

Report from the Representative of the Hemingford Abbots Parish Council on the Management Committee of the Hemingford Peace Memorial Field. Presented at the AGM of the HAPC on 28 May 2014

It has been another fairly successful year for the Sports and Social Club and I am pleased to report that more people are using the excellent sports facilities provided.

The Conference hire facility is going well despite the tough economic conditions. The kitchen facilities used for conferences and club activities have been given a 5 star award for hygiene. The Hayward Hall and Chris Page Room are due to have air-conditioning installed shortly which will make a tremendous difference for the conferences and other social activities during the summer. Over the year the buildings have had the usual maintenance work carried out and are in good order. There was an attempted break in on 10th September via a lounge window. This followed the Axe & Compass break in.

The Hemingford Abbots Parish Council's contribution towards the up keep of the Hemingford Pavilion and Playing Field was received with thanks. Annual rental charges for the various Sports Clubs were increased modestly during the year.

The sports clubs continue to encourage younger players and put on special activities for them. The Football season went well and the 1st team came 4th in their league. The junior teams continue to thrive and do well.

The Squash Club again held the three day British Under 23s Squash Championship in April and this proved to be a great success. Racketball which is played on a squash court, continues to be popular and it should be mentioned that one of the players of Racketball, become the over 40's National UK Champion.

The Cricket Club started up again in 2013 and is becoming popular. Young cricketers are encouraged through special training sessions on Saturday mornings. The Cricket season has just started but it is expected to be busy as the match fixture list is full. There are 50 juniors this year, so the future is looking bright! It will be good to see Friday night and Sunday cricket played again during the summer.

The Tennis Club had another successful 2013 season and the courts proved popular. The encouragement given to youngsters has been greatly beneficial and there are some promising young players. One young club member won the 2013 National Under 12's single and doubles. This year there are 45 juniors starting the season.

The Bowls Club had a successful year and the excellent green is held to high esteem in the county. The Club provides many of the strong county players. In 2013, the President of the Club was also the County President which led to extra games being played and extra recognition for the Hemingfords.

The Cinema Club on Fridays is continuing to be well supported. The Hemingford Pavillion website is being updated and should be up and running shortly. The Hemingfords are very fortunate to have access to all the excellent sports and club facilities and it is good that they are currently well supported.

Ted Burleigh - 28 May 2014.