

WANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Hooper's Field Sports Facility Committee meeting held on Monday 16th October 2023 at 7.30pm at
Hooper's Field Sports Pavilion

Present: Colin Offer (Chairman), John Warr, David Hayward Omar Mirza, John Emmins, Martin Rowley (Parish Councillors), Mel Brough (Wanborough Tennis Club), Mark Baldwin, Paul Penfold (Wanborough Cricket Club), Lee Herring, Ian Butcher (Wanborough JFC), Brian Clarke (Wanborough Bowls Club).

In Attendance: Julie Flenley (Locum Parish Clerk).

Minute Ref: HF/10/23/

1. Apologies: Gary Sumner (Parish Councillor), Geoff Sanders (Wanborough Bowls Club).
2. Declaration of interest: No interests declared other than respective interests in members sports clubs.
3. To confirm the minutes of meeting the meeting held on 7th August 2023
Minutes of previous meeting held on Monday 7th August 2023 were agreed unanimously and signed as a true copy.

3(a). Review of the minutes action points

Cllr Offer noted that the Hoopers Field gate had been fixed. The Locum Clerk noted that she had chased up the Landfill Tax grant. A Register of Interest had been sent into Community First in March 2023 for £30,000 but the Locum was informed that the maximum WPC would receive would be £10,000 and that there would be a 10% payback on the grant award. Applications would be accepted in November and December, and if approved, works would need to commence within 2 years of the award. Cllr Offer requested that the item be pushed forward to the November Hoopers Field Committee meeting agenda.

It was noted that the Hoopers Field architects drawings should be with the Clerk; planning permission for the works was in progress and updates would be received soon. The proposed pétanque terrain had the agreement of the full council of Wanborough Parish Council to be moved (October 2023 meeting) to a location by the tennis courts.

The Bowls Club hedge continued to be an issue with ID Verde failing to attend in September to carry out its contracted cut. The hedge remains at a height of 10" despite continual requests to take it back to its original height in 2021 of 7". A quote was being sought by Cllr Errington from AllBuild to take the hedge down to 7" and remove arisings which is around £350+VAT.

The LED floodlights have been successfully installed on 29th September 2023 at the Tennis Club which had been 50% funded by Wanborough Parish Council. There were a few snagging issues which the Tennis Club requested that WPC hold back the second 50% payment until all snags have been resolved.

There was no charity football match held at the end of August.

4. **THE MEETING WILL BE ADJOURNED FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS.**

No public questions (none in attendance)

5. Verbal Update from the Parish Council – Chair

Julie Flenley

Locum Clerk

Chairman's signature.....

5(a) Amalgamation of 2 Hoopers Fields Committees – date proposals for review and approval.

Councillors noted that the previous meeting agreed to amalgamate the Hoopers Field Committee and the Hoopers Field Project Committee in order to benefit from shared ideas. The next meeting was scheduled for 20th November 2023, with the following meeting scheduled for 1st April 2024. Cllr Offer to liaise with the Clerk to see if a date in March 2024 was feasible.

6. Hooper's Field maintenance

6(a) Discussion and proposal regarding the driveway

The Committee discussed the Hoopers Field access road and parking areas. Issues have been prevalent due to the grasscrete being laid incorrectly, with insufficient drainage for water, which has caused potholes which are difficult to navigate for Hoopers Field users. Discussed how previous solutions did not work and that something was needed to solve the issues. It was agreed that there were three options available, (1) To relay the grasscrete, (2) to infill the potholes with stones/gravel and (3) to evaluate ditching works in the area to assist with surface water run-off. It was agreed that the Clerk could look at quotes for each of the proposed solutions and bring them to a future meeting.

Resolved: Clerk to meet with contractors to look at options for fixing the Hoopers Field car park/driveway issues and report back at a future meeting.

