

Ridlington Playing Field

Registered Charity number 522345

Ridlington Playing Field Report 2022– 2023

The Trustees are the custodians for the time being of Ridlington Playing Field.

Their mission is to ensure that the Playing Field is maintained and presented to the highest possible level, that it complies with all current legislation and regulation and that it provides suitable and appropriate amenities for the benefit of the villagers of Ridlington the surrounding parish and visitors alike and for as long as they are required.

Key Activities

Recreational, including relaxation within and enjoyment of the natural surroundings

Dog walking

Sports and leisure

Children's Play Area

Petanque

Trustees

Chris Lees stepped down from his position as a trustee last year and we are very pleased to announce that we have just welcomed on board Adele Payne to join Julie Hault, Ruth Lees and Simon Powell as our fourth Trustee.

We are registered as Trustees with The Charity Commission.

We have four regular Committee Members who assist in the mission of the playing field.

When required for various activities we are always grateful for the villagers who volunteer their services.

Finance/ Legal

The Playing Field Annual Accounts accompany this report.

The Financial Return to The Charity Commission was submitted in April 2023.

We need to raise £1500+ simply to cover the annual running costs which include insurance, utility bills, grass cutting, business rates, play area maintenance repairs etc. (See accompanying Annual Accounts)

Accounts for year ending 31st March 2022 accompany this report.

Childrens Play Area .Awaiting ROSPA visit for 2023 .

The trustees have organised for a joint meeting with The ROSPA Inspector to take place on his next visit.

The trustees have been advised by ROSPA that the play equipment is likely to need to be decommissioned before the end of its operating life and sadly that point is getting nearer . We plan to take further advice from the next inspection due soon and will advise villagers of our decision as soon as we can. Going forward the trustees are keen to ensure the village playing field is accessible and inclusive for all villagers and will be happy to take feedback for new ideas obviously mindful of the financial constraints we are operating under as a very small charity

Care and Maintenance of Field and wooded area

Normal grass cutting and de thatching regime has recommenced. Rewilding of the periphery of the field continues to be encouraged. The saplings acquired from The Woodland Trust are doing well as is the Jubilee Horse Chestnut sapling. A further volunteering day to be planned to include further clearing of the wooded area.

AshTrees/ Ash Dieback Disease

Following on from conversations and advice sought from a local arborist and Rutland County Council we submitted a planning application for the proposed works to the affected trees involving either pollarding or felling.

We have now received planning permission for the required work to proceed with certain restrictions to nesting birds and bats and with the premise that for each tree felled a new sapling will be planted. The work is therefore planned for early Autumn.

Football Pitch/Nets. New nets acquired and in place.

Fencing/ Bushes Cutting back of bushes and new fencing is required between the play area and top road on the side of Green Lane. Plan is in hand to carry out the work involved.

Dog poo bins proving to be very successful. Thanks go to Karen and Nicky for the regular emptying of them.

Future Fundraising Ideas

The Easyfundraising scheme is a scheme whereby you can raise donations whenever you shop on line for free. There is a link that we can send via email to enable you to sign up easily. Once you've raised £5 easyfundraising will double it! It will make such a difference to us as we go forward. We are in the process of encouraging everyone to support the playing field in this venture.

A Barbeque is planned for June 21st 2023 on the playing fields. More details to follow.

Conversations re further fund raising ideas are ongoing.

Ridlington Playing Field
Annual Accounts 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023

Opening balance 1st April 2022	£7,914.11
Deposit account	£1,947.56
Current account	£5,057.98
Cash	
Balance 31st March 2023	£7,005.54

	Income	Expenditure
football nets		£109.67
Insurance		£271.07
Private donations	£100.00	
Oakham school	£125.00	
Christmas cards	£45.00	
Easy fundraising	£16.92	
Grass cutting		£450.00
ROSPA		£88.20
Business rates		£20.99
Severn Trent		£29.79
Bank interest	£4.23	
Trustees misc expenses		£0.00
Play area maintenance (Ed)		£230.00
	£291.15	£1,199.72

Signed Chairman _____ Date / / 2023

Signed Auditor _____ Date / / 2023