

GUILSBOROUGH PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES FOR 2017- Provisional

	Meetings Organised	Meetings attended.
Trustees:		
Hugh Lowther	1. 1 AGM	2
John McCall	2. 1 GPFA Trust Management Group	2
Sarah Edwards		2
General Committee		
	1. 4 Committee Meetings	
	2. 1 AGM	
	3. 1 GPFA Trust Management Group	
	TOTAL 6	
Simon Smith	Chairman	6
Mike Edwards	Vice-Chairman	5
Graham Byars	Secretary	6
Mike Alcock	Treasurer	6
Members		
Richard Allen	West Haddon & Guilsborough Cricket Club	1
Jim Houghton	Junior Cricket & Fundraising Chairman	4
Katie Fulcher	Parish Council & Publicity Officer	5
Gary Wakelin	Health & Safety Officer	5
Mark Webster	General Committee Member (Corresponding)	0
Stephen O'Connor	General Committee Member (Corresponding)	0
Kit Woolridge	Guilsborough Academy School (Corresponding)	0
Steve McGlasson	General Committee Member (Corresponding)	0
Sam Darbyshire	Fundraising General Committee Member (Corresponding)	0
Diane Willis	Fundraising General Committee Member (Corresponding)	0
Paul Phillips	General Committee Member (Corresponding)	1
		0
		0

1. General Committee Meetings & Members

4 general committee meetings, an AGM, and a Trust Management Group meetings were held.. Other meetings were held to organise specific events. Corresponding Members contribution on fund-raising activities were much appreciated.

2. Health & Safety, & Security

- No accidents occurred or were reported in 2017,
- Gary Wakelin completed, after much work, the consolidation of the GPFA's A) safety policies, B) Risk Assessments Procedures, C) Weekly , monthly, yearly, inspection rotas.
- Regular inspections continued to be monitored by Gary Wakelin.
- The rodent/pest control regime (~£300 p.a.),continued. In 2018, George Lawton is to continue his father's good work.
- New bowler's run-up mats were replaced as the old ones had many holes in.
- Many small repairs/changes were completed to ensure safety at the Field and its buildings.
- An intruder alarm was installed (£550)in the Tractor Shed following the removal by burglars of the shed cladding. An old mower and new ladder were stolen.

3. Activities at the Playing Field in 2017

In summary the Field was used for:

Crick & Guilsborough Colts Football team played on Sunday afternoons from January through to May with practices on Saturday mornings. Disappointingly, no further games were played from September to December due to a combination of too few players and insufficient back-up support to the coach, e.g. for line marking.

- **West Haddon & Guilsborough (Seniors) Cricket Club** have 2 teams and played in the Northants Cricket Leagues 4 & 9 (13 in 2018), from May to September and practice Tuesday evenings in the nets. The Wednesday night team play in the Rugby & District Cricket League (RDCL) (Midweek Twenty20): Divisions 1 and 3; and Rugby & District Cricket League: Senior KO Cup. **West Haddon & Guilsborough (Ladies) Cricket Club** played some games of a Wednesday evening on the artificial wicket.
- There were 7 qualified coaches involved during the season, 4 ECB Level 2, and 3 ECB level 1 coaches (including 1 overseas professional player)

West Haddon & Guilsborough Junior Cricketers, numbering 70, aged 8 to 13 practice and play from May to September, with some friendly games on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at Guilsborough.

Guilsborough Primary School used the Field for their Sports Day.

Guilsborough joggers, walkers and keep-fit enthusiasts, use the Field and the sports fitness equipment at the Field.

Guilsborough fathers, sons and daughters, and local young teenage cricketers regularly use the cricket nets.

Guilsborough family events.

St. Michael's Cricket Club who are in the same league as West Haddon & Guilsborough 2nd X1, play all their home games at the Field and contribute £800 p.a. for this.

Northampton Northern District Girls Cricket team used the ground for practices and a county game.

