

# **Report from the Representative of the Hemingford Abbots Parish Council on the Trustees Management Committee of the Hemingford Peace Memorial Field.**

## **Presented at the AGM of the HAPC on 29th May, 2023**

This year has been much better for the various sports clubs and for the Pavilion's social activities. Activities have steadily increased since May 2022 and could now be considered back to normal. Club contributions have been increased to try to keep up with increased costs and maintenance work on the pavilion building. The continued contribution by HAPC towards the upkeep of the Hemingford Pavilion and Playing Field is greatly appreciated under the current circumstances.

During the year maintenance work to the Pavilion building included amongst many other items, a new main entrance door, replacement gutters, roof repairs, replacement of glass window in squash admin area and decorating both inside and outside.

Due to the increase in energy prices, the total cost of gas and electricity for the Pavilion will increase substantially after January 2024 when the current contract is renewed. It is likely that energy costs will increase by 2-3 times as the current contract rates are very advantageous. This is likely to have a big impact on future budgets and club contributions. The Trustees are looking into alternative sources of energy such as heat pumps and solar panels and these investigations will continue. Fortunately energy rates have been dropping since the start of 2023 but a big increase is inevitable. Current uses of energy are being monitored closely and improvements being made where possible.

During the year various activities and entertainment events were scheduled including Family Fun Day, Platinum Jubilee weekend, Village Sports Day, Carol Concert, Classic Car Show and King Charles Coronation.

On the sporting side, the Bowls Club did not do so well as usual as they had lost some key members in the A team. Also the grass presented some issues and needs more attention to bring it back to its usual high standard. Squash activities are at a good level in the club and last year in November they hosted the County Championships. The Tennis Club had a steady season but dropped a little in terms of numbers. The Cricket Club had a busy season and had 87 registered juniors which bodes well for the future. The quality of the bowling pitch has presented a few concerns and as a result, the club has just installed an all-weather pitch. Football had a good season and the teams did well although the bad weather in April created problems to finish their matches in time.

The Pavilion Picture films continue to be very popular with performances often sold out. Hall hire which is one of the main income streams has gone well during the year despite the rates being increased at the start of 2023.

Ted Burleigh - 29 May 2023.