



Shared Pavilion Season 2023 Review - Meeting Notes

held on 5th October 2023 at 19:00, in the Club Room, Village Centre.

Present: Cllr Oliver Madge (Chair), Cllr Dave Peart, Cllr Gwen Randall, Giles Malyon (SMBCC), Mark Lancaster (SMBCC), Jonny Orange (SMBCC), Nicola Facey (Ninny's House)

In attendance: Maxine Owen, Clerk/RFO Members of the Parish: 0

Meeting start: 19:00

- 1 Introduction led by the chair:** General Welcome.
- 2** No members of the public present.
- 3 SMBCC Questionnaire**

Jonny Orange (JO) advised that SMBCC had sent out a questionnaire to gather the opinions from those using the Pavilion for cricket. It has been sent to all members, everyone on the cricket club WhatsApp group, and all parents of Junior cricketers. So far 41 responses had been received, and JO advised that he was hoping more would still come back – the questionnaire was not closed. None had been received yet from any non-player members.

The questions were structured to enable SMBCC to distinguish between the Interior and Exterior of the Pavilion and gather people's thoughts on that. The questionnaire is aimed to gather feedback from this season's users specifically since sharing the premises with Ninny's House.

With the results so far it seemed clear that people were more positive about the interior changes/arrangements than they are about the exterior.

Interior: 16 Positive, 16 Indifferent, 9 Negative
Exterior: 8 Positive, 17 Indifferent, 16 Negative

Some of the comments:

Interior -

Negative: Lost ownership, Reduction of space, Honours Board not on view, Smell, Women's toilets

Positive: Cleaner, Income to PC increased, No Longer rats, Freezer Available

Exterior -

Negative: Fence, Container, Couldn't use Patio to watch the game

Positive: Tidier, can understand why the fence is there

Recommendations have come in as part of responses to the questionnaire with people suggesting things like Benches outside the fence, there should be internal storage for cricket crockery, Women's toilets need attention.

JO advised that this is just a snap shot and they are hoping for more responses to come in.

4 Planning Update

Maxine Owen (MO) then updated the group on the Planning Application for Change of Use. MO had contacted BDBC Planning Department for an update that day, was unable to speak with the actual Planning Officer for the case, but was advised by another that the Application would be discussed at a Planning Committee meeting at BDBC on a future date.

Unfortunately, this was unlikely to be the next few meetings and would either be heard in December 23 or January 24. It was discussed that this was unsettling for Ninny's House and

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all parents with children attending, but was out of the PC's control. In the meantime SMBCC and Ninny's House would work to make all the improvements/changes they could to make next season's sharing of premises better.

Cllr Peart (DP) asked what Nicola Facey (NF) wished to do in the future, and she confirmed that Ninny's House would like to stay in the Pavilion on a longer-term basis. Parents liked the location of the nursery. NF advised that the planning application for the potential premises at Bullington Cross was still with the Planning Department for that area, so would still be some time. NF thanked the PC and SMBCC for working things through to make it work.

5 Off Season

SMBCC and NF discussed that it would be good to paint the Pavilion, the building is looking tired, and some small repairs need tackling, and although the aim is to replace the Pavilion entirely, this could be a few years off.

JO advised that the cricket club were seeking a grant off £1500 - £2000 from ECB to make improvements to the Women's toilets. More than 40% of the Junior Cricket club are female, and the facilities for them are inadequate.

JO stated that a sign is going to be put up around the new nets to provide guidance on how they should be used. A draft will be sent to the PC, but all approved in principle, and no cost to the PC.

NF advised that she was next due a check from the Environmental Health early Spring, but didn't anticipate any problems. The rat problem is under control. As long as the rubbish bins are managed correctly by everyone, there is less opportunity for a rodent problem to develop again. All access holes (for rodents) have been filled, and any food on the premises is stored appropriately. The Pavilion will be used through the Winter, so less chance of the local rat population moving in.

ACTION: Look at best options for Painting the Pavilion – SMBCC/NF

6 Exterior

It was agreed that the container and old practice nets were taking up shady space, where previously spectators have been able to sit. There was a discussion around whether the container should be moved, and it was agreed that the old nets would be relocated to the corner of the Rec by the new practice nets, but a decision should be made whether one could be retired and disposed of. SMBCC to decide. (As of 09.10.23 – these are now moved as agreed.)

