

**Management Committee of the King George V Playing Field, Hunton**  
**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 8:15pm**  
**at Hunton Village Club, West Street, Hunton**  
Charity number 1084141

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

Secretary: Mrs Sharon Goodwin

Apologies: Mr Tony Stanbridge Hunton Parish Council

**1. Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Copies had been distributed to all Trustees and Parish Councillors and were as usual available on request.

**3. Matters arising**

- Outstanding items on the minor works list:
  - Replace the missing post on the activity trail -> currently too wet - will be replaced in the Spring.
  - Infill the tractor rocker with play bark or shredded rubber -> currently too - will be replaced in the Spring.
  - Refix the safety net -> this can only be done with a cherry picker.
- ST will contact Tate Fencing about a gate near the cricket pavilion/shed.
- Rabbits are active under the cricket pavilion and by the orchard and Bowls Club, but there is no activity on the cricket outfield or cricket square. No mole activity.
- DH/SJ will check the container to determine the shelving/storage requirements.
- A working party has tidied the Community Orchard. The gate/posts still need to be reinstated.
- Action on items noted on the boundary walk in July 2023:
  - The lower branches need to be removed from the tree near the football pitch -> the branches will be removed by Hood's Tree Services when the Parish Council VTA remedial work is undertaken on the field in the Spring. Other VTA work affecting the field will be Poplar removals on the north boundary and any work necessary on the Turkey Oak following the climbed inspection.
  - The tree needs to be cut back near the security light above the container -> Hood's Tree Services have completed this work.
- ST has not received a reply from the original electrical contractor for the pavilion about

the C2/C3 issues raised on the EICR. ST will circulate the email he sent and chase up the contractor. As the quote for remedial work is approximately £1,300 plus VAT, the Parish Council may wish to consider obtaining an EICR from another electrician as a second opinion.

- SG, ST and SJ have been able to access Unity Trust Bank internet banking; DH to try to access.
- Robert Cox has cut the beech hedge.
- SJ has circulated details of the 1500mm 2/3 seat composite bench for the fenced play area. It costs £417.26 (including VAT) plus £27.80 for the anchor kit; delivery is free of charge. The discount for purchasing two benches is only 5%; it was agreed that only one should be purchased. It was agreed that a stainless-steel plaque could be added later, at a cost of £56.23 for the plaque, including engraving.
- SE still needs to find someone who can make a strut for the bench near the football pitch. ST will give the strut back to SE.
- SE has obtained a quote of £2,500 to supply and fit a boiler in the Football Club changing rooms. SG and ST may also be able to obtain additional quotes.
- DH will order scalplings to fill the potholes in the car park over the Easter break, when the car park is less busy.

#### 4. Health & safety

- SG undertook a play area inspection on 29<sup>th</sup> February which has been circulated by email. All items are low risk, apart from the corrosion of the multiplay boxwork which is medium risk.
- The annual play area inspection report from The Play Inspection Company Ltd found the corrosion/perforation of the boxwork to be moderate risk. SG checked the quote obtained from Laddingford Engineering three years ago for new boxwork - £1,662 including VAT. It was agreed that the best option would be to repair it. The platform can be removed in the Spring to view the boxwork properly; the edges of the platform will also be sanded. DH knows of someone in the village who can weld, so he will speak to him.
- It was agreed that SG should send a repeat order form to The Play Inspection Company Ltd to schedule the inspection for 2025.

#### 5. Finance

- The Income & Expenditure report to 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024 was noted. There will be £2,686 in funds remaining after the outstanding invoices have been paid at the meeting.
- The payments made since the last meeting are:  
DD - Castle Water x 2 (water charges - January/February) - £288.92
- SJ took a water meter reading which SG submitted to Castle Water. Prior to this, notification was received from Castle Water that the direct debit had increased from £14.28 to £144.46 per month.
- Landscape Services have quoted £1,445.39 for 21 cuts of the field, a 7% increase on 2023 costs. Steven Waring will be visiting the field within the next few days and will then provide a quote per cut (he uses a cylinder mower). Morgan Miller will also provide a quote. SG will circulate the two outstanding quotes by email once received so a decision can be made as the grass cutting needs to start soon. SJ noted that some clubs buy or hire ride-on mowers, but it would be necessary to store and maintain a mower, as well as find someone to do the mowing.

- SE stated that the football pitch is currently unplayable. He would like to book in a contractor who uses a quadreplay, to cut/roll/spike the pitch over the winter months. This would keep the grass short and improve the playing surface at the same time. SE asked if the Playing Field Committee would be prepared to fund the cost (£200 for each cut). SJ, ST and CS noted that the Bowls Club and Cricket Club use their own funds to maintain their playing surfaces; it was suggested that the Football Club could apply to the FA for grants to improve the surface. However, consideration was given to extending the grass cutting into the winter and improving the quality of the field as a whole. It was agreed that a strategy should be considered for next winter.

- The following payments were approved:

Maidstone Borough Council - Bin emptying (January/February)	£150.00
Robert Cox - Cutting the beech hedge	£215.00
Hunton Village Hall Committee - Contribution towards drainage and treatment plant costs 2022	£286.00
Clear Insurance Management Ltd - Trustees' professional/management insurance	£116.00
Sharon Goodwin - Reimbursement for annual garden waste subscription	£90.00

SJ 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 £116 (£81 last year). The professional liability and management liability limits are both £250,000. It was agreed that SG should renew the insurance with Clear Insurance Management.

## 7. Other parish news

- DH advised that there had been a huge fire in Hunton at Gennings Park.
- DH noted that the Hunton Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 20<sup>th</sup> May and the Hunton Parish Council election will be held on 2nd May.

## 8. Any other matters

- SG asked when the brambles and nettles should be cut back behind the football pitch and cricket pavilion this year. It was agreed that early Summer would be the best time, with an additional cut in Autumn if necessary.

**Date of next meeting: Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at Hunton Village Club**

The meeting ended at 9:45pm.