

SOMERTON 2019 RECREATION GROUND TRUST

Monthly Newsletter No: 1

May 2019

1. Trust Transfer:

Whilst some details are still being completed the new Somerton Recreation Ground Trust took over the running of the fields on 1st April 2019 as planned. The Dowry payment from STC was received later in April.

2. Trustee Appointments:

The four 'Original' Trustees required in the setting up process –

David Osmond (Appointed);
Ray Thompson (Appointed);
Jason Burton (Football Club nominee);
Cliff Bassett (STC nominee)

were joined by the four remaining 'nominated' Trustees -

Bowls Club: Phil Catlin
Rugby Club: Jacob Ralph
Tennis Club: Jon Power
Sports Club: Graham Load

- whilst the selection process for the remaining 'appointed Trustees' was put on hold until the completion of the transfer of Trust assets had been confirmed. This process will be restarted shortly, and we would like to apologise to the applicants for the delay.

3. Trust Meeting:

The first Trust meeting was held on the 15th April and whilst full minutes will be available, we can confirm in the meantime that David Osmond and Ray Thompson were elected as Chair and Treasurer respectively.

4. Speciality and Support Roles and Volunteers

The new Trust will need all the help that it can get to try to ensure that it achieves its goal of maximising the benefits of the Recreation Ground for improving the conditions of life for all of the inhabitants of Somerton. We are keen to encourage anyone who is willing, to support the Trust in any way they can. To this end we have created a list of speciality roles that we will need to fill with either Trustees or non-Trustee volunteers

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SRGT Speciality Roles

Chairman	David Osmond
Treasurer	Ray Thompson
Secretary	Lina Thomas
Grounds Maintenance	Jason Burton, Andy, Wayne
Buildings Maintenance	Jacob Ralph
Health and Safety	
Events Co-Ordinator	Cliff Bassett
Children's Safeguarding	
Site Security and Police Liaison	
Sponsorship and Local Fund Raising	
Project Fund Raising	David Osmond
Volunteers Organisation	
Publicity and Communications	
Project Management	

The idea is that the people named will be a first point of contact for anything that arises in their speciality. You can see that we have plenty of unfilled spaces and even where there is already a name that person would almost certainly welcome further support. So please, please feel free to let us know where you think you could help.

We would also like to create a bank of volunteers who would be willing to offer occasional support on things like marshalling, car parking, tea shed service, basic maintenance etc etc, and need someone to head this volunteers' organisation.

5. David Wilson Development

Meanwhile, the new Trust have already taken steps to get a grip on progress with the new David Wilson Pitch. A very productive meeting was set up with representatives of David Wilson Homes; South Somerset District Council; and Swan Paul the landscaping consultants who helped create the previous 5-year plan. The result of the meeting was that we now have a full and detailed specification of the pitch to be delivered; the full support of SSDC in ensuring that it is delivered to spec; and an inspection and review process to monitor progress. This is a significant step forward from where we were.

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6. SRGT Development Plan

Further, following clarification of the matters mentioned above Swan Paul have now been instructed to update the 'Masterplan' drawings for the fields to take account of the new pitch and the connection to the new amenity land to the South West.

7. Annual Parish Meeting Presentation

The new Trust have been invited to present to the Annual Parish Meeting which will be held at Edgar Hall on the evening of Thursday 30th May. This should be a great opportunity to present the Masterplan drawings to the community and to collect feed back.

8. Finances

We are obviously very aware of the need for the Trust to run on a financially sound basis and to this end we aim to ensure that all operating costs are funded from operational income streams.

Our income is generated in several ways – Pitch Fees; Sports Club rent; Event Fees; MUGA rental; Sponsorship; and an annual grant from Somerton Town Council. This grant has been reduced from £12500 to £7000 this year.

Pinning down our operational costs in the new structure has been challenging with several areas of cost that were not paid by the previous RGMC only becoming manifest in the latter stages of the transfer process. We now expect to see a significant increase in operational costs in the new Trust compared to the previous RGMC and this is causing us some concern.

Costs include Grounds Maintenance where we have already engineered a saving; Utilities where we are seeing a substantial increase as we take over services that were previously paid by the Sports Club; Insurance where there is another substantial increase as we take responsibility for the Clubhouse building; and Building Maintenance which was not previously handled by the RGMC.

It goes without saying that we are working very hard to increase revenues and reduce costs.

Outside of our operational costs and income; the new Development Plan will create a 'wishlist' of projects and improvements desired for the future. We will treat each one separately and seek the appropriate support from relevant funding bodies.

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9. Forthcoming Events

Please see below table of events so far confirmed for this year:

SRGT Events Table 19-20

Date	Day	Event	Contact	Location	Timings	Parking
2.04	Tues	Schools Tag Rugby	SRFC	Rugby Field	Day Time	Hedge
6.04	Sat	Yeovil League Mens Finals	John Shearing	Main Pitch		Hedge?
10.04	Weds	Girls Football	Andy	Main Pitch?	10.00-13.00	Hedge?
16.04	Tues	Girls Football	Andy	All Pitches	09.00-17.00	Hedge
19.04	Gd Fri	Yeovil League Mens Finals	John Shearing	Main Pitch		No
27.04	Sat	SRFC Rugby Tournament	SRFC	Rugby Pitch +	09.00-23.00	Hedge
28.04	Sun	Yeovil League Youth Finals	John Shearing	All Pitches	09.00-17.00	Rugby Pitch
5.05	Sun	Yeovil League Youth Finals	John Shearing	All Pitches	09.00-17.00	Rugby Pitch
11.05	Sat	Yeovil League Mens Finals	John Shearing	Main Pitch		Clubhouse
12.05	Sun	Womens Cycle Race	Ken Robertson	Club/Gassons	09.30-17.00	Clubhouse
3-9.06	Mon-Sun	Shaun Rogers FunFair	Shaun Rogers	Rugby Pitch	Various	Hedge
7.07	Sun	Funday + Retro Event	Arts Festival	Whole Field	All Day	Organisers
13.07	Sat	Somerstock	Arts Festival	Event Field	All Day	Organisers
3.08	Sat	Wessex 10k	Immortal Sport	Gassons Field	17.00-21.00	Gassons Field
2.11	Sat	Fireworks	Martyn	Event Field	17.00-21.00	Organisers

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10. Volunteers, Supporters and contact

If you would like to offer your support or volunteer in any way; or ask any questions about anything then please contact me in the first instance for now. You can get me on:

David Osmond Mobile 07876 563 411
Email: donnyosmond1@outlook.com

I look forward to hearing from you.

End.