

## WANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Hooper's Field Sports Facility Committee meeting held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022 at 7.30pm at Wanborough Village Hall

**Present:** Bob Biggs, Dave Hayward, John Emmins (Parish Councillors), Brian Clarke (Wanborough Bowls Club), Gordon Heywood (Wanborough Tennis Club), Stanley Vas (Wanborough Cricket Club), Ian Butcher (Wanborough JFC).

**In Attendance:** Angela Raymond (Parish Clerk) and 1 member of public

In the absence of Colin Offer (Chair of this committee), Bob Biggs was appointed Chair for this meeting.

1. Apologies: Richard Angwin (Parish Councillor), Paul Penfold (Wanborough Cricket Club), Lee Herring (Wanborough JFC), Mel Brough (Wanborough Tennis Club), Geoff Sanders (Wanborough Bowls Club).
2. Declaration of interest: No interests declared

### THE MEETING WILL BE ADJOURNED FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS.

*No public questions*

3. Grounds maintenance
  - 3.1 Update on the Grounds Maintenance Contract – Clerk confirmed that the contractor, Idverde, commenced the grass cutting on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022, however due to heavy rain on the previous day some areas were too wet to cut. They have said they will attend again the following week to cut the sports field. The contractor is fully aware of the concerns raised by the Cricket Club and has provided details confirming how they will improve this year which has been forwarded to Cricket Club. This will have to be reviewed regularly to ensure they keep to the agreed contract. Gordon Heywood asked what happens if the weather conditions are not suitable on the day they are due to cut. Clerk confirmed that they cut the grass on a Thursday each week during the Cricket season which gives them the Friday if needed.
  - 3.2 Driveway repairs – Repairs on the driveway have been completed but since completion the surface has once again started to deteriorate. Clerk has asked the contractor to look at this and he has confirmed that the issue is drainage, with a considerable amount of water accumulating on the driveway. He has provided a quote for £600 to install drainage channels along the edge of the driveway; once the drainage is in place the contractor will re-due the surface so it's level again. A discussion took place in relation to an alternative option which is to raise the kerbing along the Rotten Row side, to assist water draining to the hedge. It was also agreed that cars are driving too fast along the driveway which is also not helping.  
**ACTION** – To gain a quote to raise the kerbing and change the level of the driveway to improve drainage.
4. Hooper's Field Project
  - 4.1 John Emmins provided an update on the Hooper's Field project, confirming the outcome of the recent NEV meeting where SBC Planning Officers discussed S106 funds for the project. John Emmins confirmed that SBC Officers have rejected allocating any S106 funds from the NEV to Hooper's Field project which is very disappointing; it seems to be based on a legal opinion rather than considering the overall community benefit of the proposed scheme.  
Dave Hayward, who attended the meeting with SBC, provided further detail on what was stated at the meeting. It was confirmed that SBC are due to write to Parish Council confirming what was said at the meeting.  
A discussion took place in relation to Parish Council gaining their own legal advice in relation to S106 funds. John Emmins confirmed that the resident, who has been providing support to the Project Committee, recommended Kings Chambers (Barrister) who he has used before for similar projects.  
It was agreed to wait for the letter from SBC officers before agreeing on the response and deciding on the way forward.

*Angela Raymond*  
*Parish Clerk & RFO*

5. Financial report

5.1 A financial statement for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 and previous year comparison was circulated at the meeting. A question was raised in relation to the increase in the building maintenance cost; Clerk confirmed that a “fixed wire” electrical survey of the pavilion and other additional electrical work was carried out to comply with regulations for a community building.

6. Wanborough JFC

Wanborough JFC provided an update on their move to Hooper’s Field. The club has grown from 85 to 110 members across U6s to U13s age groups. He confirmed that he has received some very positive feedback from both parents and away teams about Hooper’s Field and the sports pitches.

Next season, in addition to the junior pitches, they want to use the adult pitch for their U14s. Question was raised in relation to the size of the pitch and it was confirmed that the current size will be ok but it would be better if it was slightly smaller. It was agreed that this needed to be discussed with the two adult teams who currently use the facility.

**Action:** Wanborough JFC to check with adult football teams in relation to the size of the adult pitch.

Discussion took place in relation to the club putting up team pictures by the changing rooms – It was agreed that this would be a good idea.

They are still considering using the kitchen for refreshments on a Sunday morning but they need to work out how they will do this and if they have enough volunteers to run it.

They would like to hold first aid course in the pavilion – It was agreed that this would be possible and there is no reason why it can’t be open to others to attend if first aid training is needed.

A discussion took place in relation to social events for clubs at Hooper’s Fields. Bowls Club agreed to check their fixtures to see if a date can be arranged for this.

7. Update from Sports Clubs

a. Wanborough Bowls Club

Membership is slightly down from the previous year. They are due to open for the new season on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and they have full set of fixtures for the season.

b. Wanborough Tennis Club

Membership is about the same as previous year. They are currently moving forward with the fund raising for the floodlights as they are keen to install these as soon as they have the funding in place. In addition they have asked for a quote from the floodlighting company to see if they can carry out the “bat survey” needed as part of the planning condition. Gordon Heywood asked who is best to contact in relation to any questions they have about the floodlights. It was confirmed that anything to do with the project should be sent to John Emmins.

**ACTION** – Clerk to ask SBC Planning Officer if the installation of the floodlights can commence once the condition for the “bat survey” has been discharged and prior to all conditions being discharged.

c. Wanborough Cricket Club

Their season hasn’t started yet; first fixture is due to be on the first Saturday in May. Last season they had 3 teams playing on a Saturday, 1 mid week team and one outside team playing on a Thursday evening. In addition they have 2 junior teams.

d. Wanborough JFC

They have had a good season, the U12s are likely to win their league. They currently have 4 teams using Hooper's Field and this will be increasing to 5 next season. The club's aims have all been achieved, which included moving the junior matches to Hooper's Field, re-branding their kit so all players have the same and building the club in terms of their numbers. Ultimately they would like to get teams from U6s up to U18s. They are planning to hold their AGM on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2022 at Village Hall and using the Lower Rec.

Meeting closed at 20.50