1. The field behind Woodlands Walk belongs to HDC and has the designation of "Informal Open Space". Can the Parish Council place fixed structures on the land such as football goals or benches?

The site has multiple restrictive covenants and these limit construction and restrict the use to that of open space. This would not preclude play equipment, benches or similar. However we would not want the Parish Council to erect any structures on our land unless they had agreement (eg lease of licence with Horsham District Council (HDC)) to do so. This could be organised if it is something the Parish Council wish to examine.

We would also consider the possibility of transferring the land or its management to the Parish Council. Again this would need examination and formal agreement.

2. What is the position regarding the future maintenance of the field such as grasscutting, maintenance of trees and bushes? Is any of the S106 agreement money left? If not who will pay for the maintenance?

The site is part of our grounds maintenance schedule and we will continue to maintain it. We are not aware of any unallocated s.106 monies relating to this site but we will check this aspect and confirm.

3. Would any of the following be allowed by HDC given the slope, uneven surface probably due to ploughing in the past, and wetness of the field: football, multi user games area, trim trail, exercise gym, running/jogging, placement of benches, planting of a small orchard?

In principle yes, although see (1) above. We would have to carefully consider the positioning of any infrastructure to ensure good access as well as any safety concerns.

4. Who should have insurance cover should any user of the field for any of the above activities have an accident and sue? HDC or the Parish Council?

As it stands any liability remains with HDC. This would change if the land transferred from HDC.

5. Could, theoretically, the field be sold or leased to the Parish Council if the Parish Could had the money and was prepared to shoulder the liability?

Yes, that is something HDC would be prepared to explore.

Dated 23rd November 2020