

**Management Committee of the King George V Playing Field, Hunton**  
**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 8:00pm**  
**using Zoom video conferencing**  
Charity number 1084141

Present:	Mr Steve Jones	Hunton Cricket Club
	Mr Simon Taylor	Hunton Cricket Club
	Mr Colin Slattery	Hunton Bowls Club
	Mrs Angela Baptie	Hunton Bowls Club
	Mr Danny Peacock	Hunton Football Club
	Ms Shannon Myers	Hunton Football Club
	Mr David Heaton	Hunton Parish Council
	Mr Tony Stanbridge	Hunton Parish Council

Secretary: Mrs Sharon Goodwin

Apologies: None

**1. Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Shannon Myers, who has joined as a trustee representing the Football Club, to the rest of the committee. Shannon will complete the Trustee Declaration form outside of the meeting.

**2. Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Copies had been distributed to all Trustees and Parish Councillors and were as usual available on request.

**3. Matters arising**

- DH will fill the holes in the car park and remove the sandbag in the spring.
- DH has a heavy-duty drill bit to screw the concrete posts to the wooden posts near the Bowls Club but needs a mains drill. CS will look into it. SJ reported that the wooden post nearest the orchard, which does not have a concrete post next to it, is leaning over and is being held up by the orchard fence. It was strapped to a BT post previously. DH will strap it securely to a spline.
- DP contacted his neighbour to see if he could quote for a steel boxwork frame with holes drilled into it for the multiplay platform, but he is not currently working. SG is waiting to whether Hunton Engineering can provide a quote and is waiting for an answer.
- ST has been too busy with work to contact other steel fabricators. CS will obtain the wooden platform from the same company who supplied the swing seat.
- SJ has not heard from P Allison & Sons regarding the asbestos removal/demolition of the old pavilion. He will contact the company to ensure they can still do the work in the spring.
- The replacement for the missing car park bin has been received and is being stored with the picnic table until they can be fitted after lockdown ends.
- SG has received one dog control sign from MBC which will be fitted after lockdown ends.

- A 'No dogs' sign could be purchased from Iden Signs for inside the play area.
- No further Covid-19 signs have been erected in the play area. DH advised that the car park is being locked at the weekends and is only opened for the Pre-school during the week.
- SJ has not received any follow up from the police following the break in.

#### 4. Health & safety

- Three MBC monthly reports have been received on the children's play area since the last meeting. The only comment on the reports is for the multiplay - 'platform has rough edges delaminating' - low risk/satisfactory. CS will notify SG of the cost of a new platform so an order can be placed. The platform has delaminated further, so it would be preferable to fit the platform without waiting for the steel boxwork to be replaced, which could take time.
- At the moment it is too wet to install the matting near the entrance to the play area. CS will lay it when the weather is suitable. The ground needs to be dug down before the matting can be laid and covered over with chippings.
- SG has booked the annual play area inspection with The Play Area Inspection Company Ltd. It will be carried out in January/February - there is a lead in time due to some inspectors needing to self-isolate.
- SJ advised that Hunton Engineering have done some work on a tree which has fallen into the recreation ground. DH added that this was one of the trees identified as needing work in a recent tree survey organised by the Parish Council. There is also an oak tree in the corner which needs remedial work in the spring and a dead poplar tree near the road, but this should just rot away and not cause any damage.

#### 5. Finance

- The Income & Expenditure report to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 was produced to the Committee and noted. After outstanding invoices have been paid this evening there will be £7,475 in funds remaining.
- Payments made since the last meeting are:
  - DD - Castle Water (water charges - November/December) - £52.66
  - Unity Trust Bank (service charge) - £18.00
- A water meter reading will be taken in spring and submitted to Castle Water, which will represent usage over the year more fairly.
- The Committee will consider capital expenditure projects for the field in a couple of months' time when it is possible to meet at the field. DH confirmed that it is not an issue for the Parish Council for funds to be carried forward to the next financial year. The Committee recognises that it has been an exceptional year due to Covid, making it difficult to undertake any capital projects, so the carry forward of funds to next year will give more scope for such projects.
- The following payments were approved:
 

300093 - Commercial Services Trading Ltd - Grounds maintenance (October/November)	£66.72
300094 - Maidstone Borough Council - Bin emptying (November/December)	£150.00

The cheques will be sent to ST and SJ for signing.

## 6. Administration

- Dates of the meetings in 2021 are:  
10<sup>th</sup> March  
12<sup>th</sup> May  
14<sup>th</sup> July (including boundary walk and AGM)  
15<sup>th</sup> September  
10<sup>th</sup> November  
The dates will be circulated by email.

## 7. Other parish news

- The Football Club has now provided a submission, documenting losses due to Covid. The losses for each of the sports clubs are: £945 for the Football Club; £990 for the Cricket Club; and £1,019 for the Bowls Club. DP and SM were not aware of any other applications for funding made by the Football Club. The Parish Council will not query the £945, even though additional funding has not been received, but if the Football Club is able to obtain any funding it could be used to cover losses in 2021. The total request for funding for the three clubs is £2,954, rounded up to £3,000, which the Parish Council will grant to the Playing Field Committee, to be allocated to the clubs on the basis of the figures above. It can be looked at again in this calendar year. The replacement of the Cricket Club mowers is a separate case in terms of the Playing Field Committee and Parish Council. DH advised that a request could be made to the Parish Council for a contribution for a mower to keep the recreation ground well maintained. SJ is looking into the cost of second-hand mowers.
- The Parish Council has lodged an objection to the planning application for a chicken farm at Chainhurst on environmental grounds, as it is potentially damaging to the SSSI River Beult.
- The Parish Council is looking at the speed limits on Hunton Hill and East Street.

## 8. Any other matters

- TS asked whether all avenues have been exhausted to prevent any more thefts, following the theft of the mowers. SJ replied that the security required by an insurance company would be more than the Cricket Club has in place. A container would be the most secure way of storing the mowers but is not something the club could manage financially. DH suggested installing steel posts where the door is and putting a bar across but SJ advised that the mower shed is made of very thin corrugated steel, so thieves would still find another way in. TS asked whether the machines were marked with 'Property of HWCC' to make it unsaleable. SJ has photographs of all three machines with serial numbers and distinguishing marks, which have been provided to the police. CS advised that at his work names and fleet numbers are engraved on machinery which would mean that if stolen they would have to grind the area out on the machinery. ST agreed that these are good additional protective measures, but the machines could still be stolen, and protection is the priority. DP suggested that the Playing Field Committee could consider purchasing a container as an item of capital expenditure for the clubs to use for protection of equipment. CS advised that the Bowls Club use a container but store the mower elsewhere in winter. SM suggested using sunken bollards - ST thought they could be pulled out by thieves who have taken extreme measures previously to steal equipment. DH stated that the container in the car park has an upgraded padlock and a reinforced cover plate which would be extremely difficult to get

- bolt croppers round. The Committee will consider the purchase of a container.
- SJ advised that it is very wet on the ground at the moment and there is evidence that a motorbike has been ridden on the cricket outfield. The cricket square and the football pitch were avoided but there are some very deep gouges on the outfield. Tracks lead to the north west corner of the field. SJ suggested that a fence could be erected at the north end. SM added that the neighbours to the north allow their pets to run on the football pitch during football games which is a health and safety risk. The police have also had to be notified of the neighbours walking along Lughorse Lane with air rifles. DP stated that motorbikes have also been driven over crops on Buston Manor Farm. Security of the site in the north west corner needs to be considered further.

**Date of next meeting: Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021 - to be held using Zoom**

The meeting ended at 9:21pm.