
Parish Council Matters

Playing Field Progress, Charity Concert Update

*Newsletter of Finmere Parish Council
MKB29: June 2011*

Playing Field Progress

Most of you will now be aware that, for a number of years, we have been working to regularise the position regarding the Playing Field, on which we have built the Village Hall and the Sports Pavilion. We are now aware that, although we have occupied the area for over thirty years, we have no legal rights to be there. The Parish Council were aware of some irregularities in the leases as far back as 1996, perhaps even earlier, and have been striving to correct matters. After a lot of effort by many Parish Councillors, we are now in a position to report significant progress.

We have agreed terms and conditions to purchase the Playing Field from the Mixbury Trust and the contracts are in place, awaiting the administration of the paperwork. We expect that the Playing Field will be in the ownership of the Village within the next six weeks.

The area of land that we have bought covers the grassed area between the Play Area and the Tree Plantation to the South and, to the North, the Hedge separating the Village Hall from the Allotments. We have not bought the land occupied by the Play Area and the Tree Plantation - this will be the subject of further activity in the coming years. The Play Area can still be used as it is at present.

The whole process had taken a great deal of time and effort over the years and we owe a great deal of thanks to the many Parish Councillors who contributed. In addition, the efforts of the current trustees (who own the land) must not pass unacknowledged.

Charity Concert

Following the application for the Premises Licence and the subsequent application for Planning permission, we feel that it is useful to summarise the results. The Premises Licence was **granted** and allows an audience of up to 1,000 to attend the event on June 25, 2011. The Planning application was **refused**, and does not allow the construction of a temporary bandstand, and other temporary buildings, in the grounds around The Old Rectory. Such are the vagaries of the planning system that this refusal does not prevent these temporary structures from being built in the adjoining fields.

So the event will go ahead with its original audience target, and temporary buildings will either be conspicuous by their absence or located on the adjoining field.

If you would like to attend, you must buy a ticket in advance, either via the Web (see below) or at any of the following Box Offices - Duke's Music, Buckingham, One Man Band, Banbury or Bicester Music, Bicester. If you wish to comment on the event, Cherwell District Council have a 24-hour number - 01 295 252 535.

Web site: www.scotsguardscolonelsfund.org.uk