# Farley Coronation Playing Field Trust

**AGM meeting minutes** 7:00-7:45pm 25th Feb 2026

## 1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

**Apologies**: Heather Lowndes, James Monnington.

**Present:** Sue Devereux, Sarah Akrill, Chris Devine, Debbie Case, David and Claire Sutton, Pauline Lord, Dave Derby, Simon and Rachel Funnell , Colin Baxter, Samantha Golding, Natasha Fanshawe, Ian Swain and George Manston

RF explained that the retiring trustees and committee had asked her to Chair the meeting. There were 14 people present at the start of the meeting and a 15th person joined at 7:30pm.

## 2. Chairperson's Report

It has been a busy year for the playing field, with some ups and downs. This time last year the previous chair made the decision to close the play park which we know caused great upset within the village. This was due to the ROSPA report identifying an unacceptable risk arising from lack of maintenance of the playpark equipment. Sam Golden volunteered to co-ordinate a working party to address the major finding of the ROPSA report. This working party did an amazing job, completing what was needed to re-open the playpark. Thank you to Sam and all those that volunteered to assist in that community effort.

The previous chair Carolyn Thomson Easter then made the decision to stand down as her other commitments meant she could no longer give us the time commitment required. Many thanks to Carolyn for her time and efforts.

I was appointed as Chair in September 2025. Since then, we have had a public consultation meeting, we moved forwards with various quotes for phased improvements and have put in place a set of policies. These will encourage better project management, increase the confidence of volunteers and reduce the risk to trustees. The ten new policies were drafted and approved by the full committee with 100% agreement and are now acknowledged by the Charities Commission website.

Phase one improvements began. We had the 'out of control' grass, scrub and saplings cut by James Grinham (thank you James) who also filled some of the holes in the mounds, but these quickly reappeared. We purchased and installed a moveable football and rugby goal. We have accepted a quote for the installation of 4 swings, with 2 flat and 2 baby seats, together with a set of monkey bars and somersault bars. These will be installed around the 12th March which is really exciting. The total cost of Phase 1 was £10,517

These phase 1 improvements could only go ahead due to the generous donations from Farley Music, and a successful grant application from the parish council. We are hoping that we will also be successful with a grant from the Southern Area Board for these improvements. Thanks go to Chris Devine and Sarah Akrill for their efforts in acquiring these funds. This will enable us to use the moneys raised by the fete committee and the 2 quiz nights run by the cricket club to be used for further repair and maintenance.

Before the new installations we need to do some further maintenance, many thanks to Sam once again for agreeing to organise another working party (provisional date 7 March).

Whilst the cricket club do an amazing job of maintaining the field, maintenance continues to be an issue for the play area. Our endowment fund set up by the late Robin Turvey doesn't make enough to pay for professional maintenance of the play area. We are very grateful to have local

people happy to volunteer to cut the grass, but as we know the slide mound is constantly being dug up, and the steep mounds are tricky to mow. This will need our serious consideration.

There is no avoiding the fact that much of the playpark equipment is approaching end of usable life. Once phase one has been completed the trustees and committee will begin considering phase 2 improvements over the next 5 years. Phase 2 of our development aspiration include replacement of the adult exercise equipment, repair of the existing mounds, modification of the slide, repair and modification of the skate ramp to include a junior section, a rope climbing frame, repair of the car park surface and improvement of the grounds, property and equipment.

The budget for these phase 2 improvements is likely to reach many, many tens of thousands of pounds. Whilst this is clearly beyond the budget of the parish council, we can announce the initiation of a fundraising effort on Crowdfunder. We will be able to claim gift aid where appropriate and have the potential to match fund donations through organisations paired to us by Crowdfunder. This is accessed using the website or by clicking on the QR code, which we will share. Please do share this widely, particularly as we may be able to get match funding for our donations.

Lastly, we are aware that the current web content on the Pitton and Farley website is out of date. This will be addressed as soon as possible as the local council updates their pages with us.

**3. Treasurers report - Sarah Ackrill**

Sarah presented the attached figures (Appendix 1). There was a good income this year from Farley Fete and FCC Quiz events, grant income will show in next year's figures. Essentially the investment fund brings in about £700pa, which covers the insurance (£650) but leaves very little for maintenance or improvements. The payments for the swing are almost complete but a final payment is dependent on the outcome of a SAB application being table by CD in March. Details to be distributed so that the FCPF committee and/villagers can attend and support the bid.

SF asked about the expenditure on lawn cutting in the playpark. In 2025, this was unacceptably high at around £800 and volunteers were needed to keep on top of it. Two volunteers have already offered to assist.

**4. Cricket club report - Ian Swain and Sam Golden**

The FCC is an important part of our village heritage and one of the oldest cricket clubs in England. It is also the Trust's main customer and valued stake holder.

IS reported that last year the first team folded and the club has decided to run a second team in the lowest league to encourage all age and gender participation. There had been another forced entry into the storage building and the police were notified. The costs of maintenance and fuel to cut each week is very high for a small club where subscriptions were compromised.

Unfortunately the Tractor broke and it has cost £3k to service the gang mower.

