

# Malpas Recreation Ground Trust Annual report

1st April 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022

## Chairs Report 2021-2022

### Trustee Actions

In the reporting period, the Trustees have again been successful through, the Denton Clark Rentals property management company, in renting out to a local family, the four bedroom property which is situated on Hughes Lane, Malpas

### Financial Summary:

Expenditure for the year was £ 2,998.24, this against an income of £8,725.07 from property and car park rental.

### Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed in particular those related to the operations and finances and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to major risks.

### Site Usage Review

The use of the site during the reporting period was once again hampered by the Covid19 pandemic.

However as the year progressed and Covid19 threat receded, the site again proved popular to local residents and visitors to the area.

During the reporting period, the site was still being used by the Malpas Alport Primary School children for their weekly games and annual sports event.

On 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021, the site hosted the James Town Circus; this proving very popular with local residents and the restricted seats sold out very quickly.

### Play Equipment Maintenance and Inspection

In April 2021 new seats and support chains were purchased at a cost of £279.84. These were fitted to the large swing set to replace worn chains and dilapidated seats.

A full safety inspection of equipment was undertaken by Morral Play Services on 17th August 2021. No major issues were identified.

Weekly checks of the equipment continued throughout the year, with no major issues being identified, and the existing play equipment has remained in good condition.

### Hughes Lane Road and pavement Works:

Between 1st April and 4th November contractors working for Stewart Milne Homes Limited undertook work on the finishing of the Hughes Lane Road and Pavements. This work included the provision of a raised table road crossing and the relocation of the recreation Ground pedestrian entrance.

A deal was negotiated with Stewart Milne Homes to allow them to utilise the spare land below the MUGA for the provision of a works compound and a temporary pedestrian footpath. In return the Stewart Milne contractors provided a new pedestrian entrance, a tarmaced permanent footpath up to the MUGA and a new wooden boundary fence

At the beginning of April 2021 the boundary hedges were “gapped up” with Hawthorn and Blackthorn hedging plants.

In November 2021, the entrance off Hughes Lane was widened with the existing entrance gates being widened; this to accommodate large fairground Lorries. In addition planting of new Laurel hedge was completed on the boundary with Hughes lane.

### **Weekly Safety Inspections**

Any defects identified on the play 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.

Whilst there have been no equipment defects observed within the reporting period, litter on the site does remain a major issue.

### **Management Committee**

No business meetings of the management committee took place during the reporting period due to a quorum of the committee members not being available.

*Note\* It has been increasingly difficult to recruit volunteers to join the Management Committee.*

However, the Chairman of the committee did attend a number of meetings with the Trustees, to further the financial management and general business of the Trust.

### **Future Strategy and Plans**

There are plans in place to utilize the site as a location for the Malpas Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in June 2022.

The longer term strategy is to maintain the unique manner of the site with emphasis on a park with open green space available for use by residents and village community events.

Chris Whitehurst  
Chair Malpas Recreation Ground management Committee

31<sup>st</sup> March 2022