

Kings Clipstone Village

February 2010 Newsletter



New trustees take over lease for the Village Playing Field

As most of you will know for many years Muriel Sprigg has been a trustee of the old school playing field, which allowed the village use of the field for village activities and as an area for local children to play safely.

However during 2009 Muriel decided to step down so was asked by Welbeck Estates, the owners of the field, to suggest two new trustees. Muriel asked myself and Steve Parkhouse if we would take on the role. Towards the end of 2009 new arrangements were agreed and signed by all parties thus ensuring the village continued access to the field for events and as a play area.

On behalf of the village, Steve and I would like to thank Muriel for all her hard work over the years as a Trustee.

Welbeck Estates have agreed to have a non-permanent storage building (see over) for the storage of equipment such as tables and chairs. The next steps are to consult villagers, raise the finance and obtain planning permission. The field will then be of more use to the community and will look much more like a village green with a cricket pavilion type building rather than an empty field.

Should you have any queries or concerns with regards to the field please contact Steve or myself (at 3 Old Barn Court, phone 825363).

Valerie Severn

Can you help?

- 1. Petrol strimmer** – Valerie & John has started clearing the hedge bottoms and the area at the top of the field - they need to borrow a petrol strimmer - can you help? Can you turn out on **Sat 20th February** to help with the clear up?
- 2. Goal Posts** – We need to do something fairly quickly about the goal posts, which are leaning and unstable in the ground. They are full size posts (24'x7'). We want to get them out of the ground and cut down to either 12'x6' or 10'x5' to create a five a side pitch. This would make them more suitable for the number and age of the children using them. Can you help get them out of the ground or weld the steel tube for us?
- 3. Bench** – Valerie & John's clearing up has revealed the steel frame of a bench. We want to get this back into use so are looking for decking boards or similar to make the seat and back. Have you suitable timber about 1.2m long ?

Benefits of storage on site

As Valerie stated, the new lease gives us permission to install a storage unit for equipment. Having the tables & chairs on site rather than in the top of a barn at Waterfield Farm, will save a huge amount of work in moving them. It will make it feasible to have social events in summer at short notice.

Foundations are not allowed so we looked at a steel shipping container but decided that it would be too unsightly. A design for a sectional wooden store is now being worked up. Sited facing the lane, we are aiming for well designed and built 'cricket pavilion' look. The estimated cost for a space large enough to take all the equipment is about £1500. To complete the look we want to maintain the field to a much higher standard. The picture below shows the scale of the storage unit.



We have tried to take into account the neighbours' comments, now we need villagers' feedback on this very valuable community facility before we put together a final design and **apply for planning permission**.

Can you help construct it, make a financial contribution or make suggestions for improving the design?

Barn Owl moves into Waterfield Farm.

A number of residents have reported seeing the Barn Owl flying along the Maun or quartering the ground in the Vicar Water Valley, which is ideal foraging ground for them. An owl box sponsored by Ben Abbott will be fixed in one of the barns soon.

p.s We still have 15 nest boxes looking for sponsors. This is an Ideal time to put them up. The wildlife area at the back of Monument Green would be a good location.

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