VILLAGE HALL & RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE REPORT

Another successful fete, despite the shower half way through, we still made £4,500, thanks for everybody who took part.

Our renovation of the play area is still going on. Having had the zip wire support repaired we have progressed further with the strengthening of the surrounding fence, because we are still getting some vandalism, probably through only one or two individuals, who are breaking the fence panels. The Committee have spent some time in screwing extra battens all around to make it very hard now to damage, and the Community Pay Back have finished the batten fixing for us and have started to paint the whole fence, but it will need at least another two days to finish it. The rust treating and painting of the play equipment has been finished, and the concreting of the path between the play area and the tennis courts has been started. With all that we hope that the equipment will last at least another 10 years.

The senior Saxon football team have started their training sessions on Wednesday evening. The first night was quite rowdy and there was some bad language used. After a stern warning from their leaders the problem appears to have been solved. However the bad language problem seems to be greater one on the recreation ground. We have had reports that children on the play area and using the tennis courts are using very bad language, and loudly, and it appears to be a worse situation. We have put up signs around the play area, and the pavilion that people using bad language or behaving badly will be asked to leave. However who is going to enforce this is another problem. It is more an indictment of society and television than just our recreation ground.

The football team have started putting in lighting throughout the pavilion, and putting in a disabled toilet, to go with the other two toilets which we have to have to comply with football regulations. Unfortunately we will not be able to afford the £2000 plus for the loo bought for the amenity site, as we cannot justify spending that much when we have quotes for £300-£400. Again the football club will install it at no charge.

We are in the process of signing an agreement with the football club to carry us both forward for this first trial year, and hopefully beyond.

Rawdon Saunders