

## **Stocksfield Sports Fields User Group**

### **Stocksfield Sports Fields**

Stocksfield Sports Fields consist of:

- The western or cricket field (owned by Broomley & Stocksfield Parish Council)
- The eastern sports field (leased by Broomley & Stocksfield Parish Council)
- The multiuse games area ( MUGA) (owned/leased by Broomley & Stocksfield Parish Council but rented to and managed separately by the MUGA Management Group)
- The sports field car park and recycling area (owned by Broomley & Stocksfield Parish Council)
- The cricket pavilion/clubhouse including changing facilities (owned by Stocksfield Cricket Club)

With the exception of the pavilion/clubhouse facilities which are owned by Stocksfield Cricket Club, no work or alterations may be undertaken to Stocksfield Sports Fields without the express permission of the Parish Council, except as provided for within the separate agreements between individual user clubs and the Council.

Maintenance of the MUGA is the responsibility of the MUGA Management Group which is governed by a separate constitution but no alterations to the MUGA can be made without the permission of the Parish Council.

### **General Governance Advisory Group (GGAG)**

The terms of reference of the Council's GGAG include responsibility for considering issues that affect the sports and play facilities within the parish. GGAG meets every month and is able to respond quickly to issues that may be presented. It is responsible for making recommendations to the Parish Council on all matters connected with the sports fields. The Council recognises that the users of the sports fields have an important role in informing any decision making process and in presenting new ideas.

### **Purpose and Scope of the User Group**

The purpose of the group is to enable the Council to maximise the use of the sports fields and its subsequent benefit to residents of Broomley and Stocksfield and the surrounding areas, regardless of ethnic, origin, gender, religious or political beliefs. It will achieve this by:

- Providing a forum to share information between the Council and sports fields users on matters that affect the use of the fields
- Considering issues that affect the use of the sports fields acknowledging the Council's overall aim in respect of the sports fields
- Ensuring local knowledge is shared so that decisions of the Council can be fully informed
- Considering long term or large scale maintenance or developments which will, amongst other things, enhance the sports fields and enable access by a wider range of sports/activities/residents.

The User Group has no authority to incur expense on the part of the Council or to make decisions affecting the Council's facilities. In normal circumstances the decision to incur expense is made by the full Parish Council. In urgent matters, the

Chair and the Clerk to the Parish Council have delegated authority to authorise expenditure up to certain limits in appropriate circumstances connected with the Environment and Sports and Play Facilities. Where it appears to users that particular works are required within the sports fields which are outside the remit of their individual agreements or licence, they should report the matter to the Clerk as soon as possible.

### **Membership**

Broomley and Stocksfield Parish Council	at least 2 representatives
Broomley School	1 representative
Prudhoe and Stocksfield Rugby Club	1 representative
Stocksfield Cricket Club	1 representative
Stocksfield Football Club	1 representative
Other users	1 representative

The Group will be chaired by a parish councillor. The meetings will be convened by the Chair of the User Group or by the Clerk to the Parish Council.

### **General**

The User Group should meet as necessary but in order to be effective should meet on at least three occasions annually. In practice the membership of the User Group may mirror that of the MUGA Management Group and the meetings of the two groups may be consecutively held on the same day at the same location. In such circumstances there must be a clear distinction between the business undertaken by the discrete meetings. The notes of each meeting of the User Group will be presented to the next GGAG, at which meeting at least one of the Parish Councillors who attended the User Group should also attend.

<b>Document review history</b>	
Approved	04 January 2016