

**BRAISHFIELD RECREATION GROUND**

Minutes of the Meeting of Braishfield Parish Council as Sole Trustee of  
Braishfield Recreation Ground  
held at Braishfield Church Rooms,  
on Tuesday 5 February 2019 (7:45pm to 8:45pm)

Present

Members of Braishfield Parish Council, the  
Sole Trustee

Chairman of the Parish Council Jane Bennett

Vice Chairman of the Parish Council Mike  
Edwards

Cllr Richard Brazier

Cllr Ian Knights

Cllr Carole Renvoize

Cllr Mark Swinstead

Cllr Peter White

Others:

Clerk, Kate Orange

Apologies

352. All Members of the Parish Council attended the Meeting.

Members' Interests

353. No Member declared any personal or financial interest in respect of the business on the agenda for the Meeting.

Accuracy of Minutes

354. The Sole Trustee agreed the accuracy of the Minutes of Meetings 8/1/19 and 6/11/18, and copies were signed by the Chairman.

Dog fouling

355. The Sole Trustee received a report on dog fouling (REVISION 1) dated 30/1/19 from the Clerk (FOR INFORMATION ONLY).

356. The Sole Trustee is looking into the legal situation with regard to dog fouling, especially as the Parish Council is considering having bye-laws for the recreation ground. The Clerk is to contact Test Valley Borough Council for support, and place an article in BVN news.

Trim trail

357. The Sole Trustee received the Clerk's report on options, following the inspection of the trim trail (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

358. *The following action was proposed following the latest inspection of the trim trail:*

*Revision of risk assessment to cover the recommendations of the inspection (e.g. regarding moveable equipment such as bins, benches, goals) - Clerk to draft.*

*Clerk to obtain quotations: ground levels at the gate, removal of concrete bases; provision of ground anchors for benches; removal of barbeque; safety surface under*

trim trail.

Clerk to contact football club regarding leaving goal posts where they cannot be used to climb onto higher features such as trees.

RESOLVED

Report on the position with agreeing a lease for the football pavilion (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

359. Chairman Jane Bennett reported that she will arrange a meeting with representatives of the football club in order to see how the agreement of a lease can be progressed.

Tree Condition Survey

360. The Sole Trustee awaits advice from Christopher Hoare, who undertook the last visual tree inspection, as to how frequent the inspections should be. The Clerk advised that the insurers suggested that the advice of a tree professional is followed. The last formal inspection took place in 2017. A management plan could be drafted.

Abandoned Vauxhall

361. *It was agreed that the Clerk and Chairman should contact the registered keeper of the abandoned Vauxhall and inform them that they have the option to voluntarily surrender the vehicle to Test Valley Borough Council. Pending the outcome, they may proceed to give notice under the Torts (Interference of goods) Act.*

RESOLVED

Fencing

362. *It was proposed that Cllr Knights should obtain three quotations for three types of fencing for the perimeter of the recreation ground, which could be included in a CIL bid if the Parish Council proceeds with a bid.*

RESOLVED

Payments

363. There were no payments to be made.

Next Meeting

364. The next Meeting will be held on 3 April 2019.

**Braishfield Recreation Ground  
Report on Dog Fouling (Revision 1)  
Kate Orange, Clerk, 30/01/2019**

Dog fouling is on the agenda for the Meeting of 5/2/19.

As well as simply being unpleasant, dog fouling poses a public health risk, particularly where people play sport and are likely to come into direct contact with contaminated ground, or where children play. The NHS describe the health risks<sup>i</sup> from the roundworm parasite, which is carried by many dogs, and describe how it infests humans:

*“Humans can catch it from handling soil or sand contaminated with infected animal faeces.”*

*“The parasite eggs responsible for toxocariasis can survive for many months in sand or soil, so all pet faeces should be collected and disposed of in the rubbish.”*

- the soil will remain infected long after the faeces have disintegrated; but

*“the eggs only become infectious after 10 to 21 days, so there's no immediate danger from fresh animal faeces.”*

I have asked the football club and school to give their views.

1. Mrs Rhodes, the Head Teacher, feels that the instances of dog fouling are fairly low; but clearly has the potential to be problematic.
2. Football club – Kevin Hitchcock replied *“We are not encountering any issues but just to highlight that the under 10s play their home games on the pitch and I recall younger children are most a risk with an illness that can be caught coming into contact with dogs mess?”*.

