

Malpas Recreation Ground Chairs Report 2019-2020

Management Committee

Only one business meeting of the committee took place during the reporting period due to a quorum of the committee members not being available.

However, the Chairman has attended a number of meetings with the Trustees, to further the financial management and general business of the Trust.

Site Usage Review

The site continues to be used by the Malpas Alport Primary School for their weekly games period and their periodic sports days.

The site is also being used on a weekly basis by adult women carrying out keep fit classes.

The Trustees are satisfied that the operation is correctly insured and is acting in a respectful manner towards all site users.

The site was again provided free of charge for the popular and well attended Village Fair in July 2019; this in line with the trust principle objective of supporting leisure activities for Malpas residents. The Trustees and Management Committee Chairman assisted with the logistics of the Fair.

Attendance at and usage of the facility has once again seen increases, as the number of village residents grows. The site is also proving popular to visitors and residents from outside the immediate area.

Site and Play Equipment Maintenance

During the reporting period, the existing play equipment provided on the site has remained in good condition with no expenditure needed on equipment maintenance.

Five dead mature trees were taken down and removed from the site. As the site resides in the Malpas Conservation area permission for their removal was sought from and granted by the Cheshire West and Chester Council Planning Authority.

A wooden post and rail fence was also erected to define the boundary between the site and the Oak Tree Rise and Hughes lane roads.

Safety and Anti-social Behaviour

During the reporting period, weekly inspections of the site are conducted. These visits consist of an inspection of the play equipment to identify any potential hazards or defects, and also to pick litter from the site.

During the weekly inspections it has been found necessary remove broken bottles from the site.

Youngsters present at have been made aware of the dangers.

Any defects identified on the equipment are remedied within appropriate timescales, or reported to the appropriate responsible body. Visits, issues and actions followed up, are recorded in a site log book.

Following a briefing session to 15 young people was undertaken by the Chairman of the Committee at the Malpas Young Persons Centre Following the people shelter was reinstated

A 12 month Safety Inspection, conducted to BSEN Standards, was undertaken by Morral Play Services certified Inspector on 7th September 2019.

A feedback report was received and any outstanding issues are being addressed.

Some eight years ago, Japanese Knotweed was discovered growing on the verge on Tilston Road and was starting to invade the Recreation Ground. This has resulted in an ongoing problem for the Trust.

Work to eradicate the plant was again carried out during the review period, and indications are that the plant has been eradicated. The Management Committee will continue to monitor the affected area and will carry out further treatment if necessary.

Management Committee

Over the last few years it has become increasingly difficult to recruit new committee members, and for the reporting period we have only had 7 Committee members in total.

Future Strategy

There are plans in place to utilize the site as a location for the Malpas VE75 Event, which is being organised to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the end of World War 2 in Europe.

The longer term strategy is to develop the site in a unique manner with greater emphasis on a park with open green space on its north western perimeter.

The vision for the future is one of a well-used and maintained green space capable of being enjoyed by all residents and visitors to the village.

Chris Whitehurst

Chair Malpas Recreation Ground management Committee

31st March 2020