

**Potterspurty Recreation Ground – The Charity**  
**Annual Report 2023**

**Introduction**

The charity was originally formed to supply recreation facilities for the villagers of Potterspurty, Northants. The recreation ground consists of around 0.22 ha of land on the west of Blackwell End. Entrance to the land is via the forecourt of the former local authority garages.

For many years the recreation ground contained some children's play equipment. A recreation ground committee operated the site for a number of years, but when the cost of maintaining the area became prohibitive the committee was wound up and responsibility for the charity was transferred to the Parish Council. All parish councillors are trustees of the charity and it is registered with the Charity Commission (304236). The land is held under a conveyance dated 26 April 1967 as amended by the scheme of the 24 August 1981.

**Charity Aim**

PROVIDE A PLAY AREA AND ALLOTMENTS FOR THE VILLAGERS OF POTTERSPURY

**Use of Land**

The land originally contained play equipment, notable a slide and a climbing frame. However, for many years the cost of maintaining safe play equipment meant that the trustees (i.e. the Parish Council) left part of the field (around 1600 m<sup>2</sup>) as an open space and the remainder (around 600 m<sup>2</sup>) let as allotments. However, the Parish Council have recently provided play equipment for the area via grants private donors and its own resources and this has been welcomed by local residents.

The coordinator for the allotments is Cllr. Beverly Silvester. The 12 plots are occupied by 9 allotment holders, with new tenants taking over plot 6 in November 2022. There are 6 people on the allotment waiting list.

On 8 September 2022 several cows from a neighbouring tenant farmer's field broke into the allotments - damage and crop losses were reported on 9 plots. Allotment holder contacted the tenant farmer who removed cows and repaired fence. The Clerk attempted contact with the landowner's Agent, Berry's in Towcester, several times by email and phone but did not receive any response.

**Financial Arrangements**

The allotments are let for rent and provide the only income for the charity. Rents are reviewed annually and are similar to those charged for other local council allotments and are currently £7.50 per annum per plot. Payment of allotment fees by cheque is no longer accepted – only payment by bank transfer or cash.

Each year the Parish Council spends significantly more than the rental income on maintaining the land. The major cost each year is grass cutting, which is carried out under the Council's grass cutting contract. The Parish Council donated the cost of grass cutting the area to the Charity and administer public liability insurance on behalf of the allotment holders who are recharged. In view of the costs incurred by the Parish Council in administering the Charity, it was resolved to charge an annual administration fee of £75.

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The rents remained the same at £7.50 per plot per year. Insurance for 2022/23 was £163.86, divided equally £13.65 per plot.

Details of the charity and are available on <http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk>. We are not obliged to provide annual accounts to the Charity Commission because the expenditure is less than £25,000.

**Financial Statement**

Balance at 01/04/2022	<b>£672.92</b>
Receipts	£253.80
Admin Fee 2022/23 to Potterspurty PC- paid 17/01/23	(£75.00)
Insurance 2022/23 paid 4/4/2022	(£163.86)
Balance 31/03/2022	<b>£687.86</b>

Insurance for 2023/24 £163.86 due by 10/04/2023.

Dr C S Parkin  
Chair of Potterspurty Parish Council  
April 2023