

## **Wingham Recreation Ground Management Committee**

Chairman's report to the APA

2020-21

Over the past year the recreation ground, which is managed by the Recreation Management Committee, has seen a strange year with Covid 19. During the year with the pandemic from Covid 19 the Recreation Ground seemed to be used more by the public and not only just from the village but other public from surrounding areas as lockdowns and the tier system gave families more time at home.

The sporting groups which use the grounds, football, cricket and tennis, were inadvertently affected by government guidelines on how their sport could be played or not at all, even the annual 10k and 5k was restricted.

The play area has been allowed to remain open but the new outside gym has seen it closed more than open due to government guidelines (these two areas are controlled by the Parish Council).

From last year's report the Recreation ground are kept reasonably clean and maintained by Harmer & Son (grass cutting) to a nice standard; the only down-side is the same problem of dog owners not clearing up behind their dogs which has led some children and adults finding it on their footwear. This surely cannot continue - even with reminder signs placed it has not improved and this is something the committee will be working on to try to change the problem.

As usual the Management Committee, which I'd like to thank, is made up of volunteers who give their free time to attend meetings and address any issues which may arise, as does the Parish Council representative.

The upkeep of the grounds comes at cost so the Committee appreciates the grant which is handed from the Parish Council each year to assist in the maintenance of the ground. A financial report on income and expenditure has been submitted for your reading separately from this report.

After many years of being the Treasurer for the Management Committee, Jim Cook has decided to stand down as he moving away from the village and I'd like to thank Jim for his support and commitment over the years. As we say goodbye to Jim, we say hello to our new Treasurer, David Rothschild.

During the year, like all villages, there is a small problem of anti-social behaviour late at night on the grounds which mainly seems to be in the play area. The Parish Council with the Management Committee are aware and trying to address the issue which is hard to police, but would encourage residents to report any disturbances to your PCSO.

This concludes my annual report.

Regards

Ian Pettman

Chairman, Wingham Recreation Management Committee