

**Wanborough Parish Council**  
**Hooper's Field Management Committee**  
**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014**

**Meeting commenced at 19.30**

**Present:** Mr Colin Offer (Chairperson), Mr Gary Sumner, Mr Colin Hayes, Mr Roger Whitfield, Mr Andy Thompson (Wanborough Cricket Club), Mrs Mary Pribyl and Mrs Julia Hunt (Wanborough Bowls Club), Mrs Dawn Hopkins (Wanborough Tennis Club), Mr Philip Truman (SKS\_Blyskawica FC)

1. **Apologies:** Mr Andy Clinning (Cricket Club), Mr Adrian Hannay (Wanborough JFC)
2. **Acknowledgement of Bill Suter's contribution to sport and leisure in Wanborough.**

Mr Colin Offer said a few words in memory of Bill Suter, who had recently passed away. It was agreed that in recognition of everything that Bill had done at Hooper's Field it would be nice to have something to commemorate him by. Colin Offer suggested a chair near the Bowls Green. Mary Pribyl said that the Bowls Club would like to do something more than just a chair and, having spoken to Bill's wife, she would also like something different. It was agreed that there is no rush and the committee would consider something maybe in line with the expansion plans for the facility.
3. **Update on the Action Points from previous meeting**
  - Clerk to check grounds maintenance contract. It was confirmed the grounds maintenance contract does not include an annual weed control for the sport field; to add this to the contract would be very expensive. It was agreed to gain a quote for this work to be carried out on an adhoc basis as the field is actually very good at the moment with very small percentage of weeds.
  - Clerk to ask Village Lengthsman to cut back hedge. This has been done.
  - Dawn Hopkins to raise the option of a "Social Adult Membership" to the Tennis Club committee. Dawn did raise the question to the tennis committee but it was agreed that they could not financially afford to reduce their current membership charges.
  - Cricket Club to look into improving the junior section to ensure the opportunity for competitive matches for next season. Andy Thompson confirmed that they will be doing this in the new season
  - Clerk to arrange for sprinkler system to be checked. It was agreed for the Clerk to arrange for a plumber to come and look, with Andy Clinning also attending, so that he can show the plumber what the problem is.
  - Clerk to check what is paid to the cleaner. The cleaner is currently paid £10.85 per hour for 5 hours a week. It was agreed to compile a list of cleaning jobs to be carried out on a weekly basis at the pavilion and to gain quotes.
4. **MUGA update**

Colin Offer confirmed that there is a possibility that some land owned by Woodland Trust can be swapped with land owned by Swindon Borough Council somewhere else in the village.

5. **Club Reports**

**Tennis Club**

Dawn Hopkins confirmed that the Tennis Club are due their annual health check by the LTA (Lawn Tennis Association). With all the recent rain she confirmed that there have been no issues with drainage on the tennis courts.

She reported that the netting on the fencing behind the football goals has all blown down. Gary Sumner confirmed that Lee Wells (Village Lengthsman) is aware of this and plans to repair once the weather improves.

Dawn confirmed that she was not sure on the exact membership numbers for the Tennis Club; she confirmed that she would get the membership secretary to e-mail to Clerk.

***ACTION:*** Membership numbers to be e-mailed to the Clerk.

**Bowls Club**

Mary Pribyl confirmed that the Bowls Club plans to hold a committee meeting next week when they will consider who will be the new chairperson.

The Bowls Club are currently having problems with foxes damaging the bowls green and would like to install an electric fence around the green to help solve this problem. The cost would be in the region of £350. Colin Offer agreed that provided the Bowls Club ensures the correct signage is put at the entrances to the bowls green then they are happy for the Bowls Club to install the electric fence. Clerk confirmed that there is currently money left in the Parish Council's grant budget, so if they write a letter to Parish Council they will be considered for funding towards the cost of the electric fence at the next meeting.

Bowls Club confirmed that they have another member within their club who also hold a "personal licence" so they are still permitted to sell alcohol on premises using his licence.

Bowls Club currently have around 119 members; they could do with some more women and junior members.

**Cricket Club**

Andy Thompson confirmed that the Cricket Club are currently taking part in an indoor league. The league AGM is due to be held next week, so after then they will have a better idea about the teams for next season. The mid week cricket will change to a Tuesday next season and they are also planning a competitive junior section.

