**Annual Parish Meeting**

**21st May 2019**

**Recreation Ground Report**

1. The recreation ground continues to be well used. The school continues to use the woodland area on a frequent basis and although it is no longer using the field for school sports, the Parish Council decided to continue the frequency of grass cutting in order to maintain the quality which we have enjoyed over recent years. The contractors have failed to provide cuts at the contracted frequency so far this year but they have been made aware of their shortcomings and have promised to do better. The next cut is scheduled for Friday morning.
2. The Play Area is also a popular feature with village children, especially at the end of the school day, and this popularity more than justifies the work necessary to keep it in a safe and sound condition. All the equipment is checked by a professional Health and Safety Inspector every year and the next inspection is due in the autumn.
3. The village benefits from a proportion of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) imposed by Wiltshire County Council on new developments within our area. Equipment for children’s’ play areas falls within the objectives of the scheme and funds recently received have been earmarked for replacement swings when necessary. We are required to spend the money within 5 years. The long term aim continues to be refurbishment and possible relocation of the entire Play Area.
4. A new notice board has been erected outside the village hall and the old one has been moved to the wall of Easton House as a replacement for the one that was there before.
5. At the entrance to the car park, reflector strips have been fixed to the notice board and the gate posts to help drivers when reversing out in the dark.
6. As ever, there are tasks which must be done to maintain the appearance and the condition of the recreation Ground and the Play Area. These will include:
   1. Ongoing maintenance to the wooden structure and other equipment in preparation for the Health and Safety Inspection.
   2. Grass cutting and hedge trimming.
   3. All of which will, hopefully, be carried out by the small band of determined men who have helped in the past.
   4. One area with which I would be grateful for some additional help is the removal of the tyres which were protecting the apple trees and which are now in a pile in the woodland area. Perhaps the Woodland Group could arrange for their removal?
7. I think that the village is fortunate to have such a useful open space adjacent to the Village Hall and I am very grateful to everyone who helps care for it.

Colin Sibun

21st May 2019