

# GASKELL RECREATION GROUND MUCH WENLOCK

Registered Charity no. 1116940

Minutes of the  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
held at  
The Guildhall, Much Wenlock  
6.15 pm on Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019

**PRESENT:**

Herbert Harper (Chairman), Yvonne Holyoak, Matthew Park, Natalie Park, Marcus Themans, Daniel Thomas, Allan Walter and Chris Bowden

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Trudi Barrett – Secretary and Treasurer

**1) Chairman's report**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He noted that this group of custodian trustees for the charity met twice per year. The Management Committee managed the day-to-day business of the Gaskell Recreation Ground and was overseen by the charity.

**2) Election of Chairman**

Nominations were sought for the election of Chairman for the ensuing year.

It was PROPOSED by Yvonne Holyoak and SECONDED by Daniel Thomas that Herbert Harper be elected as Chairman for the ensuing year.

**It was unanimously AGREED that Herbert Harper be elected as Chairman for the ensuing year.**

**3) Election of Deputy Chairman**

Nominations were sought for the election of Deputy Chairman for the ensuing year.

It was PROPOSED by Yvonne Holyoak and SECONDED by Natalie Park that Daniel Thomas be elected as Deputy Chairman for the ensuing year.

**It was unanimously AGREED that Daniel Thomas be elected as Deputy Chairman for the ensuing year.**

**4) Election of Secretary**

Nominations were sought for the election of Secretary for the ensuing year.

It was PROPOSED and SECONDED that Trudi Barrett, Town Clerk, should be elected as Secretary.

**It was unanimously AGREED that Trudi Barrett be elected as Secretary.**

**5) Election of Treasurer**

Nominations were sought for the election of Treasurer for the ensuing year.

It was PROPOSED and SECONDED that Trudi Barrett be elected as Treasurer.

**It was unanimously AGREED that Trudi Barrett be elected as Treasurer.**

**6) Apologies**

Apologies were received from Milner Whiteman, Duncan White and Dafydd Jenkins.

**7) Minutes**

a. It was noted that Cllr Holyoak had sent apologies for the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019. With this amendment, it was PROPOSED and SECONDED that the minutes of a meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019 be APPROVED.

**It was unanimously AGREED that the minutes be signed and ADOPTED as a true record.**

- b. It was PROPOSED and SECONDED that the minutes of an extraordinary meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 be APPROVED.

**It was unanimously AGREED that the minutes be signed and ADOPTED as a true record.**

c. **Officer Report**

Members received a report from the Treasurer as follows:

**2019/2020 Financial Year – Income and Expenditure**

Balance b/f at 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2019	15,795.59
Expenditure to 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2019	16,043.60
Income to 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2019	13,590.68
Balance as at 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2019	13,342.67

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the Treasurer's report be NOTED.**

d. **Minutes of the Management Committee**

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the following minutes of the Management Committee be NOTED and ADOPTED:

- 14<sup>th</sup> May 2019
- 18<sup>th</sup> June 2019
- 13<sup>th</sup> August 2019
- 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019

The minutes of 16<sup>th</sup> July 2019 were not to hand and adoption of those minutes was deferred to the next meeting.

e. **Report from Management Committee**

Members received a report from Daniel Thomas, who had recently taken on the role of Chair of the Management Committee:

The large drainage project undertaken during the year had gone well and had made a positive difference to the condition of the field. There was some outstanding remedial work to be completed: an extra drain at the Windmill end of the field and reinstatement work by the Scout hut. There had been a slight overspend on the project of £277. Thanks were expressed to the Town Council for financial support and to the Secretary, Kate Southan, Adam Davy and Chris Bowden for their work.

The next project was the creation of a new access through from William Brookes School to the Gaskell Ground and a surfaced path around the site. LEADER funding had been obtained to cover 50% of the cost and the Lady Forester charity had awarded a grant of £10,000. William Brookes School would contribute £7,000 to the project and the Town Council £7,486. This left a shortfall and additional funding was still required.

The challenge moving forward was to find a way to cover the increasing costs as the Gaskell Ground did not sustain itself. Discussions would be held with user groups to explore ways of supporting the Ground. The Management Committee would also consider what the community wanted from the Gaskell Ground. If a Friends group could be set up, the members might be able to undertake small maintenance tasks and fund raising.

The recent planting of a replacement Samaranch Tree on the Gaskell Ground had been an enjoyable event with guests including Jonathan Edwards, patron of the Wenlock Olympian Society, and seven ex Olympians. The tree planting had been followed by a reception in the Guildhall.

f. **Appointment of Management Committee**

- a. **It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that the following members be appointed to the Management Committee:**

- Chris Bowden (representing Wenlock Estates)
- Daniel Thomas )
- Duncan White ) representing the Town Council
- Marcus Themans )
- Mary Hill )

**Non-voting user representatives to be:**

- o One representative from the Cricket Club
- o One representative from the Bowling Club
- o One representative from the Wenlock Olympian Society
- o One representative from William Brookes School

b. **It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED that a representative of Wenlock Warriors Football Club be added to the Committee as a non-voting user representative.**

c. **It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to approve the necessary amendment to the Terms of Reference.**

**g. 2020/2021 budget**

Members considered the draft budget for 2020-2021, prepared by the Treasurer.

Members noted the Treasurer’s comments with regard to uncertainty about maintenance requirements and user charges and the ongoing review of these. It was also noted that the requirements for marking out football pitches had changed and more frequent making out would be required in future.

**It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to APPROVE an overall budget of £22,900, with an anticipated income of £10,900, for 2020-21.**

**It was noted that the Town Council had allocated grant funding of £12,000 to the Gaskell Recreation Ground in its 2020-21 budget and that this contribution would make up the remainder of the budget.**

It was noted that an element of the water charges would need to be recovered from users.

**h. Date of next meeting**

It was **AGREED** that the next meeting would take place on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2020 and the Annual General Meeting would take place on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

The meeting closed at 6.55 pm.

Signed.....  
Chairman of the Trustees

Date.....