

Management Committee of the King George V Playing Field, Hunton
Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 11th March 2026 at 8:15pm
at Hunton Village Club, West Street, Hunton
Charity number 1084141

Present:	Mr Colin Slattery (Chairman)	Hunton Bowls Club
	Mrs Angela Baptie	Hunton Bowls Club
	Mr Danny Peacock	Hunton Football Club
	Mr Simon Taylor	Hunton Cricket Club
	Mr David Heaton	Hunton Parish Council

Secretary: Mrs Sharon Goodwin

Apologies:	Mr Scott Elliott	Hunton Football Club
	Mr Steve Jones	Hunton Cricket Club

1. Welcome

The Chairman (Colin Slattery) welcomed everyone to the meeting and expressed his appreciation to Steve Jones (who could not attend) for chairing the last meeting.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting on 14th January 2026. Copies had been distributed to all Trustees and Parish Councillors and were as usual available on request.

3. Matters arising

- Broken post and refixing/replacing the safety net -> DH advised that Acorn Plant & Tool Hire have stopped hiring out pedestrian cherry pickers. There is a company in Tovil that does hire them out but it may be necessary to pay for an operative in addition. CS will investigate. ST will contact a member of the cricket team who used to use a cherry picker. DH has not obtained the concrete splines to reinforce three of the posts yet as the ground is too wet. They will need to be installed before the ground gets too dry and hardens.
- There has been mole activity at the end of the bowls green, so they are likely to be in the Community Orchard. CS will set traps on the bowls green side. There are not many rabbits around.
- Robert Cox sent a note with his latest invoice to say that he will move the blue covering and cut back the brambles on the northern boundary of the field when it is dry enough for the tractor to go on the field.
- DH is still unable to access Unity Trust Bank for internet banking. It was agreed that there are sufficient signatories (CS, ST and SJ), so there is no need for DH to pursue it.
- DH will fill the pothole at the entrance to the car park when the weather is drier. The Pre-School mentioned that the parents have been commenting on the hole at the entrance to the car park. DH will use tarmac for the hole at the entrance and Type 1 aggregate in the car park when it is dry enough.
- CS has unblocked the culvert to reduce the amount of water running down West Street as it causes the potholes at the entrance to the car park. A village resident has also

unblocked the gulley recently.

- CS will repoint the wall at the entrance to the car park soon. CS noted that a split salt bag has been left in the car park. If it is still there next week, CS will spread the salt on the car park.

4. Health & safety

- SG did not conduct a play area inspection in January as The Play Inspection Company undertook the annual inspection. SG carried out an inspection on 18th February which was circulated by email. There was not much change from the previous report - some rot on the newest step on the trim trail. All items are low risk.
- The report and a summary of the findings from The Play Inspection Company annual play area inspection was circulated by email. All findings are low or very low risk.
- The annual play area inspection report did not recommend that the remaining six posts on the multiplay equipment need replacing, but it was agreed that it would be worthwhile to replace them so they are of a similar age to the posts replaced the previous year. It was agreed that SG should also ask Playscape for a quote to replace the slide platform at the same time. The responses to the Parish Council community questionnaire may identify other work that residents would like to see on the play area.
- Maidstone Borough Council (MBC) have confirmed that a grant of £2,156 is available until 31st March 2028 to the Parish Council, to spend on maintenance or capital expenditure in the play area.
- SG will send details of the broken slats on the Community Orchard bench to Sustainable Furniture for a quote (for the Parish Council). DH will fit the replacement slats when there is a Community Orchard working party.

5. Finance

- The Income & Expenditure report to 28th February 2026 was noted. There will be £3,194 in funds remaining after the outstanding invoices have been paid at the meeting.
- Payments made since the last meeting are:
Unity Trust Bank (service charges - December/January) - £12.00
- CS has asked Steven Waring for advice to improve the condition of the cricket outfield. Steven has suggested harrowing (spike harrow) when the ground is dry, which will remove worm casts and dead grass. The cost would be £80 to £90. ST noted that the outfield is very uneven and would require a couple of cuts before harrowing. CS will speak to Steven again to confirm the cost and ST will speak with SJ to check he is happy for the ground to be harrowed.
- CS advised that Steven Waring will be sending a quote for grass cutting in 2026/27. There is likely to be a 5% increase as diesel prices have risen. SG will compare the grounds maintenance costs between Steven Waring and the previous contractor, Landscape Services,
- The water meter reading remains unchanged from 6312 on 19th December to 18th March. The Castle Water account balance is £229.47 in credit.
- The Parish Council has agreed the grant request of £8,000 for 2026/27 for the Playing Field Committee (the same as last year); trustees were appreciative of the grant allocation.
- The following payments were approved:

Maidstone Borough Council - Bin emptying (January/February)	£150.00
The Play Inspection Company Ltd - Annual play area inspection	£162.00

Robert Cox - Cutting the beech hedge between the Bowls Club and cricket outfield

£215.00

CS and ST will authorise the payments set up by SG online.

6. Administration

- The insurance renewal documentation has been received from Clear Insurance Management at a cost of £131 (£116 last year). The policy is with Markel Ltd. The professional liability and management liability limits are both £250,000. It was agreed that the insurance should be renewed with Clear Insurance Management.

7. Other parish news

- The Community Projects questionnaires have been distributed and responses have been received. The Parish Council will be reviewing the results at the next meeting on 16th March. If anything is relevant to the recreation ground it will be passed on.
- An event to celebrate the centenary of the Village Hall will be held on 25th July in the hall. There is a cricket match at home that day (1:30pm to 6pm) but that should not be an issue.
- There was a good response to the defibrillator training which took place in January.
- No further information has been received on the polytunnels to be located on Barn Hill; the planning application has not been submitted yet.

8. Any other matters

- The terms and conditions for an event to be held on the field on 20th June were agreed:
 - Public access must be allowed to all parts of the field, play area and car park at all times, including the area where the event is being held.
 - An entrance fee cannot be charged due to the public access requirement, but stalls can charge.
 - All litter must be removed and taken home. The field bins and Village Hall bin must not be used.
 - A tape barrier should be erected between the outfield of the cricket pitch and the area being used for the event to deter people from encroaching on the cricket square and outfield.
 - The organiser must provide insurance details for the supplier of any inflatables.
 - Event insurance should be taken out by the organiser.
 - If the weather is dry, cars could park on the field in agreed areas, but access will not be allowed if the ground is wet. A member of the Committee will need to open the gate to allow cars to access the field if conditions allow.

SG will inform the organiser.

- DH has been locking the car park barrier on a regular basis, which has stopped people drinking alcohol in the car park and reduced the amount of litter. The Bowls Club will lock up when they are playing regularly.
- CS advised that it will be the 90th anniversary of the Bowls Club this year. There will probably be a barbecue (in August) and the Open Day will be held. The toilets in the clubhouse are being revamped, new windows have been installed and new flooring laid in the changing areas.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 6th May 2026 at Hunton Village Club

The meeting ended at 9:20pm.