6(b) Storage Areas – agree between clubs a day to tidy and organise the cupboard

Cllr Offer noted that the cupboard needed to be tidied by the clubs using it. Requested that all clubs be in attendance and tidy up the storage area before 27th November 2023.

6(c) Pitch Marking – discuss regarding reparations to the field

The Committee noted that the Hoopers Field grounds would require reparations between the ending of the football season and the beginning of the cricket season. The pitch would require rolling, with a preference to verti-draining and reseeding. The cricket club would remain retaining the square, and the preference was that the cricket outfield would be cut in a circular pattern. The Locum Clerk noted that an option to carry out such works could be included in the Hoopers Field tender which was being prepared. Locum Clerk to check cutting specifications and optional end-of-season pitch preparation in the tender documents and check with the relevant sports clubs before tenders sent out.

Resolved: Locum Clerk to check tender specifications with clubs, including grass levels and football/cricket seasonal change works before issuing tender invites.

7. Hoopers Field Project

7(a) Approve minutes of Hoopers Field Project Committee from 10th July 2023

The Committee approved the minutes unanimously. Cllr Emmins/Warr to sign off minutes. Clerk to retain signed copies on file.

Resolved: Clerk to retain agreed, signed minutes on file.

7(b) John Emmins to provide a verbal update on the project

Cllr Emmins updated the Committee on the Hoopers Field project; the application was currently with Swindon Borough Council and should be determined shortly. The Landfill Tax application position had been clarified by the Locum Clerk who confirmed that a registration of interest had been sent to the grant awarding body in March 2023 and nothing further had been received. An application was welcomed and would be looked at in either the November or December grant cycles.

Cllr Emmins confirmed that Graham Luxton was no longer proceeding with the project for a number of reasons, including resourcing the project and the council would need to evaluate how it wished to proceed. Cllr Offer requested that the Clerk notify him of what has been funded from the grant registration of interest, and what is remaining in order to take a view.

Resolved: Clerk to send information to Cllr Offer and the Committee to evaluate funding requirements for stages 2 & 3 of the Hoopers Field project.

8. Update from Sports Clubs

a. Wanborough Bowls Club

Mr. Clark noted that the Bowls season was now over and that the pitch would continue to be maintained over the winter months. The ground was due to be scarified and the hedge remained at 10" when it needed to be reduced to 7" to allow air to circulate around the area. Storage of equipment remained an issue; the Clerk noted that it was an item on the Landfill Tax application which was pending review and consideration. Membership numbers remained around the 60-70 mark of players.

b. Wanborough Tennis Club

Ms. Brough noted that the LED lights were now up and working on the tennis courts. Some adjustment was required to correct them, but this had been addressed with Carbon8 and should be amended soon.

Membership numbers were up, and winter matches were scheduled. The Club was also in the process of evaluating internal governance in accordance with LTA guidelines.

c. Wanborough Cricket Club

The Club has steady numbers. Managing the square with a roller which is becoming expensive to repair.

d. Wanborough JFC

Mr. Baldwin thanked both the Parish Council and the FA for funding received for 5, 7 & 9 aside goals. There was a positive feeling in the club regarding the facilities and membership stood at around 200, including a girls team.

Funding for contained is being evaluated and the Club were looking at expanding sponsorship opportunities and other clubs using the grounds. It is anticipated that there will be a coffee shop on Sunday mornings will be commencing soon.

Meeting closed 21.00

Date of next meeting: 20th November 2023

Committee members:

Colin Offer (Chair), John Warr, Omar Mirza, John Emmins, Gary Sumner and Dave Hayward (Parish Councillors).

Club Representatives:

Paul Penfold (Wanborough Cricket Club), Andy Clinning (Wanborough Cricket Club), Mel Brough (Wanborough Tennis Club), Gordon Heywood (Wanborough Tennis Club), Geoff Sanders (Wanborough Bowls Club), Brian Clarke (Wanborough Bowls Club), Ian Butcher (Wanborough Juniors Football Club) & Lee Herring (Wanborough JFC)