

## Seend Lye Recreation Field Report 2024

I am happy to report that the Right of Way Issue with Mr McDonald was finally resolved in February 2024. The legal dispute was fortunately concluded prior to court action being instigated, with a settlement agreement to extinguish the right of way, included in the original conveyance deed of 1967.

Although this is a very significant victory for the Trust, the costs involved in protecting the Lye Field have been significant and has massively depleted the Trust's financial reserves. With the help of Liam & Nicole Bergin we have introduced a Crowdfunding page to try and replenish the lost funds as a result of the legal dispute. We have already received significant donations from both villagers and the Seend Fawltly Players. The Trust is very grateful for all donations.

We held our 2<sup>nd</sup> post Covid fete, during August 2023 and a massive thanks must go to Richard Walker for once again putting his heart & soul into making sure Seend still has a village fete. After 2 years in charge, Richard has stepped aside and Liam & Nicole will once again take over the running of the annual summer fete.

After last year's upgrading of the pavilion, this year's major project has been a replacement mower for the field. Fortunately, we received funding from both the Seend Parish Council and the Devizes Area board, so we were able to invest in a new facility to cut the grass on the field. After taking advice, we have invested in a separate tractor and roller mower. Feedback from the volunteers who are cutting the grass is very positive. We have also invested in some more top soil, grass seed and weed spraying to try and improve the quality of the football pitch. During the extremely wet autumn, the Seend pitch was constantly in use, while others around the county were water logged.

A big shout out for all the volunteers who give up their time to keep the field in pristine condition.

Although it will figure in next year's report, Seend Tennis Club have now accumulated adequate funds to go ahead with the resurfacing of the courts. This will commence late April for completion in May 2024.

The pavilion has been regularly used by playgroup, baby & toddler & many other groups & societies. The playing field was in constant use by both the Seend Utd and Lavis football teams and Melksham CC made full use of our cricket pitch last season and have agreed to use the Lye Facilities for another season.

After 9 years as Chair of the organisation, I will be standing down at the upcoming AGM in May. Hopefully, someone (a bit younger) will come forward to help look after this valuable village asset going forward.

Ric Ellinger  
Chair