

**EMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL
SPORTS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting held at The Pavilion on
Friday 5th April 2024 at 6.30pm**

Present: Simon Harris - Chairman
Michael Bath
Andy Letts
Dennis Letts
Guy Palmer (Parish Council Representative)

Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

To appoint a Chairman and Vice Chairman – Simon stated that he would agree to Chair the meeting.

Apologies for absence – Apologies of absence were noted from Norman Gillam.

Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda – There were no declarations of interest.

1. **Minutes of Meeting held on the 30th October 2023** – The Minutes of the meeting held on the 30th October 2023 were agreed and signed by the Chair.
2. **Football** – Andy commented that he had spoken to one of the Olney football managers who mentioned that two teams would be moving this year but a further 2 two teams wanted to play at Emberton. Michael reported that the redundant goal posts had not been moved; there were 5 goals and only 2 got used. The clerk to take this back to OTC. **Action: KG.** The clerk reported that all football fees had been paid to the end of the season. Guy asked if the football had been affected by the weather. Andy responded that it had been difficult to mark out the pitch due to the rain and that more time and money was being spent on maintenance on the large pitch. It was therefore agreed to increase the fees on the main pitch by £100 per year, per team with the other pitches remaining at the same fee.
3. **Cricket** – The fixture list was shared with it being noted that there were the same number of games as last year but no games had been booked for Tuesday evenings for Rising Stars. Andy reported that he had advertised for a part time role on Emberton Echo for a young person to help mark out the cricket square but no one had been forth coming.
4. **Tennis** – The tennis court has been sprayed. Guy asked if the court was used. A discussion took place regarding the booking system and access to the court and agreed that if a lock was put on the gate, this would be abused.
5. **ESSC update** – The clerk reported that the ESSC were going ahead with replacing 4 external doors.

6. **Changing rooms/showers** – It was noted that the ESSC had this item on their agenda and no further action would be required by the SRC.
7. **Field maintenance** – Andy reported that he was waiting on a delivery that hadn't turned up to repair the goal mouths. The estimate from Brook Lloyd for field maintenance was discussed and agreed that the ground staff were not at the stage yet where help was required. However, it was noted that cutting the grass bank was quite labour intensive. The clerk to investigate the cost of having this strimmed every 3 weeks. **Action: KG.** A quote had been received for fencing around the children's play area. It was agreed that the project would be costly and make field maintenance more difficult. The clerk to go back to Brook Lloyd and thank him for the quote and advise that the SRC were not at the stage where help was required. **Action: KG.**
8. **Solar panel damage** – It was noted that the solar panel had been replaced and the claim through Zurich Insurance had been completed with the SRC having to pay the £100 excess. It was agreed to advise the cricket teams that should any further claims need to be made, they would be liable for the excess. **Action: KG.**
9. **To receive the receipts and payments accounts and report on grant application** – The clerk presented the receipts and payments accounts for 2023/2024 with it being noted that payments included VAT. Andy reported on the grant application process, commenting that he had been advised that several parish councils had been refused a grant including Emberton. Andy stated that he would take another soil sample of the ground and submit the findings. **Action: AL.**
10. **Committee concerns**
 - Risk Assessment** – Guy raised the issue of risk assessment. Andy reported that he had a folder in the garage and would bring this to the next meeting. **Action: AL.**
11. **Date of next meeting** – To be held on Friday 26th July at 6.30pm.

The meeting closed at 7.18pm