SG: Reported that the Vixens and juniors groups were playing regularly. Volunteers are tricky to find and this makes it hard to run a junior group. The Vixens are now playing in the southern wilts area. The emphasis for the team is fun not competition. Sunday training and Monday night fitness training is regularly attended by the Vixens.

**5. Approval of the constitution Rachel Funnell**

RF reported that the charity commission only has a copy of the original 1954 version of the FCPF constitution, it mentions a 2001 amendments but doesn't have a copy of that. The trustees and

committee used a draft constitution agreed in 2024 as our starting point. We have used our statutory powers as trustees to amend that.

The main reason for amending the constitution was to enable a functioning committee, who are not obliged to be trustees. There is no change to the purpose of the trust from the 1954 version.

The new constitution (attached as Appendix 2) was presented and approved unanimously. It will now be submitted to the charity commission.

**6. Elections of Trustees- Simon Funnell**

SF reported that there had been six nominations for trustees. Each nominee was voted for and each nominee was unanimously appointed.

**Chairperson**; Rachel Funnell, voted in unanimously
**Treasurer**: Sarah Ackrill, voted in unanimously
**Secretary** : Simon Funnell, voted in unanimously
Ian Swain, voted in unanimously
Heather Lowndes, voted in unanimously
Sam Golden, voted in unanimously
This ended the appointments of Trustees

**7. Elections for the committee**

The following people were appointed onto the management committee following acceptance of the nominees.

| **Representative** | **Name** | **Name** | **Name** |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cricket club | Ian Swain | George Manston | |
| Parochial Church Council | Heather Lowndes | Rachel Funnell | |
| Parish Council | Chris Devine* | | |
| Farley Hospital | *Vacant*** | | |
| Farley Village Hall | Natasha Fanshaw | | |
| Residents (3 miles) | Simon Funnell | James Monnington | Sam Golden |

* A nomination for Sarah Akrill was received but CD clarified that the Parish council had nominated him as a representative so a show of hands was not relevant

** No nomination was received from the Farley Hospital Charity.

**8. Any other business.**

SF further explained the Crowdfunder charitable giving project aimed at raising funds for improving, maintaining and replacing our assets (Appendix 3). The Crowdfunder application has a digital QR code to assist digital donations and automatic gift aid acquisition. It also enables digital raffles and other means of fundraising. The trustees will plan to announce this Phase 2 fundraising effort via social media. It also plans to put up the code in the car park and park to encourage cashless gifting by users.

SF also reported that the Crowdfunder site had matched our charity to three potential sources of matched funding.

**Meeting ended 7.45pm**

**Appendix 1. Treasurers report.**

| Farley Coronation Playing Field Accounts 2025 | | |
|---|---|---|
| Summary | | |
| | **01 Jan 2025** | **31 Dec 2025** |
| CAF Gold Account | **£635.97** | **£1684.40** |
| CAF Cash Account | **£508.58** | **£2402.87** |
| Investments | **£17782.04** | **£18032.76** |
| TOTAL | **£18926.59** | **£22120.03** |

| Transactions (CASH ACCOUNT) | |
|---|---|
| INCOME | EXPENDITURE |
| 05/02/25: Savings Account Transfer £500 | 15/01/25: Hills Waste £9.20 |
| 19/02/25: R Funell Test Donation: £5 | 27/01/25: M Sheppard (grass/hedge) £126 |
| 26/02/25: Savings Account Transfer: £100 | 27/01/25: Sorvio Insurance £109.59 |
| 10/03/25: Fete Fee (H James): £15 | 10/02/25: Sorvio Insurance £634.99 |
| 12/03/25: Fete Fee (Brown Botans): £15 | 10/02/25: Mark Sheppard (tree) £80 |
| 13/03/25: Fete Fee (W Mens): £15 | 17/02/25: Hills Waste £9.20 |
| 21/03/25: Fete Fee (DHaines): £15 | 07/03/25: Lottery Fee: £41 |
| 24/03/25: Fete Fee (Keen CJ): £15 | 24/03/25: Hills Waste: £9.20 |
| 25/03/25: Fete Fee (Sutton): £15 | 20/05/25: Mark Sheppard (grass) £144 |
| 22/04/25: Fete Fee (Trueman): £15 | 20/05/25: Bounce Castle: £115 |
| 25/04/25: Fete Fee (Cooper PD): £15 | 21/05/25: Transfer to Savings £1000 |
| 22/04/25: Savins Account Transfer: £100 | 05/08/25: Phillip Grob Blacksmith: £120 |
| 06/05/25: FCC Quiz Feb 25: £728.10 | 05/08/25: George Manston Mowing: £70 |
| 06/05/25: FCC Quiz April 25: £584.32 | 23/09/25: Banking charges: £3.20 |
| 14/05/25: Fete Fee (Cat Watch): £15 | 20/11/25: Football Goal: 108.79 |
| 29/05/25: Fete Fee (Knight): £15 | 08/12/25: Deposit for swings : £1021.80 |
| 17/07/25: Fete Income: £3020.61 | |
| 01/08/25: Fete Income £100 | |
| 25/11/25: FCC Rent : £250 | |
| 15/12/25: Sutton: £15 : fete Fee | |
| | Monthly Account Fee £5 £60 |
| | |
| TOTAL: £5553.03 | TOTAL: £3661.97 |
| TOTAL not including transfers: £4853.03 | |
| | |

**Appendix 2. The revised constitution**

This document is an updated Constitution for the Farley Coronation Playing Field Trust (charity number 305514) and was approved and adopted at the Annual General Meeting on 25th February 2026. It is intended to update and supersedes previous Constitutions from 2024, 2009 and 1954 and any other previous draft amendments.