The annual maintenance of the mowers is due and one of the mowers needs a new cylinder.

**Wanborough FC**

No representative at the meeting

**Wanborough JFC**

Gary Sumner confirmed that Wanborough JFC have decided to hold their AGM at the Village Hall, as Hooper's Field pavilion is too small. The AGM will be held on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June. He confirmed that all the teams are going very well; they have 8 boys teams and 1 mixed age girls team, and have even started training the U6's so that they are ready to start next season.

They are planning to visit STFC on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March and if they manage to get 100 members of the club to attend STFC, will make the visit exclusive for Wanborough JFC.

The club has many expenses which makes the budget tight; they have had to replace quite a lot of training kit this season and the cost of training at Dorcan is very expensive to the club. They have had an offer from someone to be the overall club sponsor. They plan to improve the Club's website, and they also have the annual health check for the Charter status coming up soon.

### **SKS Blyskawica FC**

Due to the weather conditions they haven't been able to play a home match for a while; the goal mouth nearest to the tennis courts becomes very water logged.

The issue on how to decide if the pitch is suitable to play was discussed; at the moment it is left to the managers of the clubs to decide for themselves. SKS stated that on one occasion they cancelled their match on Saturday, yet a team still played on the Sunday. It was agreed that SKS would let Gary Sumner know if they call their game off so that this information can be passed on to the Sunday teams; however it was agreed that sometimes the pitch can improve and although it may not be suitable to play on Saturday it may be alright on Sunday.

Philip Truman explained what happened at their match against Supermarine to the committee. Clerk confirmed that the Wilts FA have confirmed that, at the hearing, the player had been charged and is responsible for paying for the damages at Hooper's Field. Philip said he would check this information as he thought the club (Supermarine) was responsible.

## **6. Expansion of the facility (Bowls Club)**

The Bowls Club felt that the pavilion is not currently suitable for the Bowls Club; the kitchen is too small, there are no changing facilities and only one ladies' toilet. They showed the committee some proposed plans on how they would like to replace their conservatory area to make a better purpose-built area for the Bowls Club; these plans however do not solve the problems with the kitchen, toilets or changing facilities.

The committee discussed the proposal and made the following suggestions:-

- The current changing facilities are not just for the football clubs; they can be used by other clubs too. The equipment stored in one of the small changing rooms needs to be relocated somewhere else so that the room can then be used again as a changing room. The reason it was moved to the changing room was because the Bowls Club wanted the large front storage area just for themselves.
- The disabled toilet can also be used as a toilet for the ladies.

Parish Council agreed to look at some options on how the pavilion can be improved for all the clubs, and suggested that the Bowls Club wait for these proposals before proceeding with their plans. There are options to expand at the front of the building that could be looked into.

## **7. Open Day 2014**

It was agreed to hold a separate meeting to discuss the Open Day which is due to be held on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May from 11am to 3pm. Dawn Hopkins asked if she could tie in the LTA's "Great British Tennis Weekend" with the Open Day; this was agreed. Meeting will be held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 7.30pm at Hooper's Field.

8. **Financial Report**

Finance report was circulated to all members. Colin Offer confirmed that the Parish Council have their precept meeting next week and it is expected that they will increase the fees for Hooper's Field by 2%. He also confirmed that Parish Council are subsidising the facility by 50% as the licence fees from the clubs currently only cover 50% of the overall cost of running the facility.

9. **Any Other Business**

None

Hooper's Field club representatives left before the following item was discussed:-

10. **Other recreational areas:-**

a. Lower Rec

Clerk stated that the swings at the Lower Rec need to be considered for replacement; they are getting very old and Lee Wells has confirmed that he is struggling to repair them. Another area that is a problem is the fence between the two play areas; Lee repairs this regularly but something needs to be done to improve it. Colin Offer agreed to go and look at it before the next Parish Council meeting. It was agreed that the tree line around the Lower Rec needs to be cleared of fallen branches. Clerk to ask Lee if he is able to do this.

b. Church Meadow

Clerk confirmed that the grant for the play area is due to be considered at the end of January 2014 with the aim that the new play area will be installed afterwards.

Meeting Closed 21.10