

Chairman's report for the AGM of the Jubilee Field Trust – 10 June 2019

Introduction

This is the AGM for the Jubilee Field Trust, which is a requirement of the governing Trust Deed, dated 30 November 1982. This followed the Conveyance dated 30 July 1971 by which Robert Geddes Spence transferred the Jubilee Field ('JF') to the Parish Council, and the Parish Council subsequently let part of the JF to the village hall trustees for a term of 99 years from 23 September 1974, and later another part to the owners of the Uffington Post Office and Stores.

The Parish Council is '**Custodian Trustee**'. A custodian trustee is a corporation appointed to have the custody, as distinct from the management, of trust property, so it is the Parish Council as a corporate whole, rather than named individuals, which has the responsibility. (The difference between a Trustee and a Custodian Trustee is that a trustee manages assets for the beneficiaries of a trust, estate or other party; a custodian is the organization that actually holds the assets).

Under the Trust Deed, the Parish Council holds the JF on trust for a recreation ground for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Uffington; the Deed requires the Parish Council to administer and manage the JF through a Committee of Management – which is to consist of the members of the Parish Council, but with them wearing a different hat to the Custodian Trustee role. The Committee of Management is required to hold at least two ordinary meetings in each year as well as an AGM. There is no bank account for the Jubilee Field Trust and it does not hold any money in any other account.

In recent years, for the sake of convenience, the administration and management of the Trust property (the JF) has been undertaken by the Parish Council, (operating as the Parish Council rather than the Committee of Management), with all costs paid by the Parish Council, but funded by the precept – as it is for the benefit of all the inhabitants of Uffington. As such, the JF is an agenda item for every monthly meeting of the Parish Council, which, for example, organises the bi-annual tidy.

In order to ensure that the custom and practice as just described properly reflects the conditions of the Trust Deed (and therefore the Charity Commissioners) the Parish Council formalised these arrangements in a Management Agreement, which was signed on 12 November 2018. This is between the Parish Council (as Custodian Trustee) and the Parish Council itself, which agreed to undertake the management of the JF for and on behalf of the Custodian Trustee. The term of the Agreement is for one year (from 12 November 2018) and thereafter until determined in a number of ways which are set down in the agreement.

Report on 2018 / 2019

In the last year, the Parish Council has continued to administer and manage the JF, in the same way as it has done for many years; this includes:

1. The maintenance of the children's playgrounds, the grassed areas, the trees, the pond and the surrounding ditches and verges.
2. Making improvements to the children's playground and other community facilities, when funds permit.
3. Collecting rents due from tenants - the Village Hall Committee and the Uffington Post Office and Stores.
4. Insurance.