

Broughton Playing Fields & Village Hall Association

Annual General Meeting 13th June 2022 Chairperson's Report



The Association is a registered charity which was established in 1979 to manage and look after the Village Hall and Playing Fields for the benefit and amenity of all the residents of Broughton and Little Cransley. The Management Committee is made up of volunteer trustees and is responsible for the management, maintenance, and development of the facilities. The Committee consists of a maximum of 17 members including Officers, User Group representatives and Individuals from the Village.

This year's report covers the period July 2021 to May 2022. During this period, Covid was still a factor despite the easing of restrictions, and it is only more recently bookings have started to return to previous activity levels. Fortunately, as Andrew, our Treasurer will report shortly, the Association's finances remain fairly healthy, partly due to the receipt of various Covid support grants, but also our Booking Secretaries efforts to provide a covid safe environment for our hirers to continue to use our facilities.

I would like to take the opportunity to say a big "Thank You" to all the Committee Members for their contributions over the last year, but particularly to those who have undertaken some of the more demanding roles which are critical to the ongoing management, success and future development of the Village Hall and Playing Fields. I am conscious we are all volunteers, and I am very grateful you give so freely of your time on behalf of the community. I will come back to the Committee a little later.

As well as keeping the Village Hall going, the Committee have been busy with other things. Since last July:

- ☐ The Hall heating and lighting has been replaced with more energy efficient heaters and LED lighting.
- ☐ Jointly with Kettering Football Club, a Storage Container has been acquired to store goal posts and equipment and has been painted to create a feature at the bottom of the field.
- ☐ More efficient heating has been installed in the Changing Rooms
- ☐ A memorial bench has been installed for Richard Tyler who was a member of the Committee for many years and associated with Broughton Old Boys Football club for over 50 years.
- ☐ The petanque courts have been upgraded, a new picnic bench sited next to the children's play area and in conjunction with the North Northants Council, a new slide has been installed.
- ☐ We were successful in obtaining a permanent license for the sale of alcohol to provide greater flexibility for managing events and parties.
- ☐ The Committee held it's first children's Christmas party in December '21 which was a real success.
- ☐ We have managed to get North Northants Council to maintain and improve the quality of the pitches. With the additional efforts of Kettering FC, the pitches are now showing considerable improvement, aided by the work done on the drainage by The Committee and Kettering FC in 2020.

Some other things which I should mention:

- We were delighted the Village Show & Fun Day was able to take place in September 2021. The weather was perfect and there was a great turnout from the village. We are particularly grateful to the Village Show Committee for all their hard work in creating this lovely community event.
- The village's Community Fridge Project now managed by Kerri-Ann Stolari continues to run from the Village Hall and is well supported. Well done Kerri-Ann!
- A consultation exercise across the whole village was undertaken in September and October 2021 to canvas opinion for ideas for developing the facilities. Sadly only 54 responses were received which was disappointing. A further online approach will be made later in the year.
- Faced with a considerable increase in electricity costs, the Committee reluctantly increased hire costs for using the Village Hall facilities. The charges are still competitive with other similar Halls and having fixed the energy costs for 3 years, we hope to mitigate the need for further rises in the short term.
- We are particularly grateful for the grants, funding and support of North Northants Council and Northamptonshire Charitable Foundation. Their collective support of our community makes it possible to improve and develop our facilities.
- Our User Groups and Clubs are an essential part and purpose of the village hall and ongoing support by the local community is necessary for them to thrive. As Covid concerns ease, I hope they are successful in attracting the support they deserve to maintain the diversity of activities taking place on the site.
- The Committee have various policies in place to support the governance of the committee's activities including, Health & Safety, Safeguarding, Data Protection and Procurement which are subject to ongoing review.

Now for a couple of specific thanks and acknowledgments:

- North Northants Council have once again looked after the playing fields and surrounding area, mowing the grass, planting trees, looking after and maintaining the children's play area and skate park for which we are most grateful.
- A specific thank you for the flexibility and support of our Cleaner Tony Brooks who looks after the building, often undertaking the cleaning at unsociable hours to fit between hirers to make sure clean and tidy facilities are available to all.

Finally, we have still got some exciting projects and a critical challenge to tackle over the coming year:

- We have been successful in obtaining a grant of £5,000 from North Northants Council to instal an Outdoor Gym on the site to improve the health and wellbeing of all ages of the community. We are in discussions with the Parish Council to see how best this can be delivered.
- We need to finalise the legal documents for the agreement with North Northants Council to extend the area of the existing lease to incorporate the football pitches.

- The MUGA (Multi use Games Area) remains firmly on the agenda to enhance our ball sports facilities and allow use of the existing basketball area as a permanent extension to the car parking.
- The toned down plans for the development of the village hall facilities have now been finalised and incorporate new changing rooms, a dedicated Nursery unit and a permanent onsite bar and expanded community room. The plans will enable phasing of the different elements to optimise funding opportunities. Our development fund and the S106 money should help us attract grant funding for these projects.

.....and the critical challenge which needs to be successfully resolved during the next 12 months:

- Whilst not a criticism, because of numbers, too few people on the Committee have been doing too much for rather too long and it is not sustainable. We need to find new members from the community who are prepared to get actively involved in the running of the village hall. This will provide time to show new members what's involved, allow some existing members the opportunity to do different roles or share responsibilities and, for some, to step down from the Committee in 12 months' time.
- If we are unsuccessful in finding new members, we are likely to face a major crisis come June 2023 as those undertaking key roles in managing the Village Hall say "enough is enough" and there is no one to take on the various responsibilities. Should this happen, under the terms of the Trust, the Village Hall and playing fields will be handed back to the North Northants Council.

A rather sobering thought but one that needs facing if we are to maintain this fantastic facility for the benefit of the local community and surrounding area in the months and years to come. There are plenty of exciting things to progress during the coming year as well as keeping the Village Hall running day to day.

I look forward to welcoming new members to the Committee who are as enthusiastic and committed to the future of Broughton Playing Fields & Village Hall Committee as I am.

Clive Gresham

Chairperson

Cash

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S UNQUALIFIED REPORT

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Broughton Playing Fields & Village Hall Association

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st March 2022, which are attached.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that a full audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

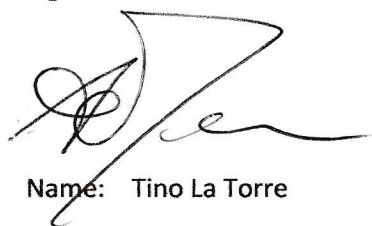
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name: Tino La Torre

Relevant professional body: Institute of Business Consultants

Address: 2a Cox's Lane, Broughton, Kettering, Northants NN14 1NA

Date: 16 May 2022

2

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S UNQUALIFIED REPORT

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Broughton Playing Fields & Village Hall Association

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st March 2022, which are attached.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that a full audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

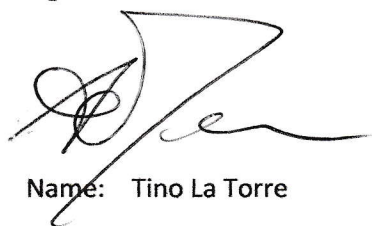
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name: Tino La Torre

Relevant professional body: Institute of Business Consultants

Address: 2a Cox's Lane, Broughton, Kettering, Northants NN14 1NA

Date: 16 May 2022