

Chair's report for the AGM of the Jubilee Field Trust – 5 May 2021

Report for 2019 / 2020

This short report is included in this report as there was no AGM in 2020 due to the Covid19 pandemic lockdown coming into force in March 2020 just prior to the scheduled AGM.

In 2019/2020 the Parish Council continued to administer and manage the JF, in the same way as it has done for many years; this included:

1. Maintaining the children's playgrounds, the grassed areas, hedges, trees, the pond and the surrounding ditches and verges. This included:
 - a. The older items in the playground were repainted.
 - b. A replacement hedge was started along the eastern end of Upper Common Lane using whips donated by the Woodland Trust
 - c. The pond was partially dredged to clear some of the mud and reeds whilst retaining adequate cover and undergrowth to support the wildlife.
2. Making improvements to the children's playground and other community facilities, when funds permit. This year we added 4 new benches around the play area and 2 picnic tables and seats on the field itself. These were funded from the Jacksmeadow S106 funds.
3. Making the JF available for group activities such as the Farmers Market, Cub Scouts and Brownies.
4. Collecting rents due from tenants - the Village Hall Committee and the Uffington Post Office and Stores.
5. Insuring the assets located on the JF (including but not limited to the playground equipment, bins, benches/seats and pond lifebelt).

Report for 2020 / 2021

In 2020/2021 the Parish Council continued to administer and manage the JF, in the same way as it has previously including:

1. Maintaining the children's playgrounds, the grassed areas, hedges, trees, the pond and the surrounding ditches and verges. This included:
 - a. The replacement hedge was continued westwards alongside Upper Common Lane using whips donated by the Woodland Trust. This completed the project which it is hoped will provide a wildlife friendly native tree hedge in due course.
 - b. The muddy surfaces of the entrance paths were improved.
 - c. The pond was partially dredged to clear some of the mud and reeds whilst retaining adequate cover and undergrowth to support the wildlife.
2. Making improvements to the children's playground and other community facilities when funds permit.
 - a. An additional gate was added on the field side to facilitate access from the new seating rather than just from the car park side.
 - b. Whilst we were forced to close the playground from the start of the lockdown in March it was reopened with the addition of some simple rules and hand sanitiser facilities to make it 'Covid-secure' which has allowed this popular and much-used facility to remain open.

3. Making the JF available for Covid-limited group activities such as the Farmers Market, Scouting and Little Kickers football.
4. Collecting rents due from tenants - the Village Hall Committee and the Uffington Post Office and Stores.
5. Insuring the assets located on the JF (including but not limited to the playground equipment, bins, benches/seats and pond lifebelt).