

Oliver's Battery Parish Council

All-Inclusive Recreation Ground Project

Progress Report to Parish Council

January 2024

Please read this Report together with the completed WCC Crowdfunding End of Grant Report form attached to this email. It provides a detailed, costed overview of the Crowdfunding Bid, listing rationale, etc. A great piece of work from Cllrs Blundell and Kirkby. The document gives an example of excellent practice in applying for WCC Grants, determining how they fit the criteria, listing actions and costings, and evaluating progress against criteria.

The Crowdfunding Grant encompassed the 'hardware' aspects of the project, the tree planting exercise and the football pitch and goals come from a different income stream.

Progress

The New Year sees great progress on our project. Benches, picnic tables and bins are now on the Rec, along with the trees.

We only have the football pitch to complete, which will have to wait for more clement weather.

Commemorating Ivan Arnold on one of the Benches

The new benches and tables give us an opportunity to commemorate former Cllr. Ivan Arnold, who worked on the original project to acquire the field which became our Recreation Ground. A long term OB resident, Ivan's worked with determination to see the project through. Recognition of his achievement is overdue. I have checked out the cost of this, and it would come to around £30 - £45 depending on which metal and size are used. I have checked with Janet Arnold, Ivan's widow, she is very supportive of this small memorial.

See Proposals below.

Watering Regime from March

Concern remains at the very low numbers of volunteers offering help with watering. There were no responses from the last edition of the OB News.

Now that term has started again, Cllr Ironside will be overseeing a flyer to be distributed at the primary school, put into children's bookbags, in the hope of getting some of the many younger parents involved.

The water carrier has arrived, and is being stored with Cllr Kirkby.

If there are not enough volunteers, alternative arrangements for watering may have to be investigated.

Proposals

It is proposed that a small commemorative plaque be put up on one of the new benches/picnic tables to commemorate former Cllr. Ivan Arnold, in respect of his contribution to originally getting the Recreation Ground purchased for the community of Oliver's Battery. Cost to be around £40.

C M Leach January 6th, 2024