

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE OF HAZELBURY  
BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT ALEC'S FIELD PAVILION ON THURSDAY 9<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY  
2023 AT 6:30PM**

**Present:** Liz Stockley (LS), Jim Bettle (JB), Neil Robson (NR), Barry Thompson (BT) and Rebekah-Joy Spinks

**Members of the public:** Jamie Hart

**Minutes:** Malcolm Wilson (MW)

**01/23. Apologies for absence:** Received from Helen Fry (HF)

**02/23. Declarations of Interest:** None

**03/23. Minutes of the previous meeting:** Minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022 were approved.

**04/23. Matters arising not covered in the agenda:** None.

**05/23. Cricket club – update:** JB confirmed the establishment of an under-11's team with sessions to be held on Thursday evenings at 6.30pm. A grant from Dorset Cricket for equipment of £750 has been received. The men's team will now play in Wednesday evenings, also a 6.30pm start. JB will liaise with MW over fixture bookings for 2023

**06/23. Allotment society water bill:** MW is in discussions with Angela Chatters about a fair and simple way of charging, given problems with accessing and reading the meter feed.

**07/23. Pavilion:** i) **bookings:** The Koru Therapeutic School based in Wimborne have started using the pavilion in the day time from 9/30am to 3.30pm. They run one pupil/two teacher sessions for children excluded from mainstream school for behavioural reasons. They are paying £10 an hour with sessions booked until Easter. Hopefully they will continue into the summer term. ii) **running costs and hire charges:** NR had monitored the heating costs and with both heaters working it costs about £1 per hour. The hire rate was discussed. £5 an hour seems low given the rises in running costs. The facility is smaller than the village hall, and larger than the hall's small room. Pitching the price between those two seems sensible so an hourly rate of £7.50 per hour from 1<sup>st</sup> April will apply. iii) **winter heating:** The heating needs to go on from time to time at night to prevent freezing pipes etc; there can also be issues with users not turning off the heating when they leave. Signage will be put up reminding users to turn the heat off; NR will investigate other ways of providing heating for users but with a simple turn off mechanism – maybe some form of timer? iv) **other matters:** NR will check the working of the padlock on the gates; he will also add some signage to the light switch in the official's room.

**08/23. Play area – annual safety inspection:** This has been received and circulated. There are a couple of minor items (like the bench) that can be fixed; and a couple of items that need some parts from the manufacturer. The area does need a "makeover" and MW hopes that when the S 106 money is received from the Pidney Hill development that funds can be made available for this.

**09/23. Alec's Field:** i) **gang mower:** MW gave an update. The supplier of refurbished Ransome's in Lancashire, Robert of Grass Mowing World, has nothing in stock at the moment. MW has asked him to make contact if and when he gets something in. He also suggested another source – Richard Moorhouse, who specialises in Lloyds machines. MW spoke at length with him. His stock starts at around £7k. He suggested that with our limited budget a better option might be to fully refurbish our existing mowers. Martin Richards thinks it might be tricky to find someone local with the skills and access to spare parts. MW had also found a brand-new set at a Garden Machinery Store in Cheltenham for £2.2k including delivery, but manufacturer unknown and quality uncertain. LS reported on the village trust fund, which is likely to be wound-up in April. The recreation ground could be in line to receive about £5k, and the trust would be very supportive of using this for a replacement gang mower. It was agreed that MW would approach Robert for his cost of refurbishing ours, including transportation, and the time span. MW will also speak to

Richard to see if we might trade-in our existing mower. In the interim, we hope the existing mower will hold together for a while. **ii) cycle “pump track”:** MW and LS had met with Chris Rose, the potential contractor who provided a quote back in the summer. They had both been impressed with his vision and professionalism. He estimates it would take him a couple of weeks to construct a track. It would run from the field gate below the youth hut down to the playground. Design would be fluid, but he has years of experience. The basin structure is no different to the tarmac tracks in Henstridge and Stalbridge; but our will have a “dusty” finish, which will require little maintenance. It’s not suitable though for narrow wheeled scooters. MW and LS will prepare a proposal for the next parish council meeting based on a revised quote from Chris Rose. Construction could take place in the spring. Some Heras style fencing will be needed, JB thinks he can source this.

The basketball hoop will be re-set; perhaps with a better surface underneath to encourage its use. MW has had an e mail from a resident saying how much it is missed.

**10/23. Youth matters - the “Encounter” project:** RJS has two definite volunteers and one possible. DBS checks are underway. There are some technical issues to be resolved with the IT equipment which is delaying matters slightly. It would also help the project if the pavilion had broadband, rather than a “hot-spot” having to be arranged. She has been approached by a supplier who would install free broadband, even without a telephone line, but would then charge for usage. RJS will get some definite financial information for consideration.

**11/23. Other matters relating to the recreation ground:** The absence of moles was noted and welcomed.

**12/23. Date of next meeting:** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023 at 6.30pm.

**13/23. Close of meeting:** With no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.30pm.