



Minutes of the Wellow Recreation Trustees Meeting

held on the 8th June 2021 via Zoom

Present: Beth Jackson – Chair
Mike Clarkson - Treasurer
Debbie Clarkson - Secretary
Heather Andrews
Sue Chivers
Sophie Hart
Giles Pearman
Jonathan Wyld

1. Apologies - None received.

2. Approve Minutes and Matters Arising - minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

3. Election of Officers

All existing officers were re-elected by a unanimous vote. DC expressed her wish to step back from her position as Secretary until a replacement can be found. The Trustees will have the following areas of responsibilities:

Beth Jackson - Chairman
Mike Clarkson - Treasurer
Debbie Clarkson - Secretary and Parish Council Representative
Sue Chivers - Parish Council Representative
Giles Pearman - Lead fund-raiser
Jonathan Wyld - Legal & Constitutional Adviser
Heather Andrews - Community Chest Liaison
Sophie Hart - Communications

4. Play Park

MC reported that 2 of the snagging issues identified in the inspection had been fixed, namely the height of the 'pull up' bars had been reduced and the brake on the circular swing had been released. However the erosion of the earth above the tunnels had still not been addressed by the contractor who had attempted to charge extra for this work. The retention monies totalling 5% of the contract value are still in our account.

SC reported that the circular swing is very noisy. MC promised to investigate with the supplier.

BJ has met with Alice Lancaster and received positive feedback on the quality of the play equipment and on the proposed final piece of equipment so she proposed that we should go ahead with 'Phase 2 ' of the project.

MC agreed to circulate the specification of the equipment as some trustees were unsure whether £13,000 represented value for money.



DC mentioned that if the final piece of equipment was no longer wanted the outstanding monies would make a significant start to a play park 'sinking fund'. HA mentioned that it was a mistake for the original play park to have lacked a 'sinking fund'. It was agreed that after the project is finally complete we will arrange for the Parish Council to create a 'sinking fund'.

BJ stated that we will need to kick off a community funding initiative to raise the additional £8,000 required. DC suggested a 'ball roll'. GP mentioned that Sport England is overwhelmed with funding applications and that Wellow doesn't fulfil the main criteria for a capital project in a 'deprived community'. However there may be Sport England support available with match funding for 'crowd-funding' projects.

JW proposed requesting a donation of £2,500 from the Village Hall as they had been successful in obtaining government grants during the pandemic.

5. Accounts

Income & Expenditure (all accounts)

MC presented the Income and Expenditure accounts for the period ending 7 June for both Wellow Recreation and the Sports Pavilion, together with the report of amounts 'ring fenced' for the various sports and arts groups. Current account cash balance is £7,997 with £2,401 ring fenced for the play park project and £2,224 for sports and arts groups.

It was agreed that as the playing field had been closed for large parts of the past 12 months, no contribution towards field maintenance would be made on individual ring fenced funds, although Boules were happy to contribute £40 from their funds with WR.

The Pavilion although closed to the public is showing a small surplus of £41

MC stated that it will be important to re-launch the Pavilion in July once the pandemic restrictions have been removed and that the Community Chest should be encouraged to hold at least one fund raising event, the Sparkle Party before the end of the year.

6. Pavilion Status

DC reported that the Sports Pavilion is still unavailable to the public due to current Covid-19 restrictions. It was however used as a polling station on May 6th and in return payment was received from B&NES for the sum of £80. A birthday party was also held mainly outdoors in the veranda and court area with the Pavilion used in a Covid compliant manner. WVT waived their charge for the courts and therefore the sum of £106 was received in May.

The WC has continued to remain open and whilst there has been very little abuse to the facilities there have been reports that children are often seen playing in the building. MC suggested the changing of the code which he will organise with the installers Bath Lock & Key.

All WVT members and sports leaders will be advised of the new code.



The WC continues to be cleaned twice a week by Liz Wharton, the cost shared between WR and WVT.

DC will explore possible activities that could be held on a regular basis in the building once the restrictions have been lifted. Bridge classes have been proposed and at the AGM Whist evenings were suggested. The Honesty Box system for refreshments will also be reinstated at a future date.

MC reported that the finances of the Pavilion were very healthy mainly due to savings provided by the free Truespeed broadband connection from the Village Hall..

7. Field Status

i) MC reported that the Parish Council has agreed to pay the contractor Andy Boyce for laying additional pipes on the playing field which will provide extra drainage capacity.

ii) DC reported that the new noticeboard has now been erected. A key has been given to Sara Scollo (WVT) and that DC will be responsible for the content from the other sports. It is envisaged that this is an area in which the D of E young people will be involved.

iii) BJ met with Andy Smith, MC, Sara & Barry Scollo to discuss growing opportunities for activities on the playing field. The Scollos expressed their interest in fitness classes, possibly with a tennis slant. It was agreed that they would put forward their ideas.

BJ reported that she had met with SS to discuss sport opportunities that would attract schools. Whilst she was impressed with the uptake Raph was generating with Monday evening football, unfortunately, she does not have the time to fit anything in this term. It had been hoped that there would have been an opportunity to put on some taster sessions to gauge interest from parents ahead of the new school year but unfortunately that will not be possible.

BJ said that she had approached St Julian's in regard to holding the school sports day on the playing field but has since received confirmation from Mrs Parker that they will be using other facilities nearby. Mrs Parker did say that she would look again at using our facilities.

DC said that finding staff and volunteers to escort the children from the school to the playing field poses a problem but all agreed that efforts should be made to encourage the school to use the playing field more often.

8. Communications

Sophie Hart is to take the lead with communications and has already had a handover meeting with ex-trustee Kathryn Black. Following WR's advertisement asking for two D of E students WR now has two candidates, Isabel Shepherd and Ollie Chapman. They will carry out 20 hours of volunteering in our communications area. KB has proposed that she holds a virtual tutorial to show them around the website. Once this has been completed, SH will decide how to move forward with WR's communications.

SH explained that there are still difficulties to be overcome with the WR website and that there may be a case for hosting it through a different server. It was agreed that Ollie Chapman will speak to the present host to discuss the situation.

WELLOW RECREATION



It was agreed that WR is fortunate to have these young volunteers working with WR.

9. Wellow Weekend

JW and DC reported that the Wellow Weekend team are working on the plans for the weekend which will involve events and activities for all ages over the 9th-11th July. BJ reported that she has been asked to set up a Wellow 'Map Run' that operates via an app and where runners can pick up points along the route. It was agreed that this activity could be easily incorporated under the Wellow Sports umbrella.

10. AOB

HA to make contact with Amanda Dennes re Community Chest future plans.

GP asked about Andy Smith's idea to construct an additional tennis court within the area leased by WVT and which could also be used for other sports and fitness classes. DC and MC reported that no formal proposal has been received.

HA reported on the proposed Outdoor Theatre production Dr Doolittle to be held on the playing field on the 31st August and that it was important that Bea Dowty the organiser receives support with the event.

DC reported that a request had been made from the Wellow Weekend team for a sandpit in the playpark. SH to speak to Rachel Kotchie.

DC