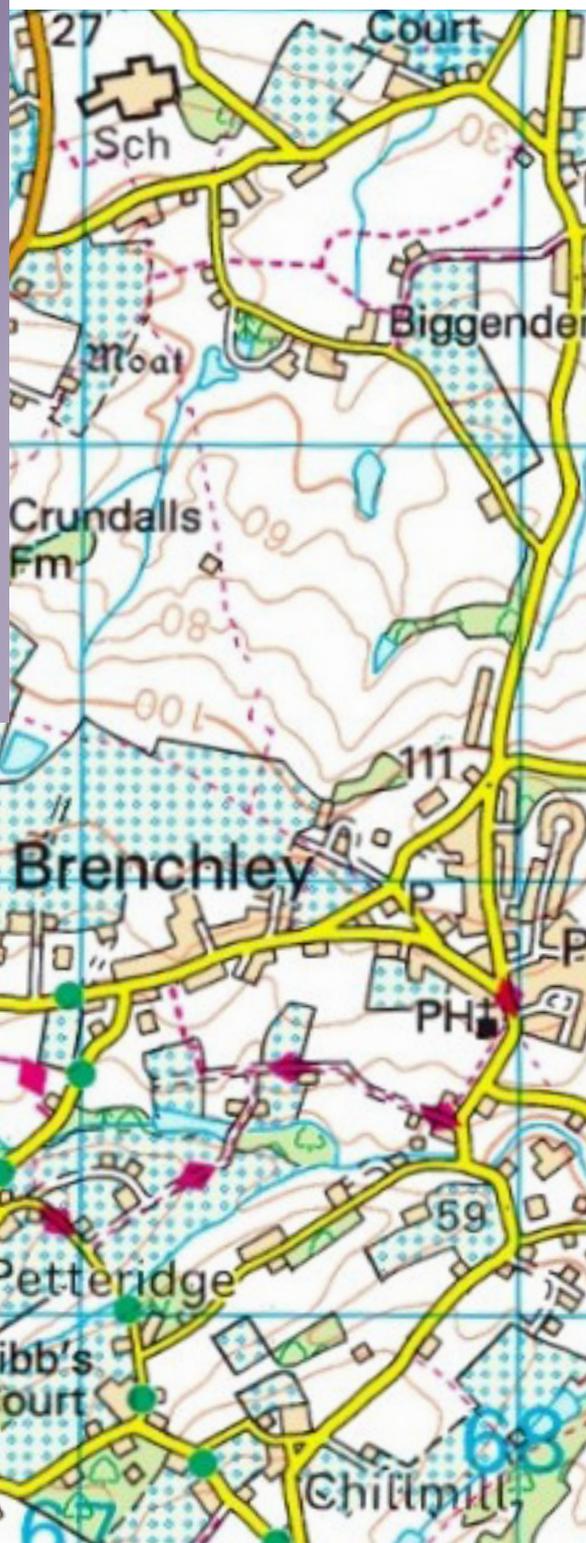


Brenchley & Matfield  
Neighbourhood Plan

# Position Statement

March 2018

PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE  
FROM VENUE



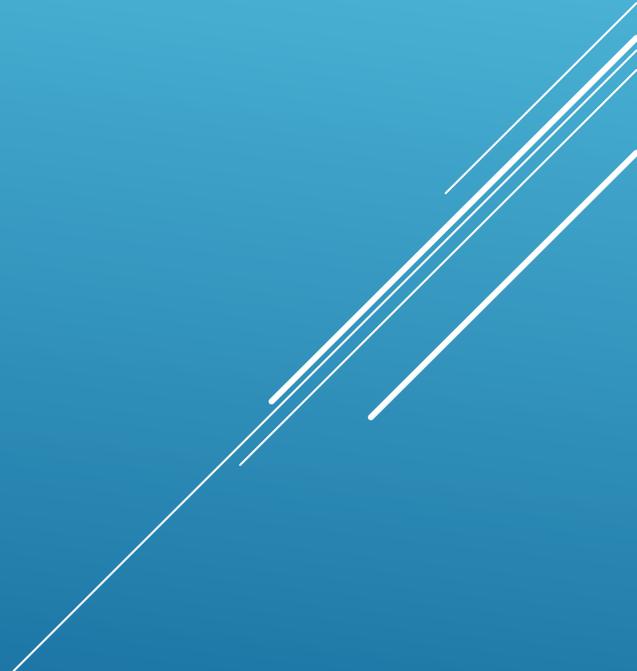
Matfield Green  
Cricket Club

# MATFIELD GREEN CRICKET CLUB

Cricket on Matfield Green represents something much more than a weekend sporting activity.

