

# SOMERTON RECREATION GROUND TRUST (2019)

## Monthly Newsletter No: 4 - August 2019

Welcome to the August newsletter from the new Somerton Recreation Ground Trust. This newsletter is sent to Trustees, volunteers, user groups, and any member of the community who asks to receive it. The aim is to keep anyone interested, informed on developments both with the charity itself and the actual operations of running the fields day to day.

### OPERATIONS NEWS

#### **1. The Operations Team Meeting**

Was held at the Sports Club on Monday 12th August. The next one will be on Monday 9th September 2019 at 6.30pm in the Sports Club. Members of the Public are welcome to raise ideas, problems or questions in the Public session which will last for a maximum of 15 minutes at the start of the meeting, but then it's Ops Team only from there on.

#### **2. Grounds Maintenance (Jason/Andy/Wayne)**

With the Rugby Club having raised concerns over the condition of the Rugby pitch the recent heavy rainfall was very welcome and the pitch is recovering well. The Rugby club opted to distribute additional topsoil in worn areas and this co-operation is welcome.

Concern was raised over the thistles in the David Wilson play area and I have emailed them to request clearance. I saw this morning that some appear to have been cleared but some remain at the moment.

Generally, the fields are in good shape and will be rapidly returning to full sports use in the coming weeks.

I can also confirm that our field has been successful in this year's Field of the Year Competition and we are due to receive an award. The awards will be presented at the Presentation Evening which will be held in the Main Hall at Woolavington Village Hall, Higher Road, Woolavington on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7.30 p.m. **Please liaise with Tony Jotcham if you would like to attend.**

#### **3. Buildings Maintenance (Jake)**

A contractor has been appointed to complete the electrical certification work in the Clubhouse.

Jake is working hard to try to progress the commissioning of repairs to the floors of the temporary changing rooms.

We are still awaiting a quote for the potential provision of lighting from the Clubhouse to the MUGA. Andy suggested that we consider relocating the Tea Shed at the same time (with power supply) to stop people using it to climb into the MUGA. **Paul Castle – can we discuss ASAP please.**

Basketball Hoops. We still want to get two of the basketball nets moved from the MUGA to the other side of the MUGA wall. **Brian Raybould – are you able to do this soon? Thanks**

Groundsmen's Shed and Tea Shed. We need to get some of the felt replaced on the shed. **Larry Weightman – is this something you could look at?**

#### **4. Health and Safety (Tony J)**

STC are arranging an independent assessment of both the play equipment and the Play Area fencing. Tony Jotcham was unable to attend the meeting but submitted the following items by email:

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- 1) The Risk Management Assessment and report did not highlighted any fresh concerns. We have however the on-going situation that youths still access the R.G. through a hole in the hedge which could propel them directly into traffic on Langport Road. There is a further hole to Patch Meadows.
- 2) With reference to our Safeguarding Policy. I believe that this has now been adopted by the Trustees subject to some minor amendments.
- 3) I have not been made aware of any safeguarding issues on the R.G. by either members of the public or Somerton Council since our last meeting.
- 4) With regards to the other policies the R.G. need to have in place. I am still waiting for the clerk to the council to send me details of S.T.C. policies which we will amend to suit the R.G. I will contact Jude again this month.
- 5) I have identified the position of all the No Dog signs that are on the R.G. I was advised that we needed more but am unclear where we want to put the extra signs. This is something we might have discussed had I been at the meeting. I can confirm there are No Dogs signs on all the entrance points to the R.G. and I have cut back any tree growth on two that would have made them less visible.

### **5. Events (Fred)**

#### **a. Main events prior to the Operations Meeting were:**

SomerStock Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July – another Arts Festival event of significant size. The event was a great success with over 1000 attendees and a fantastic community feel. The Trust have received zero complaints of any nature and resoundingly positive feedback from the community. Site clear up was completed effectively and it is likely that the event will be repeated next year.

John Lawson Circus – 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> July. All passed off well. Feedback re dogs in attendance so we will try to enforce this better next year but again a well - attended community event.

The Wessex 10k on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> of August saw 209 runners heading out from the Recreation Ground to complete the 10,000-meter course before returning to the finish line and trophy presentations before taking a well-earned drink in the Sports Club. Really well organised event with good community involvement and generated nearly £400 for the Trust. Already requested repeat on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2020 and anticipate 350 entrants.

#### **b. Outstanding Events 2019 - Fireworks**

The main remaining event now is the Fireworks on 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Martyn Gould is organising the event and attended the Ops Meeting. Martyn will need more help and support in the preparations, and it would be good if we can find ways to increase revenues generated for the Trust on the evening. **Fred Bassett can you confirm availability of Radios and Collection buckets with Martyn.**

I believe the Sports Club are planning a Disco on the evening – any other ideas welcome.

### **6. Children's SafeGuarding (Phil)**

Please see Tony J's comments above.

### **7. Site Security and Police Liaison (Brian R)**

Brian continues to lock the Langport Road entrance each evening. No news to report.

### **8. Sponsorship and Local Fundraising (Tony J)**

Tony is working on his annual campaign to seek pitch sponsorship from local companies and individuals. It was suggested that this year we also seek sponsorship for the changing rooms. If you would like to offer your support, please contact Tony directly.

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### 9. Volunteers Organisation

We need someone to volunteer to set up and run a volunteer 'bank'. Please let me know if you would like to do this.

