

Rev Cobley Playing Fields – Draycott

Report for Annual Parish Meeting of Rodney Stoke Parish Council

On 17th March 2022

The management committee consists of 5 members, 3 from the football club and 2 from the Memorial Hall. The AGM was held on 9th November 2021, the existing committee was re-elected with no other nominations coming in. The meeting was also attended by the Chairman of the parish council.

The current balance of the 2 accounts held with Natwest Bank stands at £2,856.70. Funding continues to come in from the parish council and Draycott Charities and income is also received from the football club for their use of the field.

The football club continue to pay the expenses on the pavilion. The parish council cover costs for the play area and insurances.

Grass cutting is the largest cost we incur and West Country Ground Care still take care of grass cutting, the level of cutting was not very good during 2021 and on numerous occasions we had to complain as there were large clumps of grass left after cutting which caused problems for the football club. Indifferent weather and irregular cutting during the pandemic was one of the reasons given for the problems. During the year, we asked a local contractor to verti-drain the football pitch which should help with the drainage. We have asked for and are waiting for a report of any findings during this operation.

Hedge cutting is the other expense which is shared between the playing field and Memorial Hall committees. The parish council undertake some maintenance on the surrounds of the fields when required via their own contractors.

The football club continue to use the field for their matches in the Somerset Senior League division 3. With the hall being closed during the summer of 2021, a local exercise class was run using the field for kettlecise training and they plan to do another weekly outdoor session in 2022. The school also held their sports day on the field and are looking to use the field more in 2022.

The parish council have plans in place to refurbish the youth shelter and maintain the playing area and it's equipment, they also undertake regular inspections of the field. During 2021, new benches have been installed in the play area.

There was an element of vandalism in 2021 but hopefully the installation of a CCTV system within the hall will help to alleviate this in 2022.

The management committee is also registered with Sport England via their Active Data Places platform and we get regular updates from them.

Stephen Young

Stephen Young
Secretary and Treasurer – Rev Cobley Playing Fields Management Committee
14th March 2022