



Maresfield Parish Council

REPRESENTING THE VILLAGES OF MARESFIELD, NUTLEY & FAIRWARP

Minutes of the Maresfield Recreation Ground Committee meeting held remotely on Tuesday 27th April 2021 via Zoom

Present: Cllr L Stevens Smith (Chair), Cllr Mrs S Cumming, Cllr J Lewis, Mrs T Allen, Mrs L Skibinska, Mr R Horscroft, Mr G Prince, Mr A Russell, Mr D Barnard and Mrs C Goossens (Clerk)

- 1 **Public session.** None.
- 2 **Apologies for absence.** Mr M Budgen, Mr C Sherwood, Mr N Beesley.
- 3 **Declarations of interest.** None.
- 4 **Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd February 2021.** It was noted that the minutes should be corrected to state that the cricket season will finish on 4th September and not 8th September as previously stated. The minutes as amended were **Agreed** unanimously.
- 5 **Matters arising from these minutes not elsewhere on the Agenda.** None.
- 6 **Financial reports update.**

The Clerk reported that there was £570 in the account as at 1st April.

The following points were noted:

- Mr Horscroft confirmed that he would facilitate payments for MDJFC up to the end of June.
- Seniors had asked for a concession due to the limited facilities they have been able to use at the Pavilion due to COVID. The Seniors currently pay £43 per match.
- It was noted that all clubs received a concession during the previous year due to COVID.
- Electricity, water, cleaning, and general maintenance costs are significant.
- The cleaners cost £15 per hour and currently work 2 hours a week and visit once a week.
- Now that the facilities have been improved, it is imperative that the empty times are identified, and that the committee looks to hiring out the facility, when possible, to create additional income.
- The cost of the facility is in Mr Horscroft's opinion extremely good value.
- Mr Horscroft will discuss with the rest of MDJFC's committee the level of match fees and whether they could afford to contribute at a higher level. The youth teams are flourishing, and the junior subsidy should possibly therefore be reassessed.
- This is a facility all clubs should be reinvesting in for the future.
- Cllr Lewis noted that the facility needs to be as affordable as possible whilst at the same time being financially viable.

ACTION: Clerk to add future fees to Agenda for next meeting and circulate details of what subs and fees clubs currently pay.

7 **Clubs Reports:**

7.1 **Football Seniors.** No representative present. The Clerk read the following report as submitted by Chris Sherwood:

"The season for us is coming to an end. The team have one more game to play this Saturday away in Uckfield and the Vets have their final game at Maresfield on 9th May. A strange season that has not been our most successful. Looking forward, we trust there will be an improvement next season and we are hoping to field a second team with the addition of the Dynamos Senior Squad."

7.2 **Dynamos Juniors.**

- MDJFC is governed by the FA in terms of what it can and cannot do under current COVID regulations.
- There is currently a Perspex screen in place at the food serving hatch.
- Players are using the changing room toilets and are not accessing the main pavilion area.
- Mr Horscroft thank MCC for allowing football to continue through until the end of June this year.
- It is hoped that there will be good membership take up in September.



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- MDJFC is hoping to hold a “Keith Giles Memorial Match” on 3rd July in conjunction with a fundraising day. MCC are playing away that weekend. All clubs were invited to participate in some way if they wished to do so and it was noted that this would be a good means of raising their profile. It was noted that there is unlikely to a Stoolball match that afternoon.
ACTION: Ms Skibinska to send email to mixed team captain suggesting a friendly Stoolball match at the event.

7.3 Cricket.

Mr Barnard reported as follows:

- Thanks to Cllr Mrs Cummings for her support over the last three months.
- Apologies for walking on the freshly painted corridor floor.
- The roller currently on the wicket has broken down and will hopefully be removed by the weekend.
- When can the team photos be put up? **ACTION:** MCC to sort out which photos they would like to put up and Clerk to arrange with Forest Row Maintenance Team.
- MCC is controlled by strict protocols enforced by the England Cricket Board
- Dog faeces is often present on the cricket square. **ACTION:** Clerk to report to WDC and investigate possibility of formal signage for recreation ground reference dog waste.

