

MINUTES OF THE ASHURST RECREATION GROUND TRUST AGM HELD ON THURSDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2017 AT 7PM AT ASHURST VILLAGE HALL

Trustees Present: Cllr Hammond - Chairman
Cllrs Fischel, Hedley, Knight, Jesse, Nicholson and Russell.

Also Present: Cllr Lloyd (Hosham District Council)
David Fischel – Chairman of Ashurst Cricket Club
Richard Moules – Partridge Green Football Club
Celia Price – representing parents of Ashurst Primary School
Three members of the public were also present

In attendance: Elizabeth Leggo – Clerk

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Janet Williams (Head Teacher of Ashurst Primary School) and David Barling (West Sussex County Council).

2. Declaration of Members Interest

None for this meeting.

3. To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting of Thursday 6th October 2016

The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

4. Car parking at the Recreation Ground

Celia Price attended the meeting. Ms Price is the parent of two children at Ashurst Primary School and was invited to speak to the Trustees about the issues with car parking at school drop-off and pick-up times.

Ms Price informed Trustees that there are 65 pupils aged 4-11 at Ashurst Primary School. These pupils come from 45 families, most of whom drive – meaning that there are 35 cars in School Lane twice per day. The car park at the Recreation Ground takes 15 cars and Ms Price asked Trustees to consider options to increase this number, or to make the entrance larger to facilitate drop-off and turning.

Trustees discussed the following options

- A drop-off system
- A larger entrance to Recreation Ground car park, to allow more space for drop-off and turning
- A new septic-tank system to free up space
- Encouraging teachers to park in the car park and not on the road
- Cutting back the hedge by the car park
- Parking at the Village Hall and setting up a walking bus

Action: Trustees to meet at the Recreation Ground to discuss these options

5. Primary School Matters

Janet Williams, Headteacher of Ashurst Primary School, submitted a report which was read by the Clerk. This report is included in appendix 1 at the end of these minutes.

6. Cricket Club Matters

David Fischel, Chairman of Ashurst Cricket Club, was present to update the Trustees on the Cricket Club. Mr Fischel's report is included in appendix 2 at the end of these minutes.

7. Football Club Matters

Richard Moules from Partridge Green Football Club (PGFC) was present to update the Trustees. Mr Moules thanked the Trustees for the invite and informed that PGFC had had the best finish last year, coming in fourth place. The Club could have moved into the Premier Division, but chose to remain in Division 1. PGFC has two adult sides and four junior sides. The Trustees were informed that there has been a large influx of junior players recently.

Mr Moules reported that Ashurst Recreation Ground is warmly welcomed by the players, because it is one of the only playable pitches in the area in wet weather. He also informed the Trustees that the goalposts are approaching the end of their usable life, and that PGFC would fund new goalposts, on the understanding that these belong to the Club.

Finally, Mr Moules asked Trustees to let him know when they visit the Recreation Ground to review car parking and health and safety, as he would look at the John Eaton Hut with them.

Action: Clerk to contact Sussex Land Services and find out if they are able to roll and harrow the Recreation Ground in March/April and if so, how much this would cost.

8. Accounts

The Clerk circulated the Charity Commission Annual Return for 2016/17 to all Trustees. The income for the year was £4,710 and spending £3,087.

9. Health & Safety and Risk Assessment

Cllr Hedley and the Clerk had attended a recent training day on health and safety including asbestos and legionella. It was agreed that the Trustees would organise for an asbestos register to be created and for a systematic diagram of the plumbing to be drawn up, to facilitate the risk assessment for legionella.

Actions:

1. Cllr Fischel to organise for a plumber to draw up a systematic diagram of the water supply to the John Eaton Hut and Cricket Pavillion, highlighting risk areas for legionella
2. Cllr Russell to organise for an asbestos assessment, and a register of asbestos to be drawn up

10. Questions from the floor

None for this meeting

11. Information Items

None for this meeting.

12. Date of next AGM

Thursday 1st November 2018

Signed (Chairman) _____ Date _____

Ashurst CE Aided Primary School



Report for the Recreation Ground AGM



2ND November 2017

Mrs Williams, Headteacher.

Thank you very much for inviting me to attend this evening's AGM of the Ashurst Recreation Ground Committee.

Unfortunately, I am not able to be with you this evening due to another engagement.

Tomorrow is a 'Joint Locality of Schools' INSET DAY for over a hundred local teachers, organised by Ashurst Primary, and this evening I am with other representatives from tomorrow 'entertaining' our guest speaker and presenter, Dr Tina Rae.

Here is my Report to be read out at the meeting, please.....

