

Management Committee of the King George V Playing Field, Hunton
Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 15th November 2023 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 Danny Peacock	Hunton Football Club
	Mr David Heaton	Hunton Parish Council

Secretary: Mrs Sharon Goodwin

Apologies:	Mr Scott Elliott	Hunton Football Club
	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 13th September 2023. 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 -> SJ has the Postcrete and will replace the post in the next month or two.
 - Install the tractor rocker -> the tractor has been installed. It is safe to use but once it has been left to settle it will be infilled with play bark or shredded rubber.
 - Refix the safety net -> this can only be done with a cherry picker and is a job for the Spring.
- ST will obtain a gate to be fitted near the cricket pavilion/shed in the Spring.
- There has been less evidence of rabbit activity lately and very little damage. There is no mole activity other than a couple of mole hills near the road side. No action required at present.
- DH/SJ will measure inside the container with a view to fitting free standing shelving.
- DH will fit the new Community Orchard gate post.
- CS has fitted the new Little Owl box.
- Action on items noted on the boundary walk in July:
 - The lower branches need to be removed from the tree near the football pitch -> Hood's Tree Services will be undertaking remedial work for the Parish Council as a result of the recent Visual Tree Assessment (VTA). The branches will be removed when the VTA work is done in 2024. 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. CS noted that the hedging plants are growing on the

northern boundary.

- The trees need to be cut back hard near the basket swing -> to be undertaken by Sam Andrews (new Tree Warden).
- The tree needs to be cut back near the security light above the container -> Hood's Tree Services to undertake this work as part of the VTA work near the village hall.
- The nettles at the back of the cricket pavilion and the brambles behind the football goal need cutting back -> Robert Cox has done this. To be repeated after Easter/in the summer.
- ST has not contacted the original electrical contractor about the C2/C3 issues raised by Hilec on the EICR yet but will write to him. SJ has the electrical sign-off. If the contractor will not remedy the issues, the Hilec quote can be used as a 'shopping list' of works. The issues are not safety issues but there is non-compliance with regulations. SG will send the Hilec quote and EICR to ST and SJ.
- SG, DH, ST and SJ completed/signed the Unity Trust Bank internet banking form. SG will submit the form.
- Robert Cox has not cut the beech hedge yet.
- SJ has looked at composite benches with a view to installing a bench in the fenced play area. A 3-seater 1500mm bench costs £500 to £600 plus VAT. It was agreed that this is a reasonable price. SJ will get a firm quote for the next meeting. CS suggested that grids could be placed in front of the bench to protect the grass.
- ST was not able to help with replacing the struts on the bench near the football pitch as the shape is too awkward for the woodworking machinist. The bench will probably need to be replaced. DP will inform SE.
- No further information received on the Football Club boiler change as SE not present at the meeting.

4. Health & safety

- SG did a play area inspection on 26th October. All items are low risk.

5. Finance

- The Income & Expenditure report to 31st October 2023 was noted. There will be £4,208 in funds remaining after outstanding invoices have been paid at the meeting.
- The payments made since the last meeting are:
 - DD - Castle Water x 2 (water charges - September/October) - £14.32
 - Unity Trust Bank (service charge) - £18.00
 - Cheque 300158 - Colin Slattery (Little Owl nest box) - £115.00
 - Cheque 300159 - Robert Cox (cutting nettles and hedge to Hunton Eng.) - £450.00
- SJ took a water meter reading on 10th October which SG submitted. It is slightly higher than the estimate for 1st November given by Castle Water. No changes have been made to the direct debit. SJ will take another reading when he is at the field.
- There were a number of issues which affected the grounds cutting schedule in 2023: weather conditions, loss of staff and machinery issues. These issues are acknowledged but SJ reiterated the importance of regular cuts. CS advised that a new driver is starting with Landscape Services in two weeks' time who will cover Hunton; CS is confident that the cutting schedule can be delivered. The only other contractor CS is aware of who uses cylinders is Paul Waring. SG will contact him to ask for a quote for cuts every other week from March to September.

- The following payments were approved:

300160 - Maidstone Borough Council - Bin emptying (September/October)	£150.00
300161 - Commercial Services Trading Ltd - Grounds maintenance (July/August/September)	£540.34
300162 - Steve Jones - Materials for tractor installation	£37.00

 Cheques 300160 and 300161 were signed by ST and SJ. Cheque 300162 was signed by ST and DH.

6. Administration

- SG has submitted the Annual Return to the Charity Commission for the year ending 31st March 2023 (deadline for submission is 31st January 2024).

7. Other parish news

- DH advised that the new Tree Warden is Sam Andrews. He will undertake smaller jobs on trees and vegetation himself but will not be around between January and March.
- The Parish Council has received information from MBC about Phase 2 of the Rural Prosperity Fund grant. SG will email the details to SJ as requested.
- There have been a number of road closures recently.
- ST asked if there had been much flooding in Hunton; DH advised that there has been some flooding on West Street but nothing significant.

8. Any other matters

- DH advised that there are a number of potholes in the car park. It was agreed that they should be filled with scalpings in the Spring. DH will obtain the scalpings and SJ will roll the surface. To be discussed further at the January 2024 meeting.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 10th January 2024 at Hunton Village Club

The meeting ended at 9:42pm.