7.4 Stoolball.

Mrs Allen reported as follow:

- The first training session for a year took place last week.
- The first home game will take place on 10th May.
- There are only 6 clubs in the league this season, so the number of games is down on previous years.
- There are several friendly matches coming up.
- All bookings are entered onto the online diary with the exception of mixed team fixtures.
- Thanks were expressed to Cllr Stevens-Smith for arranging installation of the dedicated Stoolball storage shed. It is a tight fit getting the kit in and out, but the team are just about managing.
- Some concerns have been expressed as to the security of the sheds to the rear of the pavilion. This area has not to date been subject to vandalism or issues.
- There is a feeling amongst the Stoolball team that they are the “poor relatives” and that they pay a fee and would like to have appropriate facilities.
- Mr Horscroft noted that if the Football shed was better organised, there is probably space to fit Stoolball equipment in there too.
ACTION: Footballers to arrange to tidy and clear football shed prior to September.
- It was Agreed to review Stoolball storage at the end of the season.
ACTION: Clerk to add to September meeting Agenda.

7.5 Bowls.

Mr Russell reported as follows:

- Members of the club have been working hard scarifying and weeding the green.
- The Club will not be taking part in the Horam League this year due to insufficient players.
- Practice takes place on Tuesday evenings and internal competitions on a Thursday.
- Two CCTV Cameras have been placed on the Club House.
- **ACTION:** Clerk to send invoice to all Clubs for Annual Subs.
- **ACTION:** Clerk to send email contact to Mr Russell for Maresfield Church Magazine with a view to advertising for members.

8 Pavilion matters.

8.1 Refurbishment update.

The works are very nearly completed. Furniture and blinds are still required.

Volunteers are required to clear the changing rooms of any old equipment and items that are no longer required. **ACTION:** Committee members in liaison with Cllr Stevens-Smith.

ACTION: Cllr Stevens-Smith to check with Peter Penfold which Immersion is required to heat hot water for kitchen sink.



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ACTION: Dynamos to confirm when Charlie can carry out kitchen tiling works.

8.2 Usage Policy.

The "Terms of Use" document as circulated with the meeting papers was noted. The Chairman stated that this was a self-explanatory document to which all users must adhere.

8.3 Keys.

Changing room keys will be stored inside the immersion cupboard.

Cllr Mrs Cumming confirmed she has further keys for the side door to be distributed to clubs.

8.4 Storage.

The main pavilion area must be kept clear at all times and changing rooms should not be used for storage. All equipment to be stored in appropriate designated storage.

8.5 Drainage of path and patio. **ACTION:** Carry forward to next meeting.

8.6 Management rota.

ACTION: Clerk to create a tick list to make sure Pavilion is "shut-down" appropriately by Clubs after use.

ACTION: Each club to provide the name of a nominated individual/keyholder who will be held accountable for Pavilion "shut-down" after each use.

The Committee discussed the possibility of warnings and fines in the event of there being an issue with Pavilion "shut-down".

9 Ground matters.

9.1 Litter.

The Clerk reported that there seems to have been an increase in the amount of litter on the Recreation Ground, particularly Costa Coffee and McDonalds packaging.

ACTION: Clerk to investigate whether these companies would be interested in funding larger bins for the Rec.

9.2 Bowls Club Fencing Update.

The Clerk reported that the Council has approved these works be carried out by SJ Fencing.

This will include rabbit proof fencing and repairs to the broken fence behind the cricket enclosure. **ACTION:** Clerk to forward SJ Fencing contact information to Mr Russell.

10 Play area matters.

10.1 Anti-social behaviour at night.

The Clerk gave an update. The Police have attended on a couple of occasions.

11 Date of next meeting – TBA.