of land between the stream and the fence.

Other business:

Bolt on the utility room – a request made for it to be lowered 6"-9" and a proper bolt put on. DR will sort this out.

Dustpan and brush has gone missing!

Outside toilet key missing – KS reported that it had disappeared during the day today. He will get a new one cut if it doesn't turn up.

KS to notify DR of any maintenance issues.

Toilet blocking – there had been a problem, often due to excessive use of paper. KS knows of a man who can sort this out.

Meeting closed at 8.25pm

Next meeting: Wednesday 7th September 2016, 7.30pm in Sports Pavilion.