Cricket, and the values it represents are a vital part of our English history and heritage. In its purest form, untainted by the amoral ways of the modern business and professional sporting worlds, it embodies a set of values, a code of behaviour and life skills that can lead to a more evolved, harmonious way of life. This is the way that we encourage cricket to be played on the green.

# WHAT WE DO – FROM OUR CONSTITUTION

- ▶ The aim of the Club is to foster and promote participation in the sport of cricket within the community through the provision of practice, facilities, coaching and traditional village cricket fixtures.
  - ▶ To ensure that all members, playing and non-playing, abide by the Laws of Cricket and the various ECB Codes of Conduct which incorporates the Spirit of Cricket and social policies.
  - ▶ To encourage all members to participate fully in the playing, social, managing and fund raising activities of the club.
- 



Father and Son, 15 year-olds alongside 70 year-olds – cricket brings people together.

## THE BEST OF OUR TRADITIONS— JOINING THE GENERATIONS

We have requests each year from teams who just want to come and play in this beautiful setting



Each year, after the Matfield Village Fete, we play The Sassoon Fellowship in memory of the Siegfried Sassoon.

We benefit greatly from the generous rates applied by the Parish Council for using the pavilion and the green to play cricket. Without that support, we would not be able to continue.

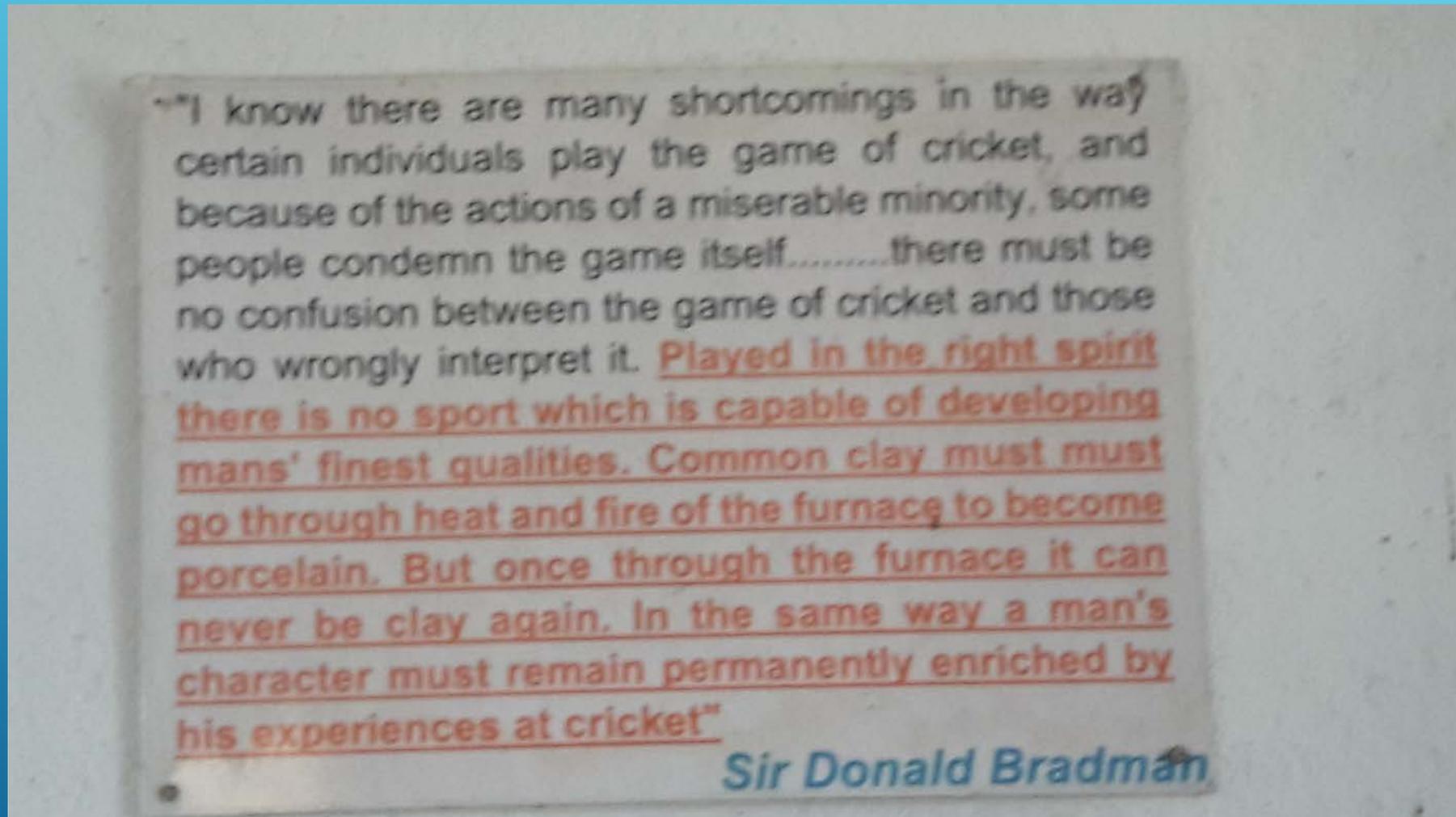
We have a close link with local neighbours and rivals, Castle Hill. They are able to provide junior and womens' cricket and currently we refer enquiries from the younger generation to them.

