

**Minutes of a meeting of Hethersett Memorial Playing Field
Trustees held in Hethersett Queen's Head on Tuesday, 15th
January 2012**

Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from Eileen Mulvaney (EM)

Present were Peter Houlton – chair (PH), Peter Steward - secretary (PS), Rob Reeve (RR), David Chambers – treasurer (DC), Mel Perkins (MP) and Anne Edwards (AE).

Previous Minutes

The minutes of the November 2012 meeting were approved.

Anti Social Behaviour

There was nothing to report re anti-social behaviour on the park, although the matter of increased dogs mess has been reported to the secretary by a resident. It was agreed that a watchful eye should be kept on this and the only real way of dealing with it was to get photographic evidence of the dogs and owners. It would be worthwhile to mount a campaign to encourage residents to report incidents of dog fouling.

Funding Updates

PS reported that the next round of funding for the Norfolk County Council's Community Building scheme is now open and he will be putting together an application which has to be with the county council by February 14th.

Hethersett and Meltons Sports Association is waiting to hear whether its £3,400 grant application to the South Norfolk Northern River Valleys Board has been successful, although indications are that the application will be approved. Some of this money will be spent to start new groups on the Memorial Field e.g a family summer rounders club.

Hethersett Athletic Football Club has been awarded a grant from South Norfolk of £3,700 and the application by Hethersett Hawks Cycle Speedway Club for community PA equipment will be discussed on January 23rd.

RR produced examples of suitable teen shelters for the field. It was agreed that the best design would be A Tube style structure that would be difficult to climb on. It is hoped that Veolia and South Norfolk Council will meet the majority of the cost of the structure with the playing field making up the difference if necessary. RR will find out where similar structures have been placed in Norfolk and how successful they have been. Veolia can supply grants of up to £10,000. RR to report back to the next meeting with a view to putting in a grant application before April.

Environmental Issues

See item on dog mess under anti-social behaviour

Play Equipment

The inspection register is up to date and PH will deal with the latest risk assessment. ROSPA inspection of equipment to be booked for June.

Park Maintenance

No real problems. The gutter on the pavilion has been fixed and the ladies toilet lock in the pavilion needs attention. A schedule of works is being drawn up by RR and PH. Problems caused by the gates at the entrance to the park were discussed and the parish council to be sounded out as to whether it will finance improvements to these.

Treasurer's Report

DC issued a number of financial update sheets and there was a lengthy discussion about contributions from the parish council and the clubs using the field. The latest precept request is with the Parish Council. The council has re-structured the way it finances the Memorial Field and this means that clubs will have to pay increased fees for maintenance and the use of electricity and water. This will mean increases in charges for the football, bowls and cycle speedway clubs, although the feeling of the Trustees was that the proposed fees are still low for the use of a top class field.

Future Plans and Events

The date for the come and try sports event has been confirmed for May 22nd, 2013, and the Open Weekend will take place from July 5th to 7th with Sport in the Park on July 6th. The new Olympic Legacy Committee has met and Sport in the Park will be held in conjunction with a village fete. More information on this will be available at subsequent meetings of the Trustees.

PS is awaiting a decision on whether the parish council will fund a display cabinet in Hethersett Library from the prize money from the Pride in Norfolk Community of the Year win. If the council agrees to this he will speak to Hethersett and District Lions Club to resurrect the idea of a memorial plaque on the field.

A resident has come forward to request a commemorative bench on the field. This may prompt others to come forward with similar requests.

It was agreed that all formally constituted groups using the park should pay a fee, to be decided separately in each case.

Any Other Business

Tim Grimes has been presented with his gift as a token of thanks for his hard work on the field.

Date and Venue of Next Meeting

Friday 8th March in the Queen's Head at 7.30 p.m.