

Management Committee of the King George V Playing Field, Hunton
Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 14th January 2026 at 8:15pm
at Hunton Village Club, West Street, Hunton
Charity number 1084141

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

Secretary: Mrs Sharon Goodwin

Apologies: Mr Colin Slattery (Chairman) Hunton Bowls Club

1. Welcome

The Chairman (Colin Slattery) was unable to attend the meeting. Steve Jones chaired the meeting in his absence.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting on 12th November 2025. 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 -> SJ noted that the net has dropped further. DH will investigate hiring a pedestrian cherry picker. DH will obtain the concrete splines to reinforce three of the poles holding the netting.
- There has been no rabbit or mole activity.
- SE confirmed that the turkey oak and oak trees near the football pitch are not causing any issues for the football club.
- Robert Cox has not cut back the brambles on the northern boundary of the field as it is a larger area than he thought and will require a tractor and flail. The tractor can only go on the field if the ground is not too wet. SG will ask Robert if he can do the work if the ground freezes.
- SE advised that the football team is removing water bottles from the field after matches. The bins have been very full which has been an issue. A resident had also raised the same issue; the bins have now been emptied.
- DH is still unable to access Unity Trust Bank for internet banking.
- DH will fill the pothole at the entrance to the car park when the weather is drier. SJ noted that there are few more potholes in the car park; DH will obtain more material in the spring to fill the holes.
- CS was not present at the meeting to advise whether he has unblocked the culvert (to try and minimise the water running down West Street which causes the potholes at the entrance to the car park).

- The repointing of the wall at the entrance to the car park will take place in the spring.

4. Health & safety

- SG undertook play area inspections on 30th November and 15th December which were circulated by email. There was not much change from the previous report, other than weeds and grass starting to grow through some of the surfaces. All items are low risk. SG will not conduct an inspection in January as The Play Inspection Company are due to undertake the annual inspection.
- The slats at the top of a couple of benches in the Community Orchard have broken off. SG will investigate replacement slats. The Parish Council would be responsible for paying for them.
- SG asked Playscape for a quote to replace the remaining six wooden posts on the multiplay at some point in the future - £3,203.80 plus VAT. The cost for the replacement of the initial six posts was £2,843.80 plus VAT. It was agreed that the annual inspection report should be received first, to see what the inspector says. A grant could be requested from the Parish Council.
- SG has submitted the repeat order form to The Play Inspection Company for the 2026 annual inspection. SG will circulate the report when it is received.

5. Finance

- The Income & Expenditure report to 31st December 2025 was noted. There will be £3,733 in funds remaining after the outstanding invoices have been paid at the meeting.
- Payments made since the last meeting are:
 - Castle Water (water charges - September/October/November) - £71.18
 - Paul Waring (grass cutting - October/November) - £197.64
 - Barming Pest Control (treatment of wasps' nest) - £60.00
 - Unity Trust Bank (service charges - October/November) - £12.00
- CS was not present at the meeting to advise whether he has asked Steven Waring for advice to improve the condition of the cricket outfield. SJ will contact CS. The outfield grass looks good but is bumpy.
- Credits have been received from Castle Water for September and October. A charge was made in November based on an estimated reading. Castle Water estimated 6356 on 1st December. SG took a meter reading of 6312 on 19th December, so a credit should be received when the December invoice arrives. SJ will take a meter reading in January.
- In August 2025, Maidstone Borough Council (MBC) asked for information about the condition of the play spaces that were designated Strategically Important Play Areas (SIPA) - Hunton is a SIPA. SG completed the form, stating that the wooden posts on the multiplay needed to be replaced and the cost, but was told it was just an information gathering exercise and grant funding was not being considered yet. Recently, MBC advised that the Parish Council has £5,000 of grant funding available and they would reimburse the cost of the wooden posts (£2,844). This means that, in theory (still waiting for confirmation) £2,156 is available to spend on the play area on the remaining six wooden posts or something else. It was agreed that no other equipment is needed at the moment as there is not much space available.
- The Parish Council will be setting its budget on 19th January. It was agreed that a grant of £8,000 should be requested for 2026/27 for the Playing Field Committee (the same as last year).

- The following payments were approved:

Maidstone Borough Council - Bin emptying (November/December)	£150.00
Hunton Village Hall Committee - Contribution towards drainage and treatment plant costs 2024	£274.00
- SJ and ST will authorise the payments set up by SG online.

6. Administration

- The dates of the Committee meetings for 2026 were agreed as:
 - 11th March
 - 6th May
 - 15th July (including boundary walk and AGM)
 - 16th September
 - 11th November
- SG has previously emailed the dates to Committee members.

7. Other parish news

- Defibrillator training will take place at the Village Club on 27th January at 7pm for those interested.
- DH advised that the Parish Council currently has excess reserves. A questionnaire will be sent out to residents to find out their opinions on how the money could be spent in the parish. One question refers to play equipment and adult exercise equipment. The Committee could also put forward suggestions on how to spend the money.
- Polytunnels are to go up on Barn Hill, but there will be some landscaping and gaps between the polytunnels.

8. Any other matters

- SG asked if there were any further comments about the request to use the field on 12th June (details previously circulated by email); there were none.
- AB had mentioned by email that there were motorcycle tracks on the field; DH does not think the perpetrators have been back since.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 11th March 2026 at Hunton Village Club

The meeting ended at 9:15pm.