...Although the Ashurst Recreation Ground - or 'field' - does NOT belong to the pupils of Ashurst Primary School, they DEFINITELY consider it to be 'theirs' - and have ALWAYS done so!

It is a wonderful 'amenity', set in the heart of the village and surrounded by the most beautiful scenery, and loved by generations of Ashurst Primary pupils, staff, governors - IN FACT ALL ASSOCIATED WITH THE SCHOOL - over LOTS and LOTS of years.

The 'field' represents time and space to run, play and explore, to enjoy the company of ones friends and their respective families - and to make new ones!

It is undoubtedly the provider of the happiest of times and memories, essential for all of us but especially those who are the youngest members of our community.

This academic year the 'field' has NOT been needed by the school to mark and celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, the Millennium, the Queen's birthday, as was the case in those particular academic years.. BUT IT HAS BEEN USED AND ENJOYED FOR:

- DAILY playtimes for the school's 68 PUPILS CURRENTLY ON ROLL.
- DAILY packed lunches throughout most of the year (approx.30 pupils on average).
- DAILY hot school lunches throughout the summer (approx. 38 pupils on average).
- WEEKLY *in-house* PE/Games lessons for all pupils in: hockey, tag rugby, football, rounders, stoolball, cricket, athletics and the teaching of associated skills.
- WEEKLY after-school clubs for all pupils in seasonal sports: football, rounders, athletics, cricket and Multi-Skills - plus the serving of tea and refreshments by parents afterwards to raise funds for the school.
- Football Matches against other schools such as St James and St Giles School, Coldwaltham - in which Ashurst was the winning team!
- Annual SPORTS DAY!

AND

- SOCIAL occasions such as the LEAVERS' TEA & ROUNDERS PARTY for the whole school in July, the RETIREMENT PARTY for Ashurst teacher of seventeen years, Mrs Robins, in July too, AND FAPS (The Friends of Ashurst Primary School) Easter Egg Hunts and Summer BBQs.

Everyone associated takes pleasure in the use of the field and I would like to say a big 'thankyou' on their behalf to the Committee for making such joy and pleasure possible.

Mrs Williams, Headteacher

Appendix 2 – Report from David Fischel

Ashurst Cricket Club

Notes for the Ashurst Recreation Ground Trust AGM 2 November 2017

Results

- We played 10 games (nine home, one away) in 2017 (2016-9) starting on 30 April v. Henfield and finishing v. Wineham/Twineham on 10 September.
- Our playing record was our most successful in memory with 8 victories (Henfield, Broadwater, S. Duffett XI, Tillington, Abinger, Bramber & Beeding, Hove Unicorns and Arundel), one narrow defeat by 8 runs against Littlehampton and a draw v. Wineham/Twineham when rain prevented what was looking like certain victory.
- Highlights were another century from Isaac Tidley and a hat-trick from Dan Saunders.
- Encouragingly, a number of players who had started with us a few years ago as 12 and 13 year old juniors have now progressed to Steyning 1st and 2nd XI. That, of course, now makes it harder to get them to play for us so we need a constant supply of new players with juniors especially welcome. Nearly all our players have strong local connections.
- As previously mentioned, our side, and those of many of our opponents, tend to be composed of mostly under 16's and over 40's with the in-between years finding it hard to commit.
- Cancellations at the last minute are rife now in village cricket, but as a result quite a number of sides are left looking for a game at short notice, so when it has happened to us we have usually managed to get matched up.

Ground and Pavilion

- The pitch played well in 2017 helped by additional heavy rolling. Rabbit invasion and damage continues to be a problem and the intention is to replace over the winter the fencing surrounding the square which has reached the end of its useful life.
- We appreciated generally good quality grass cutting from the external contractor.
- The cricket Pavilion was made available for the School on a number of occasions, for the Dog Show and other village events.
- We are extremely grateful to Ashurst Parish Council and the councillors who, further to works in previous years, this year performed internal decorating work to the Pavilion.
- We are hopeful of performing some further external maintenance work to the Pavilion over the course of the winter.

Financial

- Match fees remain at £10 for adults and £5 for juniors and receipts amounted to around £700 for the ten games in 2017. In addition to the rent for the ground, which worked out at £80 per game in 2017, other outgoings included cricket balls, mower servicing and maintenance costs of the square (scarifier hire, fertilizer, white paint etc). So we continue to run at a modest loss sustained by loyal supporters.

Thanks

- We would like to express our thanks to the trustees for the continued use of the ground, both home team and visitors alike greatly appreciate the pleasant and tranquil setting of the recreation ground.
- We look forward to further years of enjoyable cricket at Ashurst with additional local players and spectators always welcome.

David Fischel

Chairman

30 October 2017