**Report to LMPC on LM Sports Club – for meeting 28th. August.**

*Club building*

The renovation work to the Club building is substantially complete with a number of minor items to be finished. This has taken longer than anticipated and completion is promised within a few days.

The changing rooms for home and away teams and the referee’s room now have modern showers, new tiling, lighting and WC’s. New doors have been fitted.

The garage roof has been replaced and new external rainwater goods are in process of installation.

Future plans include replacement of a broken garage door to make storage of equipment and its handling easier, new chairs, extra storage cupboards, extra external lighting, disabled ramp and kitchen/bar area upgrade. The possibility of a container in the space between the club and scouts’ building is being considered.

*Usage*

The Club building is being used four evenings a week for table tennis, bridge and keep fit.

The sports field is being used extensively by LMFC for youth football and by the adults’ team LM Red triangle. LMRT is participating in the leagues and this comeback season is its Centenary one.

Discussions have taken place with Dorset FA and the Football Foundation about future possible grants to help finance expenditure on both the Club building and towards improving the playing surfaces.

This autumn the sports field will be ‘slitted’ to improve drainage and some worn grass areas are being reseeded. It is planned to do more improvement work in 2020.

*Events*

The youth football tournament in June was a great success and contributed nearly £300 of additional income to the club.

Issues over parking are being addressed by ensuring all users liaise closely about future events where large numbers of cars are expected.

A working group is being set up to plan a celebration of LM Red Triangle’s 100 years of existence in Spring 2020. It is hoped to raise substantial funds and recognise significant contributors on a Donors board in the Club.

*Finances*

Analysis of the income and expenditure for ongoing activities since June 2018 indicate that LMSC is currently self-funding.

The cost of the renovation work is well below the sum LMSC originally allowed for and leaves scope for proceeding with a number of the items under future plans (see above). Doing these will bring the Club premises to the standard that users should rightfully expect.

*General*

LMFC will be installing a defibrillator in the Club (available to all) and this will add to the network currently on order for the rest of the village.

*The Future*

Apart from bringing all the facilities up to a high standard in the short term the longer term issue is providing sufficient facilities for all who want them.

There are 250 youngsters in LMFC plus the men’s LM Red triangle team. The village is set to grow substantially as more houses are built. The population could grow by as much as 15/20% over the next 5/10 years. The current playing areas are fast becoming inadequate. More space and provision for a range of sports/wellbeing activities is needed.

Acquisition from Dorset Council of the land behind the school and the area of the Astro and its surrounds for use as pitches, additional changing provision, tennis courts and/or other sports facilities needs pursuing vigorously. Shared use with the primary school should also be of benefit.

The help of our MP and Dorset Councillors in creating action from Dorset Council would be of much value.