

WINSHAM RECREATIONAL TRUST (WRT)

Winsham Recreational Trust (WRT) is the new Charity which took over the lease and management responsibility of the top recreation ground, owned by Winsham Parish Council, on June 13th 2020. This followed negotiations with Winsham Playing Field Trust, who asked the Parish Council to take over this responsibility.

The Sports and Social Club (S&SC) were aware that the original sub-lease had expired and, when transfer took place, relinquished the right to be operational in the club house. It was the responsibility of the S&SC trustees to notify and discuss this process with their members and arrange an extraordinary meeting. It was not the responsibility of WPC or the WRT.

Winsham United Football Club (WUFC)

WRT unanimously agreed the WUFC were absolutely welcomed to remain using the changing rooms and field as their club base. We have also discussed the roping off of the pitch. However WRT cannot promise that the Pavillion can be used at this time as the new trust has to carry out various checks and building surveys as part of their legal due diligence, as they are now the responsible landlords. Future negotiations will need to take place but the WRT would like to emphasise that WUFC are still very welcome and have repeatedly been encouraged to continue using the pitches and changing rooms (free of charge at the moment).

WRT cannot, and will not, enter into or comment on past exchanges/issues with the previous Trustees or S&SC. We are a new Trust working from a clean slate. As a newly formed Trust we need to be mindful that the Recreation Ground is for the use of the whole Parish and therefore have taken the decision to open the gate, with the view to this being regularly reviewed.

Following the Parish Survey that was completed before the Covid lockdown, the most popular response from Parishioners, for the Playing Fields and Pavillion was for a "facility benefitting the whole community". We sincerely hope that this will be achievable and the trust is working towards this aim. It will take some time but please watch this space.

WRT Officers are as follows:

Chair Keith Fowler
Secretary Lucy Miller
Treasurer Henk Beentje
Communications Judith Hill

Sports and Social Liaison Officer Steve Weller
Trustees: Jennie Clampett, Stuart Davie, Jim Everard, Sarah Love,