The Borough Council has responsibilities<sup>ii</sup> to help control dog fouling on public spaces such as the Recreation Ground. However, they clearly cannot monitor the Recreation Ground regularly. Given the duty of care which the Recreation Ground charity has towards the public, other measures should be considered.

Local measures could include:

1. Restrict access for dogs to the margins away from the pitch and trim trail (ie. the North, South and West margins)
  - Avoids fouling on areas where people are likely to contact the ground with their hands, when exercising or playing sport; and where children play
  - Helps to separate children and dogs
2. Dogs kept on leads in all areas
  - Owners are more likely to notice fouling taking place
  - Improves safety for children or other dogs
3. A total ban on dogs on all areas
4. Provision of dog waste bags and sanitary gel free-of-charge, information signs and labelling of all wheelie bins as suitable for dog waste
  - encourages owners and general public to clear up dog faeces
5. A weekly dog waste patrol by volunteers
  - Could be combined with litter-picking patrols
  - Could be extended to footways
  - Training and equipment may be provided under HCC grant
6. Cameras

- funding may be provided under HCC grant, along with training as to privacy implications
- may discourage antisocial behaviour, dumping of waste, vandalism, litter dropping, dog fouling, and increase security for the Village Hall and pavilion

i Extract from the NHS website (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/toxocariasis/>)

*“For most people, an infection with these roundworm larvae causes no symptoms and the parasites die within a few months.*

*However, some people experience mild symptoms, such as:*

- *a cough*
- *a high temperature of 38C or above*
- *headaches*
- *stomach pain*

*In rare cases, the roundworm larvae infect organs such as the liver, lungs, eyes or brain and cause severe symptoms, such as:*

- *fatigue*
- *loss of appetite or weight loss*
- *skin rashes*
- *wheezing or breathing difficulties*
- *seizures (fits)*
- *blurred or cloudy vision, usually only affecting one eye*
- *a very red and painful eye*
- *potential for retinal detachment and permanent loss of vision”*

ii The inspector of the trim trail referred to the “Litter (animal droppings) Order 1991”. This Order says “The provisions of Part IV of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 which apply to refuse shall apply to dog faeces on...

*any public walk or pleasure ground;*

*any land, whether inclosed or not, on which there are no buildings or of which no more than one-twentieth part is covered with buildings, and the whole or the remainder of which is laid out as a garden or is used for the purposes of recreation;”*

And Part IV of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 governs littering (and also dog fouling), and identifies the Principal Litter Authority (the Borough or County Council) and the powers and duties they have with regard to littering and dog fouling.

Braishfield Recreation Ground  
 Report on recommendations in Wicksteed's inspection  
 Kate Orange, Clerk, 30/1/2019

The following tables set out the findings of the Wicksteed inspection. Wicksteed quoted for some of the work, as shown in Table 1. For other matters, I have expanded their comment into a recommendation (Table 2). (Refer to Wicksteed report for definition of risk rating)

**Table 1: costed work**

	<b>Location</b>	<b>Wicksteed Comment</b>	<b>Wicksteed Risk Rating</b>	<b>Wicksteed quote (excluding VAT)</b>
1	Springer elephant and twister	<i>Sunken area [at elephant] 1.5m diameter circle creates trip/fall hazards recommend repair. Note Stone base material will be required. Surface damage approx 200mm x 100mm repair [at twister]</i>	M	<b>£392.00</b> (excluding labour)
2	Stride Jumps	<i>One low ground post decay at ground level [the Clerk has the horizontal rail, which is to be re-used]</i>	M	Ground log c/w 2 x board fixings & caps <b>£45.36</b> Delivery <b>£15</b> (excluding labour)
				Labour on both repairs <b>£540</b>
			<b>Total quotation</b>	<b>£992.36</b>

**Table 2: further recommendations**

	<b>Location</b>	<b>Wicksteed Comment</b>	<b>Wicksteed Risk Rating</b>	<b>Clerk's Recommendation</b>
1	Multi-play unit	<i>One vertical rope is missing from the rope crossing this does not appear to be structural but recommend contact manufacturer for further advice.</i>	L	Contact manufacturer, KOMPAN, for advice
2	Safety surface – black wet pour and inlays	<i>Monitor surface area uneven/sinking repair as required also remove leaf litter on a regular basis to help avoid slips</i>	L	Consider including regular cleaning of surface under grounds maintenance contract.  Pass on information Test Valley Council playground

