

## AMENITY TRUST AGM TUESDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2023

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Since becoming Chairman of the Diptford Amenity Trust in May 2023, we have realised that the items within the Playing Field and the general condition of the field, have significantly deteriorated over time.

This was brought to a head with the falling of branches from the large Monterey Pine at the Playing Field entrance some months ago, resulting in the Custodian Trustees, the Parish Council, having to declare a total closure of the Playing Field until such time as this was made safe.

In addition, we are aware, via the regular Inspections carried out by South Hams District Council, that there are continuing issues with the legs of the climbing frame and other equipment in the field. The worst item however, has been the failure of the tennis court netting, particularly at the rear of the court to the North. The contractor has recommended that, until this is made safe, the tennis court should remain out of bounds and safety fenced off until such time as this repair is completed.

Remedial work has now been carried out to the tree, including the installation of a brace, in accordance with the report undertaken at the request of the Parish Council.

Instructions have been given to Peter Tanner to carry out the repair to the tennis court fencing and, although this will involve the expenditure of many thousands of pounds, the legs to the climbing frame will also be reinforced.

Members of the Parish Council (Custodian Trustees) attended the AGM of the Playing Field Group, and agreement reached that MAJOR repairs should not be left to the voluntary Playing Field Group to undertake but will in future be financed via the Amenity Trust / Parish Council, leaving the Playing Field Group to undertake more minor repairs and the organisation of events on the field.

Funding support will be sought for the repairs and ongoing hoped for improvements to the Playing Field via the Amenity Trust.

Sue Franklin

Chairman Diptford Amenity Trust

14 November 2023