



Minutes of the meeting regarding Trawden Recreation Ground

Monday 15th July 2024

Invited: Cllr Hodgson, Trawden Parish Council Clerk, Cllr Ann Holmes, Cllr Osborne, David Hodgson (Trawden Show), Kate Holt representing dog walkers, Lester Spencer, David Whitfield, Trawden Athletic Club.

Present: Trawden Parish Council Clerk, Cllr Osborne, David Whitfield (Adults Section, Trawden Celtic Football Club), Matthew Parker (Chair, Trawden Celtic Football Club), Luke Richards (Secretary, Trawden Celtic Football Club).

1. Cllr Osborne agreed to be the Chair of this group and the Parish Council Clerk will be the administrator.
2. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves and their roles within their respective organisations.
3. Only representatives from Trawden Celtic Football Club attended the meeting and they are very enthusiastic to engage with the other user groups and the Parish Council to ensure the facility is kept within the ownership of the Parish and is the best it can be.
 - We need Borough Councillors to be on board with the transfer and Matt suggested that an 'open event' be held on 24^h August where the three Borough Councillors be invited to attend to show the member numbers of the children's football.
 - The dog walker's representative advised, before the meeting, that she feels that she doesn't think she has much to contribute. She is quite happy to continue monitoring issues and clearing up litter and dog mess as and when (like several others). The Clerk thanked her for her email and input at past meetings.
4. The members present would like to create a Management Committee, but there would need to be representatives from all of the user groups as it is a Recreation Ground. Cllr Osborne will contact Trawden Show, Trawden Athletic again and Lester Spencer to see if they are interested in joining the next meeting. The Parish Council Clerk will also put another post out on social media, closer to the next meeting, inviting people to attend. It was disappointing that only members of the football club attended and one Parish Councillor (Cllr Hodgson sent his apologies).
5. The Parish Council Clerk presented those present with the figures from Pendle Borough Council, for the financial year 2023/4, as below:



Notes regarding Recreation Ground costs – 13/6/24

In 2023/4 the costs for running the area were:

Grounds maintenance and bin emptying	£8500
Building repairs and maintenance	£2300
Grounds cost for pitch marking/goal erection	£300
Water and sewage costs were (there is a man who goes and reads the water meters and is aware of where this one is. He states it is fogged up at the minute but it is readable)	£1800
Costs for electricity	£5000
Total expenditure	£17,900

The income for the site is very low with only Trawden Show, the running club and some football matches paying for use.

If we take the transfer, Pendle Borough Council would still like to deal with the bookings so that it is a centralised booking system, but would expect some of the costs for hire to be retained by them as an admin fee.

- The members present felt that the costs were very high and would be out of reach, at the current time. The Clerk advised that she felt there was an issue with the water supply costs and has asked Pendle Borough Council to rectify these before any transfer of the site. The Parish Council would like to see a water meter on the Recreation Ground so that they could be sure that only water used on the site is paid for.
- Cllr Osborne has noticed that the lights are left on, often, and the water tanks will take a huge amount of energy to heat the water for very little use. There is scope for reducing the amount of electricity that is used, and again, there was the suggestion of solar panels and a wind turbine to create its own electricity.
- Luke advised that there are people within the football club that would be able to take on some of the repair and maintenance of the ground.
- Again, the issue of dog fouling was brought up. It was suggested that a dog exercise area could be created, depending on any covenants on the transfer.
- The building needs a lot of repairs or it needs to be replaced. There are funding opportunities available to constituted groups that are not available to Parish Councils, so this is another benefit of creating a separate Management Committee.
- Trawden Celtic Football Club are committed, if the backing is there, to put the work in to keeping this facility and improving it for all.

6. It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on 16th September 2024.

Meeting closed 7.45pm.