

AGM. BPFa November 21st 2017

Apologies Sue Curry, Bindi Roopra, Stefan Nahajski, Bill Gerrard, John Hayer and Valérie White

The main activity has been planning for a new children playground and I want to thank Rick Outram in particular for spear heading the process of choosing and negotiation. We decided eventually on the proposal of Playdale which is going to cost about £33,000.

Gill May has done most of the hard work in applying for grants and following up. She has done a fantastic job. Thank you Gill.

We also have Gill and Natalie Purdue to thank for getting us set up with a brand new fantastic website which we can edit ourselves. In the next week the proceedings of this AGM will be available to see.

Please have a look at www.bagshotbpfa.co.uk

We also have a Facebook page at bagshotplayingfieldsassociation@collegeridebagshot.

Thank you Tina Carney for this and for our just giving page.

The Justgiving page brought in £2800 from local people. Generous grants have brought the total promised or received to over £28,000. Hopefully we will be able to start early in the new year in time for the summer.

Our next ambitious task is to refurbish the inside of the pavilion. We have already redecorated the Hall and Corridor with the help of volunteers from Vifor Pharma last December. We have also removed the urinals and showers which were both unhygienic and wasteful of water

We are in the early stages of planning. Just this morning a surveyor came to measure up to make proposals.

Other work parties we have had included general tidying up and in particular clearing the leaves which get compressed down by traffic. We have also created two "bug houses" using discarded rubbish and vegetation which I hope will be as popular with hedgehogs as it has been with visiting children - young and old. With the unwelcome rubbish we receive I suspect we shall have a new bug House to build fairly regularly! We also weed around the new Hawthorne bushes along the boundary behind the Tennis Courts until they are fully established.

Our entrance height barrier had to be rebuilt (for the second time) and has survived since - so far. Except the combination padlock was taken away and needed replacing - They are quite expensive as have to be solid and corrosion free

Money has been spent again on the trees and hedges. This year we have spent £4034 (£930 on the hedge and £2994 on the trees). A thank you to Windlesham Parish Council for a grant of £2000 towards this and a Big thank you to them for having the grass areas cut fortnightly during the growing season

We have lost the Bagshot Football Club who left at the end of the last season. They decided that the pitch was not fit to play on.

Apart from being cut, very little has been done to maintain the pitch for many, many years. The committee got professional advice from Surrey Football Association and following this we obtained two quotes to improve the pitch. They both came to about £4000 in the first year and half of this subsequently. The Bagshot Football Club first team is very successful and play at Fleet Spurs. Their other teams have found better pitches. I am told there is a surplus of adult pitches in the borough.

We have tried to get junior football teams to use the pitch but unfortunately with little success so far. We are open to suggestions and offers for other sport uses. If we can be guaranteed usage and income we might be able to consider remedial work.

Finally our new treasurer, Tina Carney, who has done a great job in her short time with us is going to be leaving us for the wilds of East England in a few months and we shall have to find a replacement. We are very lucky she has brought our accounts fully up to date as well as keeping the Association well and truly on the radar in Bagshot and beyond.

I also want to thank John Hayer our previous treasurer and now our auditor for keeping us on the straight and narrow and ensuring we do all the right things like communicating with the charity commissioners etc

The committee has been great and we work well together and I feel optimistic for the future. So a big thanks to Tina Carney, Gill May, Sue Curry, June Hunt, Linda King, Jackie Burchall, Peter Keeling, Bindi Roopra and Geoff Marsden. I am delighted they are all willing to serve for the next year (except for Tina)