

## **Liss Parish Council as Trustee to the Liss Recreation Ground Charity**

### **Our Vision for the West Liss Recreation Ground: January 2026**

Our aim is to maintain West Liss Recreation Ground as a green and pleasant open space, reflecting its formal status as a village green, while enhancing the range of activities which it offers and encouraging re-naturing and biodiversity.

We continue to maintain and promote the football pitch (the site is currently used by two football teams), and this will ensure that the open nature of the site is preserved. Complementing this, the Pavilion continues to host 1<sup>st</sup> Liss Scouts, the football teams, others clubs and activities.

In line with our strategy for recreation across the village, we have aimed to increase and diversify activity on the site, catering for different age groups and interests. As a first step, we installed moveable goals in summer 2022 which can be used in a variety of ways and locations on the site. The fenced children's play area was fully refurbished in early 2023; this now provides an exciting and environmentally attractive play area which was co-designed with local children.

In reviewing the village's recreation provision, a gap was identified in terms of informal recreational provision for older children and teenagers. Following consultation with the community, a pump track was installed in June 2023. The pump track is used for a range of wheeled sports activities. It has proved very popular with a variety of age groups and is mainly used by bikes and scooters.

Other improvements to the site include the installation of outdoor exercise equipment in December 2023 and table tennis in July 2024. The area behind the Pavilion has been developed as a wild-flower nature site and a bug hotel was installed in spring 2025. There are plans to increase the biodiversity of the site further with the installation of bird and bat boxes in 2026.

We will consider other possibilities for both formal and informal activities to meet demand. We are considering installing a further picnic table to complement the picnic tables which can already be found in the fenced play area, so that this can be enjoyed by other users of the site.

In all this we will work closely with Newman Collard Playing Fields Trust and Liss Forest Residents Association to ensure complementary provision across the village, appropriate to the different settings. We are also considering ways of physically linking the sites through walking, running and cycling routes and wildlife corridors.

We are committed to continuing to consult local residents as future developments begin to take shape. We shall also work closely with other stakeholders and aim to co-design future facilities with relevant groups within the local community – for example, working with the Crossover youth centre and its members on designing informal recreational provision for older children and teenagers.

This vision will provide a basis for further consultation and investment in West Liss Recreation Ground.