

# CRICH RECREATION GROUND TRUSTEE GROUP

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## CRICH RECREATION GROUND TRUSTEE GROUP MEETING

Zoom video conference

17<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
6.00pm – 7.30pm

### MINUTES

- 01/23: Present:** Cllrs C Collison – Trustee Group Chair, T Harper, M Lane, K Smith, R Walsh, P Yorke, M Baugh, K Barlow
- 02/23: Apologies for absence noted**  
Cllrs V Broom Trustee Group Vice Chair & A Tipton
- 03/23: Appointment of Chair**  
Chris Collison was appointed Chair 2023-24
- 04/23: Appointment of Vice Chair**  
Valerie Broom was appointed Vice Chair 2023-24
- 05/23: Appointment of Trustee Clerk**  
S Teece, appointed Trustee Clerk 2023-24
- 06/23: Declaration of conflicts of interest**  
All members of the Trustee Group are also Parish Councillors.
- 07/23: Report from Trustee Group Chair 2023/24 Cllr C Collison**  
Chair gave a report of the last year thanking everyone involved over the last year, circulated as Apdx A.

I place on record my thanks to the Trustee Group for their support of me in the role of Chair throughout another year. The timely responses of Trustees to requests for opinions and approvals, and ongoing support including attendance at site meetings, have been much appreciated. I also thank the Clerk who has serviced the Trustee Group efficiently and effectively. Crich Parish Council undertakes the day-to-day management and administration of the Recreation Ground on behalf of the Trustee Group, and it has performed that role to a very high standard.

The Recreation Ground continues to be a valuable asset making a significant contribution to the health and wellbeing of the parish community. The existence of an attractive, well maintained, multi-purpose green space has continued to offer valuable local opportunities for recreation and exercise, organised and informal play, and passive relaxation for all. The Recreation Ground has also remained available for community events, not least providing a venue for the highly successful annual Crich Fete.

Over the past year there has been no necessity, as happened in parts of the previous two years, to close the play equipment and adult exercise equipment due to Covid-19 pandemic restrictions. The health and well-being of users of the Recreation Ground has however remained uppermost in the consideration of issues with scheduled safety checks of equipment and a survey of trees taking place. It is disappointing that there have been short periods when it has been necessary to prevent access to items of the play equipment due to damage as a result of vandalism. There has also been some damage to shrubs. The Trustee Group continue to be determined that what is assumed to be a very small number of anti-social people will not spoil the enjoyment of the Recreation Ground by the parish community. The Trustee Group welcomes the priority assigned to this matter by the Derbyshire Constabulary Community Police Officers.

Over the last year it has been possible to achieve several significant improvements to the Recreation Ground, including the installation of a stone wall feature to house a plaque thanking those parties who have contributed ideas and resources. A specimen tree has been planted to mark the occasion of the King's Coronation. It has also been possible to clear and improve the appearance of a previously neglected corner area, and to repair parts of the boundary walls. The installation of directional finger post signs at the three main entrances has raised the profile of the Recreation Ground encouraging even greater use.

The Trustee Group welcomes the efforts of the Parish Council to reach out to older children to ensure the Recreation Ground meets the needs of that group, and also welcomes the proposed Parish Council roadshow at the Crich Fete which it is hoped, amongst other matters, will reveal views relevant to the Recreation Ground. I am confident the enthusiasm and support of local people will ensure the Recreation Ground will continue to develop as a most valuable community resource in the future.

#### **08/23: Minutes**

The Minutes of Crich Recreation Ground Trustee Group Meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022 were approved and will be signed by Chair at a later date.

#### **09/23: Documents**

- a) The Terms of Reference – Reviewed and readopted
- b) The Governance Document outlining:
  - Decisions that can be taken by the Parish Council
  - Decisions that must be referred to the Trustee Group for their decision.Reviewed and readopted.
- c) The Events on Crich Recreation Ground Policy – Terms and Conditions – Reviewed and readopted.
- d) To review the application form to use the Recreation Ground - Reviewed and readopted, amended to include emergency contact details of the applicant.

#### **10/23: Future Improvement of the Recreation Ground**

Goal Mouths – The Parish Council has requested a repair to the goal mouths plus annual maintenance, the Clerk to chase the contractor.

Community Orchard – The location of the trees to be planted is still to be decided.  
Damage to the curved bench - It was agreed to delegate the decision to the Parish Council on whether to repair or replace this bench, quotes to be obtained.

**11/23: Access to the Recreation Ground**

We have reports that access to the recreation ground is difficult for wheelchairs and pushchair users from The Beeches.

An access group will be contacted for advice and quote will be obtained for a dropped kerb. It was agreed to ask the Parish Council to investigate this further.

**12/23: Damage to Stone Wall**

The stone Recreation Ground boundary wall is damaged along the footpath from the Glebe to the Beeches. Quotes are being obtained.

It was agreed to ask the Parish Council to contact the Land Registry to establish ownership of this boundary wall.

It was agreed to delegate to the Parish Council authority to proceed with any necessary repair works to the wall, and to agree any apportionment of costs with adjoining owners if appropriate.

**13/23: Any other matters**

Any other matters of concern that had arisen during the year:

A wildflower area on the Recreation Ground was reported by a resident to have been strimmed at an inappropriate time of year. Investigations are ongoing.

**14/23: Next meeting date**

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024, 6.00pm. The meeting will take place via Zoom.

**15/23: Meeting closed 7.08pm.**