

**Management Committee of the King George V Playing Field, Hunton**  
**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at 8:15pm**  
**At Hunton Village Club, West Street, Hunton**  
Charity number 1084141

Present:                    Mr Simon Taylor                    Hunton Cricket Club  
                                 Mr Steve Jones                    Hunton Cricket Club  
                                 Mrs Margaret Carpenter        Hunton Bowls Club  
                                 Mr Colin Slattery                 Hunton Bowls Club  
                                 Mr Tony Stanbridge               Hunton Parish Council  
                                 Mr Danny Peacock                Hunton Football Club

Secretary:                Mrs Sharon Goodwin

In attendance:            Mr Gary Thomas

Apologies:                Mr David Heaton                    Hunton Parish Council  
                                 Mr Roger Sawtell

**1. Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Gary Thomas, Chairman of Hunton Parish Council, had been told at a recent meeting with representatives of Kent Highways that KCC want the Parish Council to be responsible for closing roads in the parish when there is a flood. It will be legally possible for the Parish Council to do this.

KCC will provide a container, approximately half the size of a shipping container, to hold all the necessary equipment (signs, torches, shovels, sandbags, brooms, gloves, waterproof clothes). KCC needs a location in the parish to place the container, on a concrete plinth. The container will be locked using a key pad, so a decision will need to be made as to who has the code and volunteers will be needed to put the signs up when roads are flooded. Susan Laporte from Kent Highways will be meeting Gary on 28<sup>th</sup> September to do a tour of the parish and determine where signs will need to be placed.

ST felt that the best location for the container would probably be tucked back on the right-hand side of the car park, but consultation would need to take place with the Village Hall Committee and other users of the car park. The location of the container is a secondary issue; the primary issue is the Parish Council's administration of the process in the event of the roads flooding. GT advised that the issue is on the Parish Council agenda for the meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> September. It will be some time before anything happens, but he wanted to keep the Playing Field Committee informed.

**2. Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2017. Copies had been distributed to all Trustees, Parish Councillors and local press representatives and were as usual available on request.

**3. Matters arising**

- ST asked John Nabbs to visit the field for a couple of early morning/late evening rabbit

shoots. No contact has been received from Mr Nabbs, and no invoice, so ST has emailed to follow up. There are not too many rabbits on the field. SJ remarked that the moles are more of an issue, particularly in front of the old changing rooms. ST will contact Mrs Nabbs, who is a mole catcher.

#### 4. Health & safety

- Three MBC monthly reports have been received on the children's play area since the last meeting. The only item is a 'further comment' about the paint on the multiplay timber.
- MC has confirmed with Outdoorsy Living that they are 'holding' the quote for the resurfacing work and new nest swing. In terms of funding:
  - The Awards for All grant application form has changed versions, resulting in SJ having to complete it again. The Parish Council's accounts will need to be submitted, as well as two bank statements, and the Clerk will need to sign the form. The suggested date for starting the work is March 2018.
  - ST has submitted the KCPFA grant application form. KCPFA has made contact to carry out a site visit.
  - SG will complete the Tesco Bags for Help grant application.
  - SJ will contact County Cllr Paulina Stockell's office regarding her Member Fund.
- Mike Summersgill obtained two further quotes for the remedial work on the Turkey Oak near the cricket pavilion. The Parish Council agreed on 11<sup>th</sup> September that Tantons Tree Surgery should be selected for the work.
- SJ has asked Maidstone Borough Council if any trees on the field are subject to a Tree Preservation Order.
- Robert Cox has removed the branches overhanging the Bowls Club.
- It was agreed that Craigdene Limited should carry out the annual inspection of the play area. ST suggested that the refurbishment work on the play equipment should be carried out in early October. This includes: painting the multiplay metal and swings; lubricating hinges; and a coat of slip resistant paint.

#### 5. Finance

- The Income & Expenditure report to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017 was produced to the Committee and noted. After outstanding invoices have been paid this evening there will be £7,174 in funds remaining. Since the last meeting, cheque 300008 was written for Robert Cox for £125 and cheque 300009 was written for RIP Cleaning Services for £84.
- The new and old cricket pavilions have been checked for water leaks, but nothing found. There could be a leak underground. The meter needs to be checked.
- Robert Cox has cleared the mud from the culvert.
- The National Non-Domestic Rate charge of £1,047.86 from Maidstone Borough Council has been fully offset by Small Business Rate Relief.
- Landscape Services has advised that more than one cut will be required for the rest of the growing season. SG will contact Landscape Services to ask for a cut next week.
- The following payments (totalling £1,370.68) were approved and cheques signed by ST and MC:

300010 - RIP Cleaning Services - Bin emptying	£105.00
300011 - Commercial Services Trading Ltd - First half grounds maintenance	£610.68
300012 - Robert Cox - Hedge trimming/strimming/clearing/play area tidying	£655.00

## 6. Administration

- The Playing Field Committee's insurer, AON, has written to say that it is ceasing involvement with the Charities market. Details have been given to BHIB Ltd, another insurance broker. There is no impact on the existing policy, which will remain in place and BHIB Ltd will send a renewal invitation three weeks before the current policy expires.

## 7. Other parish news

- ST will contact Iden Signs before the next meeting for signage stating that cars are parked at owners' risk. Consideration needs to be given to the location of the signs.
- TS reported that the Wares Farm development is moving along.
- Jeremy Dufour of South East Water is attending the Parish Council meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> September to detail the plans for the Hunton Hill water mains replacement.

## 8. Any other matters

- No response has been received from the Football Club about sending one of its members to the Playing Field Committee meetings. CS commented that the Club leave white lines near the field gate when practising with the line marker. DP will contact Dave Elliott again and also mention the white lines issue.
- Robert Cox has trimmed the hedge on the West Street side of the field, from the car park entrance to the poplar trees.
- Robert Cox has trimmed the hedge alongside the road to Hunton Engineering.
- Mike Summersgill asked the contractors quoting for the Turkey Oak tree remedial work to include removal of the material in their quotes.
- ST has not erected laminated safety signs near the Turkey Oak tree.
- Robert Cox has strimmed the perimeter of the recreation ground.
- The boards on the multiplay equipment will not be replaced.
- No further action has been taken on installing six posts, two strainers and a length of stock fence on the West Street side. To refer to DH at the next meeting.
- ST is in the process of obtaining a quote from Tate Fencing for new post and rail fencing between the car park and play area. He will contact two other contractors before the next meeting.
- DH will back-fill the holes in the car park.
- CS has considered bracing the posts holding the safety netting near the Bowls Club, but cannot find eight 4-5' lengths of angle iron. A reclamation yard could be tried.
- The BBQ barrels were stolen when left on the field to cool down overnight after the Musicals on the Green event. A trail of ash leads to neighbours of the field. DH had suggested that consideration should be given to a security fence, but it was felt that it would be too expensive to run a fence the whole way along, although DH could obtain a quote if he wished. SJ agreed to write a letter to the neighbours, expressing concerns about security on the field and asking them to help keep an eye on the field and report any issues to Huntonwatch.
- MC reported that the piece of land behind the bowls pavilion and football club changing rooms is being used as a toilet by users of the field. SG will speak to Mike Summersgill to ask whether the fence panel at the back of the changing rooms can be moved to the front.
- CS reported that the Bowls Club hedge is to be lightly trimmed.

**Date of Next Meeting:**

**Hunton Village Club - Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

Steve Jones is unable to attend the meeting.

There being no further matters the formal part of the meeting ended at 9:45pm.