4.Maintenance & Development of the Buildings, Ground & equipment

- R&G Landscapes from East Haddon cut the Field and did an excellent job costing ~£4,000 including mowing, vertidrainage, fertilising, maintenance of the perimeter and killing weeds on the field & gravelled areas.
- R&G completed the end-of-season cricket square work cost ~£1100, following David Salisbury's retirement due to ill-health. The mower and roller for the cricket square were serviced; total cost ~£450.
- James Pye and Nigel Townsend prepared wickets throughout the season and had been thanked for all their hard work.
- A second-hand mini-tractor was purchased to help those who have to move the covers.
- 2 of the mobile wicket covers, damaged by high winds and were repaired, but were then damaged by vandals. Jim Pye and Nigel Townsend repaired the wind damage and Irrifence repaired the vandal damage to both. Both had been thanked.
- The planned installation of an automatic watering system around the cricket was completed by Irrifence at no cost to the GPFA. Irrifence had been thanked and it was agreed that this contribution in kind, plus other work to be done in 2018, would offset WHGCC contributions to the GPFA in the years 2016, 2017, and 2018.
- The enlarged Football pitch was completed by R&G.. Ballstop posts and netting have been installed behind each goal. The total cost was ~£9500, and grants to the value of £7,500 have been obtained for the Northants Community Foundation and Daventry District Council.
- New artificial surfaces for the bowlers' run-ups were installed at a cost of £3,000 as the old ones were 15 years old, had holes in which could have resulted in injuries.
- Many other maintenance jobs were completed in 2017, including, service contracts for fire/security alarms, electrical and mechanical services. These are all recorded in the minutes of the General Committee minutes.
- A proposal to the Parish Council was made for the GPFA to fund a path to the Field from Guilsborough Academy. Although the Council were supportive in principle, the proposed construction did not meet the Northampton Highways specification.
- In 2018 Helping Hands from Spratton would be cleaning the pavilion, as the current cleaner wanted to stop.
- R&G were asked to be the single maintenance source for all the equipment in the Tractor Shed. This would not only satisfy safety needs, but also cost less than current costs.
- Grants have been applied for a new cricket cage and nets that meet current ECB specifications and to replace the holed nets and corroded and bent support poles.

5. Fund Raising.

- A fundraising committee chaired by Jim Houghton was very active in 2017 with a record sum raised.
- A bottle-store at Hollowell Steam raised ~£1,200 with a subsequent larger than normal £4,000 donation from Hollowell Steam, thanks to Hugh Lowther.

- A Golf Day at Cold Ashby Golf Club was organised by Simon Smith through the company he manages, and ~16 of his suppliers and contractors participated; £4,400 was raised.
- An Auction of Promises organised by Steve & Sue McGlasson and Caroline Houghton, raised £3750 for the GPFA, and ~£9,000 overall..
- A Safari Supper organised by Sam Darbyshire raised £1,300; Sam had been thanked.
- The Parish Council donated £2,000 towards the new Bowler's run-up mats. They had been thanked.
- The Sir John Lowther Cricket Game was a successful social event, but the caterers and bar provider (Witch & Sow) ran short of some food and drinks.
- No progress was made for a new person to lead Sponsorship and Fundraising for the GPFA.. It is thought that there is an opportunity to raise substantial sums from sponsorship (e.g. advertising boards outside & inside the ground) which would lessen the need for fundraising events.

6. Funding the GPFA

- Over £12,000p.a. was again needed to fund the GPFA's expenditure, as the fixed and maintenance costs have not decreased.
- Mandatory and Discretionary Rate Relief was given by DDC for 2017 following an application which stated that the GPFA would incur high maintenance costs in 2017 and reduce its reserves to less than the annual expenditure.
- A Village Lottery with the Village Hall has not progressed; an organiser is needed.

7. Marketing & Publicity (Increased activity at the Field)

- Regular articles in the VillageLink, that promote the GPFA as an umbrella organisation for all the clubs/organisation that use the Field, was organised by Katie Fulcher. She was thanked.

8. Administration & Fundraising

- A new position of Sponsorship and Fundraiser is being sought, in addition to roles for a replacement/assistant secretary, and a buildings/field maintenance officer.

9. New Activity at the Field

The GPFA discussed with West Haddon Football Club about using the GPFA pitches, in part because about 10 children from Guilsborough play at West Haddon. They responded by saying that no additional pitches were needed now, but if more teams were established at West Haddon, more pitches would be needed.

The GPFA was primarily established for the benefit of Guilsborough Parishioners. The GPFA believe that Playing Field should also be for the benefit of the wider community and that the Parish of Guilsborough should make a contribution to the sporting facilities around Guilsborough, and not rely on other Parishes to fund sporting areas that Guilsborough Parishioners can use, especially children. Hence, a "**Vision**" document has been prepared that sets out future GPFA plans. This is attached to this report.

10 Insurance

Mike Edwards organised the GPFA insurance. Mike Edwards was thanked for not applying a brokerage charge.

11. Wicket Preparation 2017

Jim Pye and Nigel Townsend prepared over 18 wickets during the 2017 season and were thanked. They each received a remuneration of £250 from the GPFA.

12. Trustees

The GPFA thank the Trustees for their continuing support.

Written by: Graham Byars

APPROVED BY: _____ Simon Smith : Vice Chairman: DATE _____