

Petanque Piste Report

In the summer of 2019 we began playing petanque on the village hall carpark, it was originally started at the request of North Stainley petanque club. Their pitch was out of use because it was situated at the pub which had been closed for some time. They therefore were without toilet facilities.

During the time of playing at West Tanfield a number from the village joined in and many more expressed an interest in the game.

It was thought, at that time that we could build a pitch in West Tanfield but the pub at North Stainley reopened and their members went back there to play. Then Covid happened and everything went on hold.

The idea was resurrected again in the autumn of 2021 when restrictions and lockdowns had eased.

Quotes were obtained and a builder was chosen, this particular builder was not only the cheapest but had experience of sports groundwork including petanque pistes throughout the UK.

It was a race against time to get our first grant application in and three long months to find it had been accepted. Hambleton District Council gave us £9,000. We needed another £3,610 which eventually came via the Parish Council in late April this year.

In the meantime we had a village fundraiser, hosted by the Bruce Arms. This raised £363 but more importantly 40 individuals signed up to play the most that we could accommodate.

The new petanque piste will be known as "West Tanfield Memorial Hall Petanque Club ". We the working party wish to thank the committee and trustees of the Memorial Hall and most particularly Anthony Cumming treasurer. We would also like to thank Hambleton District Council and Tanfield Parish Council for their support and guidance throughout.

We are currently awaiting planning permission and anticipate starting the build later this summer.

Signed on behalf of the working party,

Judith Parkinson