### 10. Publicity and Communications

Tony Stone has offered to start looking at creating a Recreation Ground Website

### 11. Outstanding Actions

SRGT Operations Meeting Live Actions 19-20						
Meeting	No:	Description	Who	By	Comments (01.07.19)	Completed
May	7	Seek quote for potential cctv coverage	Dave O	End May		
May	8	Seek quote for potential 'path to muga' lighting	Dave O	Asap	Quote requested Paul Castle	
May	9	Carry out relocation of basketball hoops to tarmac area	Brian R	End June	Brian ?	
June	17	Hazard notices to be procured for containers and changing rooms	Tony J	July Meeting	Volunteer needed to fix	
June	19	Commission work to repair temporary changing rooms floor	Jake	July Meeting		
June	20	Follow up on arragements for Play Area risk assesment	Dave O	14.06.19	Waiting STC Confirmation	
June	21	Install new post to Gassons Lane field entrance	Brian /Andy	30.06.19		
June	22	Update names for Safeguarding Notices	Tony J	30.06.19		
June	23	Tractor Users to receive training and sign indemnity	Tony J	July Meeting		
June	24	Request layout drawing for Martock Retro Day	Fred	14.06.19		
June	25	Request Paul Castle to look at relocation of tea shed and power	Dave O	14.06.19	Requested	14.06.19
July	27	Tractor Service - is it free?	Andy/Jason	31.07.19		
July	28	Rugby Post damage - redress to be sought from Fair	Dave O	31.07.19	£300 will be paid	24.08.19
July	29	Legionella Policy - Training course to be attended	Graham Load	?		
Aug	30	Contact DWH again re Thistles	Dave O	asap	Email Sent 19.08.19	
Aug	31	Tea Shed to be Relocated - need Paul Castle	Dave O	Next Meeting	Message Sent	
Aug	32	Confirm availability of buckets and radios for fireworks	Fred	Next Meeting		
Aug	33	Find volunteer to repair felt on shed roofs	Dave O	Next Meeting	Volunteer needed to fix	
Aug	34	Advise appropriate fix for hedge holes	Andy/Jason	31.08.19		
Aug	35	Sort new codes for gate locks and reiterate opening policies	Dave O/Andy	08.09.19		
Aug	36	Research options for SRGT website	Tony Stone	Trust Meeting		

### 12. Tea Shed

The Tea Shed will start trading again on Sundays from September 8<sup>th</sup> and we need as many volunteers as possible to take a turn at manning it. Please confirm your availability to me so that I can organise a rota.

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### TRUST NEWS

#### **13. Trustee Appointments:**

The charity now has ten Trustees:

David Osmond	(Appointed)
Ray Thompson	(Appointed)
Jason Burton	(Football Club nominee)
Cliff Bassett	(STC nominee)
Phil Catlin	(Bowls Club nominee)
Jacob Ralph	(Rugby Club nominee)
Jon Power	(Tennis Club nominee)
Graham Load	(Sports Club nominee)
Henry Holland	(Appointed)
Tony Stone	(Appointed)

#### **14. Trust Meeting:**

The next Trust meeting will be held on the 14th October at Edgar Hall 7.00pm.

#### **15. Speciality and Support Roles and Volunteers**

The table below shows the current specialities and vacancies in our Operations Team:

<u>SRGT Operations Team</u>	
<b>Chairman</b>	David Osmond
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ray Thompson
<b>Secretary</b>	Lina Thomas
<b>Grounds Maintenance</b>	Jason Burton, Andy, Wayne
<b>Buildings Maintenance</b>	Jacob Ralph
<b>Health and Safety</b>	Tony Jotcham
<b>Events Co-ordinator</b>	Cliff Bassett
<b>Children's Safeguarding</b>	Phil Catlin
<b>Site Security and Police Liaison</b>	Brian Raybould
<b>Sponsorship and Local Fund Raising</b>	Tony Jotcham
<b>Project Fund Raising</b>	David Osmond
<b>Volunteers Organisation</b>	<b>Vacant</b>
<b>Publicity and Communications</b>	Tony Stone/Barrie Davies
<b>Project Management</b>	<b>Vacant</b>

The idea is that the people named in the table above, will be a first point of contact for anything that arises in their speciality. You can see that we have some 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.

#### **16. David Wilson Development**

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Following the report in the previous newsletter, David Wilson have extended the access point between the Recreation Ground and the new David Wilson Pitch so that there is potential vehicle access to the right of the young oak and pedestrian access to the left.

The new pitch has been relevelled and topsoil is about to be applied. It would appear there may be a chance of this pitch being handed over for the 2020/21 season although there is a long way to go.

### **17. SRGT Development Plan**

The Working Group has completed its work on the updating of the original 2016 Masterplan to take account of the new David Wilson Pitch and presented the new drawings at the Trust meeting in July. Next action will be to create a list of potential projects to deliver the overall plan before beginning to assess potential funding streams. There will also be work undertaken to solidify the promised 106 funds that will be essential in delivering the new Masterplan. Anybody interested in viewing the revised drawings please contact the Chair directly.

Meanwhile, we will be arranging a visit for interested Trustees to the newly completed pavilion at Wedmore Recreation Ground in September to learn from their experience

### **18. Finances**

As reported last month further work will be undertaken to refine the budget in the light of new items that have emerged only after the transfer of the Trust

**End.**

**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](mailto:donnyosmond1@outlook.com)**

**I look forward to hearing from you.**