

**Astons' Recreation Committee**

**Minutes of AGM held at 19.30 on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023**

**1. Apologies**

Nigel Hawkey, Susan Pallet

**2. Present**

Gavin Wood, Joanna Hart, Jo Walshe, Ben Prior, Luci Didrickson-Penfold

**3. Minutes of last AGM.**

The minutes were approved by all present.

**4. Presentation of Chair's report**

The last year was a very successful one with the return of Astonbury and the Fireworks.  
Please refer to the attached Chairman's report below for full details.

**5. Presentation and approval of accounts**

Will be included in the 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023 meeting

**6. Review of Terms of Reference**

The terms of reference were reviewed by the Committee and no changes made.

**7. Election of management committee/officers**

The following were elected

Gavin Wood – Chairman and secretary

Amberly Diamond – Vice Chairman

Joanna Walshe – Treasurer

Luci Didrickson-Penfold – Bookings

Ben Prior

Susan Pallet

Joanna Hart – Parish Council

Nigel Hawkey – Parish Council

**8. Any other Business**

The Committee recorded its sincere thanks to Kristen Richardson for her three years of devoted service to the ARC. Kristen has now stepped down from the Committee.

## **CHAIRMANS REPORT FOR 2022**

2022 has been a busy year for the Recreation Ground as we returned to much more normal patterns of usage after the Pandemic. We are grateful for everyone who contributes in any way to the maintenance of the Recreation Ground and the Pavilion as well as the many events that form such an important part of making the Astons the wonderful place we will in.

The Aston Recreation Committee are a group of volunteers from the village who give freely of their time to ensure that the Recreation Ground and Pavilion are maintained to a high standard and can continue to be used by the villages.

Membership of the Committee has continued to evolve over the year. Gavin was co-opted into the Chairman role as he didn't say "no" quickly enough! Luci continued to act as lettings manager and Kristen was worked hard to organise the maintenance side of things. Jo continued her key duties of treasurer and Joanna and Nigel input and liaison with the Parish Council was invaluable. We were delighted to welcome Susan Pallet to our ranks during the year.

The Committee continues to look for new members of the team to help maintain the Pavilion and the Recreation Ground to the high standards that allows so many villagers to enjoy its facilities. Please contact any member of the committee if your interested in learning more.

Turning to a brief review of the year.

2022 saw two major events which have helped to boost fund as well as provide much need post pandemic opportunities for the villages to come together; Astonbury and Bonfire Night

June saw the triumphant return on Astonbury. A glorious summers day saw a wide range of musicians entertain a delighted crowd and huge thank to the Astonbury Committee and everyone else who made it such a wonderful day. These events take a huge amount of planning and need a dedicated crowd of volunteers on the day. Our thanks to everyone who contributed to this in anyway.

In November the Rec hosted the ever-popular Bonfire Night and Fireworks. A record attendance saw a truly stunning display and despite a little rain it was a fun evening. Again our grateful thanks to the Fireworks team including the fearless fire-stokers, all who helped with the BBQ and the bar and world-class display team!

The Safari supper was very well supported and the puddings in the village hall a great success; at least for those who managed to make it that far through the evening.....

And finally, the Slaughtered Lamb closed its doors during 2022. The pop-up pub was a brilliant idea and many a convivial evening was spent in the splendid ambience of the Pavilion. And whilst we are all so pleased that the Chequers is now open again, the memory of the Slaughtered Lamb will live long in the folk-lore of the Astons.

The pavilion is now 10+ years old and maintenance of the building has become an ongoing issue to ensure that we keep it well maintained. This year we have continued on maintaining the fabric whilst looking forward to a major internal refresh in 2023. As ever huge thanks to Jeremy Imbush for his tireless dedication to maintaining the Recreation Grounds and Pavilion