	Location	Wicksteed Comment	Wicksteed Risk Rating	Clerk's Recommendation
				inspectors
3	Springer See-saw	Monitor slight movement in ground fixings.  Monitor sinking/uneven surface for trip hazards.	L	Pass information to Test Valley Council playground inspectors
4	Pedestrian gates	Repair ground erosion at field gate to help avoid trip hazards	M	Pass to lengthsman
5	JUMP BOARD START	Monitor decay at bottom front face of upright around knot.	L	Pass information to Test Valley Council playground inspectors
6	Metal frame	This item is not part of trail equipment and could create a Collision hazard to users concrete at base creates trip/fall hazards Item is due to be removed consider replacing with additional trail equipment.	MH	This has been removed since the inspection
7	Twin balance run	Animal faeces on equipment removed at time of inspection.	M	Employ measures to control dogs and dog waste <sup>1</sup>
8	Log wall climber	Ground erosion recommend repair item is 1.9m high Note: Grass is considered suitable for use where Free Fall Height is up to 1.5m, but note that grass must be in a well maintained condition, with at least 150mm of soil beneath it. Grass should remain throughout the year, and must not become mud or bare earth. Its impact absorbency is dependant on the roots maintaining an un-compacted soil structure. Grass alone will not sustain intensive use, Recommend surface upgrade.	M	Install safety matting
9		Monitor for fall hazards to side on ID plaque & post.	L	Relocate the ID post to outside fall range
10	HORIZONTAL	Ground erosion recommend	M	Install safety matting

<sup>1</sup>Dog fouling is the topic of a separate motion under consideration by Braishfield Recreation Ground on 5/2/19; and will be covered under a separate report.

	Location	Wicksteed Comment	Wicksteed Risk Rating	Clerk's Recommendation
	LADDER	<i>repair consider surface upgrade</i>		
11	Parallel bars	<i>Ground erosion recommend repair consider surface upgrade.</i>	M	Install safety matting
12	Jump board finish	<i>Ground erosion concrete visible recommend repair consider surface upgrade.</i>	M	Install safety matting to cover the concrete/earth junction
13	Operators sign	<i>The provision of a sign (pictogram) recommended giving the following information: a) General emergency telephone number (999 or 112) b) Telephone number to contact maintenance personnel c) Name of the playground d) Address of the playground e) Other relevant local information, if applicable (ref: BS EN 1176-7:2017 clause 8.2.4)</i>	M	Install information sign
14	Litter bins	<i>Not permanently installed as permanent installation of furniture/bins is recommended to prevent unauthorised movement that may compromise equipment Free and Falling spaces or create hazards to users. [This refers to moveable objects which can be positioned next to other fixtures, enabling people to climb etc. with attendant hazards]</i>	M	Install bin clamps
15	Picnic tables	<i>Not permanently installed as permanent installation of furniture/bins is recommended to prevent unauthorised movement that may compromise equipment Free and Falling spaces or create hazards to users.</i>		Provide ground anchor and chain
16	General areas	<i>Access by dogs is not physically prevented and routine inspection should include monitoring and</i>	M	Employ measures to control dogs and dog waste.

	Location	Wicksteed Comment	Wicksteed Risk Rating	Clerk's Recommendation
		<i>removal of animal faeces. Litter (animal droppings) order 1991of The Environment Protection Act 1990 requires public walks and pleasure grounds to be free from animal faeces.</i>		
17	Trim trail areas	<i>Recommend signage to stop dog walking in trail equipment area or keeping dogs on a lead in this area etc.</i>	M	Employ measures to control dogs and dog waste.
18	General	<i>Goal posts OLD &amp; NEW stored in trail equipment area creates hazards to users<sup>2</sup> recommend goals stored away from this area and secured to stop unauthorised movement.</i>	MH	Liaise with football club, to ask that goals are placed away from trim trail equipment when not in use. Provide ground anchor and fixing in storage position.
19	Rear of pavilion	<i>Oil drum barbecue heavy corrosion creates hazards to users of area recommend remove from site ASAP.</i>	H	Clerk will remove the old oil drum

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2 This refers to people taking movable objects so that they can climb higher on to exercise/play equipment and use the equipment in a way that it was not designed for.