

Belbroughton and Fairfield Parish Council

Update on the Fairfield Recreation Ground

As a result of the survey of residents in Fairfield Ward in the Spring of 2022 and the subsequent discussions, the Parish Council formally agreed the following Statement of Purpose for the Recreation Ground in November 2022:

The Recreation Ground should primarily be a multi-purpose green space for the residents of the Parish for the pursuit of leisure and recreation activities. The Parish Council wishes to ensure that this local recreation space is used and facilitated by and with, local people to ensure it meets the health and well-being needs and outcomes of the local population thereby promoting good health and well-being for residents in the locality of Fairfield which is both sustainable and reduces pollution by emissions or noise. It is recognised that there is a local demand for green spaces for a range of sporting and other activities which may involve both short term and long term hire arrangements. Use by other organisations is also acknowledged and will be considered on merit and availability.

In order to start to achieve such a multi-purpose green space, the Parish Council will be implementing a number of steps in the coming months. Other plans have also been agreed and will be implemented as soon as funding and resourcing allow.

Within the next few months, a start will be made on the revamping of the Millennium Garden. Volunteers are being sought to help with this venture and in particular there is a need for a Garden Designer. This activity will be undertaken in conjunction with the FVCA and it is anticipated that this will form part of the Coronation activities in Fairfield Village. Please contact either the Parish Clerk or the FVCA if you are interested in helping.

It is the intention of the Parish Council to start to offer during the week various physical activities at Fairfield Recreation Ground from October 2023

One of the suggestions made by residents was to make available an all-weather Table Tennis facility. This has been agreed, and again subject to funding, the intention is to install this near the coppice.

Depending upon finances, it has also been agreed to install a trim trail, primarily on the school side of the Ground and to the rear of the Ground which would also incorporate the coppice. Other longer term plans are to seek funding to

construct a footpath, of a compacted stone nature, along the Ground's boundary to facilitate ease of movement.

Lastly, the Parish Council is interested to learn as to whether there is any desire amongst residents to see a change in name of the Recreation Ground. Given the sad death of Queen Elizabeth II and the local history of Fairfield with respect to King Charles II and the Monarchs Way, there is the opportunity of renaming the Recreation Ground to reflect this link if there is strong support. Suggestions such as a) Queen Elizabeth Recreation Ground or b) King Charles Recreation Ground have been made. Please let the Council have your views. Thank You.

February 2023