

# SOMERTON RECREATION GROUND TRUST (2019)

## Monthly Newsletter No: 5 - September 2019

Welcome to the September 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 9<sup>th</sup> September. The next one will be on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 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. Below are notes and actions from the September meeting.

#### **2. Public Questions**

Member of the Public, Mr Phil Flowers informed the meeting of the Memorial Service to be held for Mr Verdun Hayes on Saturday 21st September at St Michaels. Mr Hayes had been instrumental in the establishment of the original Trust and the Recreation Ground and the Chair said that he would attend to represent the current Trust.

Mr Flowers also questioned the safety of the fields and produced a piece of pottery and a bottle top. These had been found on the fields by Mr Flowers.

It is worth restating that as it is just not possible to maintain 24 hour a day supervision of every square inch of a 17-acre site; it will always be impossible to eliminate every element of risk. Therefore, there obviously remains a duty of care on users to look after their own safety whilst using the fields.

Mr Flowers was thanked for his effort and was invited to carry on his voluntary inspections.

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

It was noted that following the recent rainfall the Rugby pitch had indeed returned to good playable condition.

Concern was raised over stones in the new topsoil on the David Wilson pitch. Following an email from the Chair David Wilson have confirmed that the topsoil is not to specification and will be removed. This may delay completion of the pitch.

Generally, the fields are in great shape and this is confirmed by our recent award of the Silver Trophy in the Somerset Playing Field of the Year competition. Thanks again to Andy and Wayne for a great job

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

**Items below are almost all repeated from the previous newsletter unfortunately reflecting slow progress.**

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. . **Update please Jake**

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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?**

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

STC are arranging an independent assessment of both the play equipment and the Play Area fencing – it seems that this assessment covered the fence on the field side of the play area but not the road-side where we perceive the risk to be. **Dave O will email the STC again to pursue.**

Jason raised the need to fulfil the inspection regime on the Defibrillator and Tony Jotcham agreed to add this into his routine.

No other issues raised.

### **6. Events (Fred)**

This Summer has probably seen the most events with the most people using the fields ever. On the whole it has been a very successful season and while some lessons have been learned these events have generated much needed funds for the fields and great responses from the Community. They form an important part of the wider definition of 'Recreation'.

#### **Outstanding Events 2019 - Fireworks**

The main remaining event now is the Fireworks on 2nd November. Martyn Gould is organising the event and presented good progress to the Ops Meeting. The Sports Club have agreed to hold a Disco in the evening to extend the event. 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.

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

Please see Play area fence above.

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

Brian continues to lock the Langport Road entrance each evening. Users have been reminded not to leave the middle gate open. No further news to report.

### **9. 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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### 10. 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.

### 11. Publicity and Communications

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

### 12. Outstanding Actions

The list below will be updated and circulated separately

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 arrangements for Play Area risk assessment	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	DaveO/Andy	08.09.19		
Aug	36	Research options for SRGT website	Tony Stone	Trust Meeting		

### 13. 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

#### 14. 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)

#### 15. Trust Meeting:

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

#### 16. 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>	Vacant
<b>Publicity and Communications</b>	Tony Stone/Barrie Davies
<b>Project Management</b>	Vacant

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.

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### **17. David Wilson Development**

Please see comments relating to the new pitch development in the Operations notes

### **18. 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.

This visit has been arranged for Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> and will be reported at the next Trust meeting in October.

### **19. SRGT Website**

Tony Stone has offered to undertake some initial research into the potential to develop a website for the Trust and will report on progress at the next Trust meeting.

### **20. SRGT Logo**

Fred Bassett is working up some logo options with a view to having a final selection made at the next Trust meeting.

### **21. 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.**