

WANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Hooper's Field and Recreation committee meeting held on Monday 10th February 2020 at 19.30 at Hooper's Field sports pavilion

Present: Colin Offer (Chair), Colin Hayes, Bob Biggs, Roger Whitfield, John Emmins (Parish Councillors), Paul Penfold (Wanborough Cricket Club), Brian Clarke (Wanborough Bowls Club), Jane Flew (Wanborough Tennis Club), Ian Butcher & Lee Herring (Wanborough JFC), Nick Salter (Priory Vale FC) and Parish Clerk

1. Apologies: Gordon Hayward (Wanborough Tennis Club), Andy Clinning (Wanborough Cricket Club), Geoff Sanders (Wanborough Bowls Club)

2. Parish Council update:-
 - a. Licence Fees for 2020/21 – Clerk confirmed that everyone should now have been notified of their licence fees for 2020/21.
Brian Clarke stated that the Bowls Club felt their increase was too high and asked why they have been given such an increase. Colin Offer confirmed that this was agreed by the finance committee as it was felt that the Bowls Club use the facility all year round and therefore need to contribute more to the running costs.

 - b. Confirmation of bookings at Hooper's Field – Clerk confirmed that Hooper's Field is booked for Sunday 28th June for the annual Fun Run.
Jane Flew asked if there will be another open day this year. After a discussion it was confirmed that none of the other clubs wished to hold an open day. Jane Flew confirmed she will hold a Tennis Club open day on the weekend of 16th – 17th May.

3. Update from Hooper's Field Project Committee
John Emmins provided an update on the project, confirming that Parish Council have appointed SWA Associates to design and produce plans for Hooper's Field expansion. SWA come highly recommended by Wroughton Parish Council, who have used them recently, and they have also designed the new community building at Binfield Parish Council. The aim is to design a facility that can be used by multiple clubs at the same time, with larger hall, meeting room and office.
A question was raised about funding and timescales. John Emmins confirmed that Parish Council are due to meet with SBC to discuss S106 funding opportunities. Parish Council will also be applying for grant funding but this cannot be done until plans are produced. John Emmins confirmed that plans should be completed by end of February to March this year and there will be an opportunity to review them.
Questions were raised asking what would be included. John Emmins confirmed that a MUGA and badminton court were not planned, but petanque, car park improvements, flood lights, larger hall, meeting room, office, outside storage and toilets are included.

4. Grounds Maintenance
Nick Salter confirmed that he has been speaking to the Clerk about the sports field. Wilts FA have arranged for an experienced groundsman to inspect the sports field and provide advice and funding options but unfortunately the report hasn't been received yet. Clerk confirmed the onsite meeting with the groundsman was very positive, confirming what Parish Council have been doing is working well.
Clerk confirmed that the grass cutting will commence mid-March depending on ground conditions. Verti-draining will also be carried out near the end of the football season.

Angela Raymond
Clerk to Wanborough Parish Council

The driveway continues to be a problem. The Handyman is filling the potholes with stones the best he can.

5. CLUB REPORTS:

a. Wanborough Tennis Club

Tennis Club hold an annual competition within the club in remembrance of Dawn. The Tennis Club won "Wiltshire Club of the year" for 2019 and also one of the younger players who helps out with the coaching won "Wiltshire Young player of the year".

The Tennis Club have a new safeguarding officer. They currently have around 148 members. The club needs floodlights for the other two courts.

b. Wanborough Bowls Club

The maintenance of the bowls green is going well; there has been maintenance carried out over the winter and the green should be in good condition ready for the start of the season. The tree that was causing problems for the green has been removed. Membership is around 95.

c. Wanborough Cricket Club

They haven't been playing since the last meeting so nothing to report this time. Membership remains at around 20 for adults and they have a junior section too.

d. Wanborough Junior Football Club

Ian Butcher confirmed that he took over as Chairperson around April 2019 and since then they have been looking into establishing all year round training and investing in coaches. They have been compiling a 5-year plan and would like to move some of their younger teams down to play at Hooper's Field. At the moment they have three teams using Hooper's Field (U16's and 2 x U17's), but they have a gap with no teams currently from U12's to U15's. This means in three years' time they will not have any older teams playing at Hooper's Field. The club however would like to mark out junior pitches across the larger pitches so that Hooper's Field becomes their community facility rather than playing in several locations.

A question was raised as to whether they develop their officials. Ian confirmed that the club fund individuals to train as coaches, they also have their own in-house first aid course. They currently have about 130 players.

e. Priory Vale FC

Nick Salter confirmed that the club was doing well; they are currently top of the league with the possibility of promotion next season. He confirmed that no additional requirements are needed in the higher league.

Nick confirmed that he would be willing to work with the junior club and look at how their older players, once they are no longer able to play for juniors, can join their adult team, especially now there is no Wanborough adult team.

Nick confirmed that he would like to get the goal mouth nearest to the tennis court re-turfed at the end of the season.

Meeting closed at 20.35pm.