

Odd Down Community Association

Report on Odd Down Community Fun Day 2nd July 2023 at Odd Down Sports Ground.

This Fun Day was organised by Better.GLL staff based at the Sports Ground and Odd Down Community Association (charity no. 1139206) This was the first time such an event was held on the Sports Ground to raise funds for mostly local charities. Better.GLL offered to allow the facilities to be used free of charge and with ODCA organised this Fun Day, with support from local Volunteers and the staff from nearby recently built Midford Lodge Care Home. The event was free and was opened at midday by the Mayor of Bath, Councillor Dine Romero, and ended at 4pm. It proved more popular than the organising team expected but all were made welcome, and it is estimated 1,500 people approximately, mostly families, attended on a windy but dry day. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive and includes from all involved a request to make such an event an annual one for the people of Odd Down in future.

The Cycle Track and 3G Football Sports Ground facilities had various free sessions during the day supported by local cycling clubs and Better.GLL staff. Other Sports & activities (Roman Boxing Club, 'Beat the Goalie', Keep Fit, Walking Football) gave demonstrations and led sessions. There was a busy open picnic area for all, with the Pavilion Café, Pizza van and Ice Cream van nearby. Avon & Somerset Police attended with 2 of their vans and gave demonstrations, as did the Fire Brigade with their tender, and both gave encouraging reports on the public response. Around the picnic area the stalls had been arranged.

The charity stalls included 'Voices', Guide Dogs for the Blind, Thursday Toddlers Group, and ODCA. Other participants were Bath Astronomers Society, Midford Lodge Care Home, SOBA Alliance, Sweet Stall, Harmony Beauty Saloon, Slimming World and Cherry Blossom Hair Studios. ODCA organised a raffle (including prizes from local businesses and Better.GLL), Tombola, 'Name the Teddy', Sweets in a Jar, and Face Painting. There were several craft stalls offering a range of items, some to be made and some ready for sale, Golf sales, Single Hill Flowers and Bath More Trees. Wessex Water had an information stall and made a donation. There was a range of music. Rogers Fun Fair joined the event and had several attractions, inflatable and rides for younger children which proved popular and for which there was a charge. They gave a percentage of their takings to the charities.

The Fun Day raised £1,285 for charity on the day. Also, some individual charities who attended raised funds for themselves.

The costs of the event included the following:

Item	Cost
Public Liability Insurance (Zurich)	£157
First Aid (Mendip Medical)	£175
Collection buckets (to be reused)	£73.25
Lanyards/badges (to be reused)	£35.50
Stationary	£29.49
Raffle books/ counters	£11.99
Total	£482.23

We are very grateful to Curo Housing Association for making a grant of £500 to support this event. The Mayor, Dine Romero was also able to acknowledge this contribution as part of the opening. Such a grant encouraged the organising team to plan such an event as this for the first time.