There was discussion that much of the upset about the Pavilion was about the Container and the Fence, and could a solution be reached on this? NF confirmed that the fence height is a specification from Ofsted, but all agreed that should the arrangement with Ninny's House become long-term then a solution to this should be sought. Could the fence be hinged, painted, removable etc? Investigation into a possible solution to be done during the off-season. Would benches for spectators outside the fenced area help? High stools inside the fence? Hinged tables that can be used with high stools on match days – all to be considered bearing in mind the shortage in storage at the facility.

It was agreed that the container was not a brilliant addition to the recreation ground, but was necessary for storage for Ninny's House. It had been painted to help it blend in as much as possible. The question was raised that is it in the wrong place, or is it what it looks like people are concerned about? Discussion was had as to whether it could be relocated, whether it should be clad with wood, it was agreed at a minimum it should be pushed back as far as it could go with the need to bear in mind the septic tank is behind and that there would then be

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a need for more fence.

JO agreed to arrange the move of the old nets on the weekend of 7th & 8th October. The area would then be clearer for decisions to be made. (As of 09.10.23 – now moved as agreed.)

It was agreed by those in the room that the 4 or 5 months available from now should be used to get as many of these things sorted out, and at least by the start of next season a decision will have been made on the Change of Use.

The Honours Boards were discussed and agreed that they belong inside the Pavilion and that their content should be updated by the SMBCC.

Discussion was had about the damage to the grass because of the increased foot traffic from the car park to the door of the pavilion. The PC would investigate the cost of and practicality of some kind of in-ground mesh/terram/honeycomb which could be installed to help the survival of the grass through the winter. There should be a schedule of re-grassing, and the staff of Ninny's House, at a minimum, should route their walking around the edge of the recreation ground, so not to add to the footfall straight across the grass. Creating a formal path at this point is not an option.

ACTION: Investigate options for fence and container – ALL

ACTION: Move old nets to new location – SMBCC (JO)

ACTION: Update Honours Board – SMBCC

ACTION: Investigate options to help with grass - Parish Council

7 Interior

SMBCC and NF agreed that shelves would be put up in the kitchen of the Pavilion which Ninny's House would use, so that a cupboard could be freed up for the Cricket Club to use for storage of crockery for the Cricket Teas.

NF advised that the kitchen window needed fixing, as it was now very rotten and difficult to open and close.

NF advised that the dish washer would need replacing soon.

ACTION: Put new shelves up in kitchen – NF/SMBCC

ACTION: Organise repair of kitchen window – Clerk

ACTION: Find replacement dishwasher when current one stops working - NF

8 Other Business

MO advised that the PC had been sent a photograph of a cricketer jumping over the wire fence around the Lake to retrieve a stray ball. This had damaged the top wire of the fencing, and should be discouraged by SMBCC. Cllr Madge will fix the rabbit netting (designed to stop stray balls (& rabbits!)) that had been caught by the mower, but if a ball did escape through the fence, players should be advised to use the gate, rather than the fence. It was agreed this would be hard to enforce with an away team, but if SMB players could conform, that would help prevent further damage.

Giles Malyon (GM) requested better communication around things such as the Planning Application for Change of Use, then he would be able to advise the committee in a more timely manner.

JO stated that he on behalf of SMBCC Youth cricket would like to thank Ninny's House for all their co-operation in the summer as Ninny's House went out of their way to help the youth cricket set-up with access to the pavilion when the two overlapped. JO also thanked the PC for their co-operation and flexibility to help the increased parking needed on Friday evenings on the MUGA.

GM advised that the flood lights need fixing, and SMBCC would like to install an outside plug at

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the foot of one of the flood lights to allow an electrical supply to equipment used in the new practice net. MO agreed to contact appropriate Electrical Companies to progress this.

ACTION: Advise Committee and players of gate rather than fence - SMBCC

ACTION: Acquire quotes for installation of sockets & repair of floodlights – Clerk

Meeting end: 20:20

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