

Management Committee of the King George V Playing Field, Hunton
Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 16th July 2025 at 8:26pm
at Hunton Cricket Pavilion, 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 Scott Elliott	Hunton Football Club
	Mr Simon Taylor	Hunton Cricket Club
	Mr Steve Jones	Hunton Cricket Club
	Mr David Heaton	Hunton Parish Council
	Mr Tony Stanbridge	Hunton Parish Council

Secretary: Mrs Sharon Goodwin

Apologies: None - all present

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 7th May 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 -> Two poles need concrete splines for reinforcement. ST has an access tower at work, which could be used to refix/replace the safety netting, but it may not be tall enough.
- SJ has seen a few rabbits and there are moles near the cricket pavilion, but neither are an issue at the moment.
- DH has fitted the orchard gate. SJ will look for the other gate to the orchard (from the field) in the storage shed.
- Trees:
 - The Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) took place on 2nd May. The Parish Council has received the report from Silva Arboriculture which recommends the following work for the playing field:
 - A poplar tree in the southwest corner of the playing field (previously thought to be on Hunton Engineering land) needs pollarding -> Hood's Tree Services will pollard to 15 feet in late August.
 - Leyland cypress trees near the cricket pavilion need cutting back -> the Tree Warden has completed this work.
 - Sycamore tree in the northeast corner adjacent to the road needs felling -> the Tree Warden has completed this work.
 - The Tree Warden looked at the cherry tree near the cricket pavilion; he does not think it needs cutting back.
 - CS will cut back the lime trees around the Village Hall.

- The Tree Warden looked at the oak trees near the football pitch and does not think they need cutting back. SE noted that the turkey oak tree branches look quite low; he will keep an eye on it. SE asked if the area behind the goal in the northwest corner could be cut back in the first week of September; SG will contact Robert Cox.
- DH is still unable to access Unity Trust Bank for internet banking.
- Q-Tec Solutions have fitted the two electric showers in the Football Club changing rooms.
- DH has one pothole left to fill next to the filled hole at the entrance to the car park. CS will unblock the culvert again to try and minimise the water running down West Street, which causes these potholes.
- The yoga group used the cricket pavilion on 10th May and were very complimentary.
- The wall at the entrance to the car park needs to be repointed at some point; possibly a winter job.

4. Health & safety

- SG undertook a play area inspection on 6th June which was circulated by email. It only included the parts of the play area outside of the locked fenced area. All items are low risk. An inspection was conducted prior to the meeting on 16th July; all items low risk. There are a few cracks in the wood on the trim trail which will be monitored.
- The new metal platform, fabricated by Yalding Forge, will be fitted when the timber posts have been replaced.
- SG has obtained quotes from three companies to replace six wooden posts on the multiplay:
 - Safeplay - £3,570 plus VAT.
 - Everyday Play - £3,515 plus VAT.
 - Playscape - £2,843.80 plus VAT.

It was agreed that a request should be made to the Parish Council for a grant for/towards the work or request that the Parish Council pays for the work and gifts it to the Playing Field Committee. The recommendation is that the Playscape quote should be accepted, subject to timescale, liaison with Yalding Forge to fit the metal platform and Parish Council agreement if it funds the work.
- Items from the 2025 annual play area inspection report:
 - Four of the multiplay findings, two of which are medium risk, will be rectified when the boxwork and timber posts are replaced.
 - All other items are low or very low risk.
- Item from the boundary walk in July 2024:
 - Weeds on the play area surfaces -> CS will spray the weeds again.

5. Finance

- The Income & Expenditure report to 30th June 2025 was noted. There will be £7,131 in funds remaining after the outstanding invoices have been paid at the meeting. The 2025/26 grant of £8,000 has been received from the Parish Council. SG will check funds available at the same time in 2024 for the Parish Council meeting on 21st July (for the grant request).
- Payments made since the last meeting are:
 - Paul Waring (grass cutting) - £460.08
 - Maidstone Borough Council (bin emptying - March/April) - £150.00
 - Timothy Dunmall (metal platform for multiplay) - £1,258.00
 - Robert Cox (tidying the play area and car park) - £120.00
 - Unity Trust Bank (service charges - May/June) - £12.00

- The new grass cutting contractor is providing an excellent service; he is very proactive and there is good liaison. The outfield will be mowed later this week and the football pitch will be cut in the first week of August. SE has been offered a sit-on mower but it will need to be stored on site; unfortunately there is no room in the container.
- The water meter reading on 6th June was 6179. Castle Water estimated 6229 on 1st July. The reading on 16th July was 6259.
- A 'Please clean up after your dog' sign was chosen for the car park. SG will order two signs for delivery to CS.
- The following payments were approved:

Paul Waring - Grass cutting	£503.10
Sharon Goodwin - Reimbursement for 2 x garden bins' renewal	£102.00
Maidstone Borough Council - Bin emptying (May/June)	£150.00
Robert Cox - Tidying the play area and car park	£120.00

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

6. Administration

- None.

7. Other parish news

- DH reported that rubbish is still being dumped at the narrow piece of road on West Street after the Lughorse Lane junction. The Parish Council is obtaining a quote for a roving camera. Nothing further has been heard from Borough Cllr Clive English about an increase in litter bins in Hunton.
- DH has not locked the car park barrier too much in the evening as there are often cars still in the car park. SJ, ST and CS will lock it if they leave late.
- DH advised that there is a vacancy for a parish councillor.

8. Any other matters

- A request was emailed to all trustees about a primary school leavers' party on the field, which includes an inflatable; requirements have been stipulated.
- SG has given her field gate key to a hall hirer (known to SG) so she can lock the gate after her event on 2nd August. SE will check if there is a football match that day.
- SE advised that a charity football match is being held on 17th August. He will let people know using Facebook.
- CS noted that the area behind the Village Hall is overgrown. This is the responsibility of the Village Hall Committee; SG will ask for it to be cleared.
- CS advised that the Bowls Club is thinking of knocking the ladies' and gents' toilets down and installing two large disabled toilets in their place, using the same footprint. Quotes are being obtained now to establish whether funds will allow the work to go ahead.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 10th September 2025 at Hunton Village Club

DH gave his apologies as he will not be able to attend.

SE may not be able to attend.

The meeting ended at 9:25pm.