

**SHILLINGTON MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELD  
REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH  
7<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024**

The Playing Field Committee have agreed not to commence any refurbishment of the Social Club until all funds are available for the works to commence. The reasoning being that as we go for funding/grants we may well need to confirm we have match funding available. The appointed building contractor is happy to wait until funding becomes fully available. He will requote at that time but thinks +5%.

We have over half the funds in place thanks to generous funding and donations from Parish Council, Social Club and Playing Fields Committee. Total project cost, including VAT is £106k. We are currently awaiting confirmation of our application to the National Lottery and AFC (junior football) are also hoping to make a contribution. A small grant of £500 has recently been received.

The Social Club is now running a weekly meat raffle and almost £1,000 has already been raised since this started in February this year.

Shillingfest 23 at the end of June proved to be very successful with village organisations coming together to raise their profiles as well as fund raise – a great community event, which was well supported. Plans for Shillingfest 24 are now fully underway with plenty of fun and music for all and high hopes of another successful day, more particularly since we've received confirmation of a flypast by the Lancaster Bomber.

The annual fireworks spectacular at the end of October last year saw the village community coming together again and although quite an outlay for the professionals setting them off, was again thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. This year's event is scheduled for Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

The Spitfires Cricket Club has been growing over the year with new members and a good maintenance team working hard on the square to get it playable. 5 friendly home games are scheduled for the coming season, although the Club cannot join the Cricket league until they have changing rooms. This is another project requiring funding. Possibly a portacabin located on the old play area.

We are now looking at additional car parking also on the old play area, which will need planning permission for change of use and additional funding for the surfacing. This will then hopefully alleviate parking issues being experienced by residents when AFC Shillington have home games.

The Social Club continues to flourish with monthly live bands, fund-raising activities and the occasional party, whilst offering beers, wines and spirits at competitive prices for locals to enjoy. A good team of volunteers supporting village activities on the Playing Field.

Gavin Jenkins  
Chair

3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024