

Date: 04 June 2020

Title: Report Item 13 – Recreation Ground and Pavilion

By: Cllr N Day (Lead Member)

Purpose: To provide an update on progress since the May meeting

Recommendations: a) To consider reopening the tennis court to singles play
b) To consider the terms on which the parish council could request a licence from the Gilbert Estate to permit extension of the scorer's hut

The Playground remains closed for the time being as per HMG advice, although mowing contractors have accessed in order to keep the grass down.

Tennis Court

A resident has enquired via the website the feasibility of opening up the tennis court to singles play (see item under correspondence). If we decide to allow this, we need to get the net back up. I do not think the PC can offer any Hygiene facilities and it would have to rest with the individuals using the court to use their own. The only concern I have is that once the court is allowed to be open for all, how will it be available for those who wish to play basketball. If we were to allow the court to be used initially for singles play then I suggest it would have to be reviewed once restrictions are lifted, otherwise we could end up with the 'tennis club' taking over the court. The alternative is to remove the basketball frames. If we wish to agree to the tennis, I suggest we change the tennis court lock code.

Extension to the Scorer's hut

Mr Davies-Gilbert has been in contact with the Cricket Club regarding the extension to the pavilion Scorers hut. The current sketch plan is attached on page 5 below, and the relevant part of his email is as follows:

With regards the cricket club and alterations to the Cricket pavilion, please see the e-mail correspondence below with plan attached. Any licence for the alterations would need to be between the Parish Council and the Estate and I am minded to recover my legal costs in having it produced and issued. That said, and this is mentioned in the e-mail below, it would be good to see some general landscape improvements at the recreation ground, so perhaps a compromise is possible. In the first instance, the Parish Council need to confirm they intend to proceed with the works and I look forward to hearing from you on this.

So, he is suggesting that costs might be waived over the licence providing some landscaping is done.

The relevant part of his email is as follows:

You mention ongoing maintenance of the wicket and I wonder if this extends to what happens to the grass cuttings from the wicket and outfield. The dumping ground in the south west corner of the recreation ground grows bigger each year. Is there a plan to tidy this area up?

I have been down to look at this and the south west corner is overgrown and needs attention, also the 1 metre strip between the wall and hedgerow is now overgrown. The cricket club say that no grass cuttings are left on the boundary however I did find some. There is also some rubbish behind the pavilion.

If we wish to avoid paying the licence costs we need to come up with a plan and it should involve the Cricket Club's assistance.







