

Menheniot Playing Field Charity

Charity Number 3000571

Report to Menheniot Parish Council

Introduction

The playing field was gifted to the Parish in 1934 and managed by a Committee of Trustees until 1948 when it was passed to The National Playing Fields Association.

In 1968 the Association conveyed to the Parish Council with a covenant, the land. The Council registered the land in 2009 with the Land Registry.

The covenant is registered to the land in favour of the National Playing Fields Association and states "The Council here by covenants with the Association that it will at all times henceforth use and maintain the land hereby conveyed as a public recreation ground and playing field for the Parish of Menehniot aforesaid and will not use or permit the said land or any part thereof to be used for any other purpose whatsoever"

The Parish Council, to manage the land, established a Charity, The Menheniot Playing Field Charity, governed by a Deed of Assent dated 24 November 1948 (confirming the original gifting of the land), to manage the designated land.

Named Trustees and Contact.

Whilst all Councillors acting as the Council are all Trustees of the Charity the registration with the Charity Commission names only one Trustee (the Clerk) This is often the case with a Charity set up by a Local Authority Charity for this purpose.

In this case John Hesketh as clerk was the named Trustee with details of his home address published.

As Councillors will recall there has been recent correspondence with the Charity Commission seeking confirmation that we were in compliance in granting leases to the Menheniot Sports Association in respect of a further extension to the MUGA. This was confirmed.

However the Commission has drawn attention that the details on the register should show all Councillors as Trustees rather than a named

individual. There is a requirement to have a named contact and there is no reason why this should not continue as the Clerk.

The role of Trustee of the Charity is explained in this advice note from the Commission <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/charity-trustee-whats-involved>

A further reason to make this change at this time is that the present access to amend or update the information held by the Commission including being able to update the website with an annual return can only be done by John Hesketh as the only named Trustee and contact.

Proposal

The proposal is that if Councillors agree all Councillors are named as Trustees and that the named contact is the Clerk whose role will be to manage the information published and ensure that it is kept up to date.

Proposed

Seconded

Decision

Date