1. Purpose of the Farley Coronation Playing Field Trust

The purpose of the Farley Coronation Playing Field Trust (hereafter "the Trust") is unchanged from previous Constitutions – namely to manage the property of the Trust in Farley (Land titles WT292960, WT299975 and WT295575 and all property within) for the purposes of a public playing field and for physical and mental training and recreation and social, moral and intellectual development through the medium of reading and recreation rooms, library, lecture classes, recreations or entertainments, or otherwise may be found expedient for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Farley and its immediate vicinity without discrimination.

2. Management of the Trust Premises

The general management and control of the Trust premises and the arrangements for their use shall be vested in a Board of Trustees managed in accordance with the Trust policy on Trustee management. The Trustees will appoint volunteers to join a Management Committee. The Management Committee is intended to represent the broad interests of the community of Farley, which the Trust is intended to serve. The Committee may be comprised with up to the following number of members:

1 Chairperson (Trustee)

1 Secretary (Trustee)

1 Treasurer (Trustee)

Up to 2 members nominated by Farley Cricket Club

Up to 2 members nominated by the Farley Parochial Church Council

Up to 1 member nominated by the Parish Council

Up to 1 member nominated by Farley Hospital (Charity 1187181)

Up to 1 member nominated by Farley Village Hall (Charity 305515)

Up to 3 members who "reside in the Village" (defined as living within 3 miles of the Coronation Playing Field)

The quorum for any Management Committee meetings will never be less than half of the total number of members of the Committee and no less than three.

The Committee will determine its rules for the calling and conduct of its meetings and the conduct of its business. Any proposed motions or actions, in particular relating to the terms and conditions upon which Trust premises may be used, the appointment of any advisors or Officers (paid or unpaid) and alterations to the financial arrangements of the Trust, will be actioned only after, and subject to, the unanimous approval of all Trustees. This approval may be subject to provisos.

In the event that any other organisation is formed in the Parish of Farley, with aims which are not inconsistent with those of the Trust then the Committee shall have the power – by resolution of the Committee passed at a meeting at which not less than half of all of the

members of the Committee vote in favour of the resolution, to allow such new organisations to appoint additional members of the Committee in a manner similar to other organisations which appoint members.

If any organisation entitled to appoint a member of the Committee ceases to exist, or fails to make an appointment before the AGM in any year, then the AGM will decide by majority vote in what way, if any, the vacancy shall be filled.

The Committee will use any funds made available by the Trustees exclusively for furthering the objectives of the Trust. The Treasurer shall be responsible for keeping accounts of all income and expenditure and shall present a financial report to the Trustees at all committee and board meetings. The Treasurer shall present accounts for the last complete year for approval at the AGM. A copy of the accounts for the last complete year shall be available to local residents on request. One or more bank accounts shall be operated in the name of the Trust and withdrawals shall be made on the signature of any two trustees. The financial year shall commence on 1st January each year.

The deeds for each of the currently held (3) pieces of land constituting the Trust premises are held by the Official Custodian of Charities (case # 352541, authority 136/1213, May 2012) are handled in accordance with the Charities Commission guidelines and laws.

## 3. Annual General Meeting

The Trust will hold an AGM, ordinarily in March of each year, or as soon as practicable thereafter. The AGM will be announced with not less than one month's notice, by notice being affixed to some conspicuous part of the Trust premises. The purpose of the AGM is to receive the Report and Accounts of the Committee, and for accepting the resignations of the Committee members.

Trustees will also be appointed, where necessary, by election of nominated candidates by majority vote. The AGM will ordinarily be chaired by the Chair of the Trust from the preceding year, or by an individual nominated by the Trustees. Those entitled to vote at the AGM will be restricted to individuals who live within 3 miles of Farley Coronation Playing Field or committee members that have resigned from the previous year.

The members who "reside in the Village" will be determined by majority support at the Trust's Annual General Meeting (AGM). Other members will be nominated by their respective organisations, for an annual period, ordinarily in the four weeks prior to the AGM. All members of the committee will retire annually, immediately prior to the AGM, although members may be renominated for subsequent years.

Any vacancy arising from the death or resignation of a member of the Committee shall be filled by the organisation which originally nominated that member, for the period until the subsequent AGM, except for members who "reside in the Village". In these cases, the remaining Committee shall have the power to fill such a vacancy until the subsequent AGM.

If any of these rules are inconsistent with the governing conveyance dated 9th March 1954, this document shall prevail.

**Appendix 3. The phased improvement plans**