A junior section at the Matfield Club would be very much in line with our desire to maintain this great English sporting tradition.

There are other strong, larger clubs in the area who play league cricket. We choose to remain outside the league system – and the attitudes and behaviours it appears to encourage. We seek to uphold a more traditional form of village cricket. Each year we get one or two new recruits, disillusioned with league cricket and the attitudes it appears to foster.

## IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

# Traditional Village Cricket



Still has a role to play in our community life



The old cricket pavilion was burnt down in 2011 and has been replaced with this new building. The support of the parish council, local sponsors and Sport England showed the value that is placed on the presence of cricket on the green.

Each year, as our preparations on the square herald the coming of Spring, passers-by often come over to say how pleased they are to see cricket on the green beginning once again.

The club is an important part of village life – it adds colour and character.



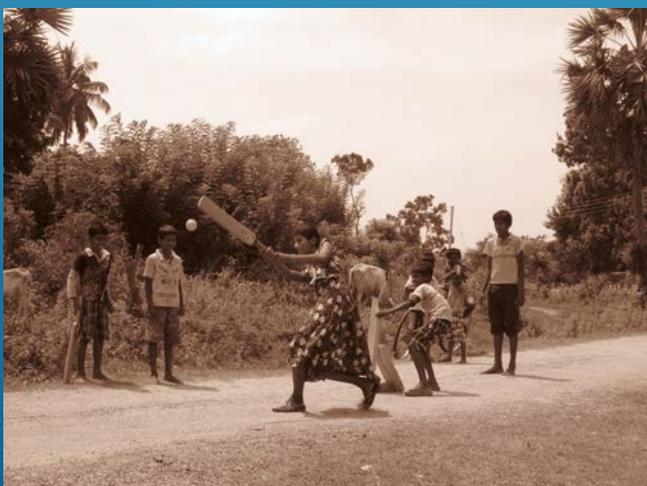
We compete for no trophies on the pitch – but we have a fine reputation among visiting teams and our loyal spectators for our splendid teas.

We run one weekend team and a midweek T20 side. Membership is currently in good health but we need a regular intake of new players – of all ages - to replace those who move on or retire.





# Local Club Larger Presence



Members have been involved in a project to use cricket as a vehicle for education in Sri Lanka and in India.

As a club, we have toured In Norfolk, Isle of Wight, Bournemouth, Bordeaux and Toulouse and Sri Lanka.