

Attachment 1 – Future Use of Greta and Titch Boswell Memorial Lions Park Ball Diamond - Public Comments

Hello,

I think the Boswell diamond space would be an excellent large scale community park. It would be great to see some of these things.

-A larger exciting play structure or structures (much larger than the neighbourhood ones existing) -A large covered area with seating, perhaps available for rental for events or gatherings (bbq space etc) -A purpose built public access to the river for people and pets to enjoy. A dock space or some kind of seating near the water.

Thank you for your consideration.

Matt Bobinski

Hello again,

I misunderstood and thought the ball diamond was being decommissioned for sure. If there is interest and enough demand, this is still a great ball diamond for youth baseball in town. My suggestions in my previous email are based on the ball diamond being decommissioned. I completely support upgrading and keeping the ball diamond as well.

Thank you,

Matt Bobinski

Dear Councillors,

Thank you for taking the initiative to gather information and suggestions from the community on what should be done with the old ball diamond.

Please find a few ideas below:

- Outdoor pickleball and or tennis courts
- Mixed use area for sports — beach volleyball, tennis, basketball, lawn bowling. Option to convert to an outdoor ice rink during the winter months for skating.
- Large accessible playground with soft/rubberized ground for kids of all ages and abilities
- Community green space/park with seating and walking path to enjoy the river and possibly host future community events — farmer's market, Duck Race, group fitness classes, yoga etc. Option to include a small cafe or ice cream shop, helping to provide minimum wage job for teens or locals indeed of work within town.

Cheers, Alyssa Giles, resident of Grand Valley

Dear Town of Grand Valley,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the future of the Greta and Titch Boswell Memorial Lions Park Ball Diamond.

I am writing to express my strong support for preserving this beloved and historic diamond. This space is more than just a ball field—it is a cornerstone of community life in Grand Valley. For generations, families, athletes, and fans have gathered here, not only to play and watch baseball, but to connect, celebrate, and enjoy the unique setting along the river.

The feel of the park creates an unmatched sense of community that cannot be replicated elsewhere. The location, with its scenic backdrop and central position in town, makes it a natural gathering place that holds deep sentimental value. The amenities there allow children to play at the splash pad, park and river while their parents play baseball, making it a true family park not found elsewhere in Town.

Reimagining or removing this space would be a loss to Grand Valley's identity and spirit. Instead, I urge Council to explore ways to maintain and enhance this treasured ball diamond, so it can continue to bring people together and serve as a vibrant hub of activity and connection for years to come.

Thank you for your consideration.
Roseann Knechtel

To whom it may concern,

As a resident who is raising a young family in The Town of Grand Valley, the Boswell baseball Diamond has been a central park in not only my life but in my children's life. This park is where my young kids are learning t- ball and look forward to every Thursday! IT goes beyond just learning the baseball fundamentals for them. It's an area where friendships are formed, where team values are taught and where my kids are learning how to be a part of a community. This ball park holds the same values for myself and my husband as we also spend time playing baseball here. At Boswell we have met so many great neighbour's and friends. Our kids get to watch us as adults gather here and celebrate community.

I have watched on so many weekends people gathering to take part in a baseball tournament to raise money and awareness for this very community and for various charities. If nothing else, this alone should be why the ball park stays.

This park allows everyone, for the young and old to gather, where families and friends can enjoy and celebrate the comradery of baseball and to build a stronger community. It's where people come together to support a cause while playing a favorite past time.

This ball park has become such an important place for myself and in the lives my children. It's a place we can all enjoy and have fun at together as a family.

I truly hope The Town of Grand Valley also holds the same family and community values and understands the real value in keeping this baseball diamond open.

Sincerely
Laura Muir

Leave the baseball diamond alone. Put money into enhancing or improving but not taking it away.

It's perfect the way it is. It is a beloved cornerstone of Grand Valley.

Changing or removing this diamond would be a huge loss to the generations that have played there, that continue to play there and that will play there in the future.

Leave it alone.

Amanda McKinney

To whom it may concern,

Reasons Boswell diamond needs to stay

1. There is still not enough diamond time for Minor Baseball. My child's baseball team has had 1 practice all year and when a game gets cancelled due to rain there is no time available for re-scheduling. Yet you are renting out perfecting good Diamond time to Orangeville baseball leagues. (Our community needs to come first). This is just one of the many reasons that my child will most likely be going somewhere else for baseball next season.
2. The two new diamonds are set-up terribly. You could have easily turned them the other way to accommodate future buildings/diamonds. There are no set bathrooms, no concession stand location and zero shade for families that come to watch kids play baseball.
3. The backdrop and surrounding area of Boswell is one of the best around. Teams love traveling to Grand Valley (adult and youth) to play baseball because of the way the diamond looks between the trees and the river.
4. Why would you go through all the trouble to build the splash pad and park right next to Boswell Diamond to just remove the diamond two years later? So many families use the splash pad while also being at the diamond, it's very multi-functional. If the plan all along was to remove Boswell diamond, then why would the town not plan for a splash pad to be built out at the new diamonds?

Please keep Boswell!

Will Emmerson

Hi

I'm writing in regards to the Greta and Titch Boswell baseball diamond. As a neighbour of the ball diamond and a regular user of it as well, please please do not change this area! It's such a vital part of our small community. My family regularly attends our friend's children's baseball games, as well as having our own impromptu ball games and practices with neighbours and family. We would be very disappointed to see this area developed or changed. We have already lost one ball diamond.

Thank you

Taryn Lloyd

KEEP IT A BALL DIAMOND!

We play many tournaments and different leagues in this town and we've grown baseball a lot over the last two years that it has been so nice to have both places to play.

That place is super special, please keep it a diamond.

Thank you

Taylor Hussey

Hi There,

I understand the Town is currently collecting feedback and ideas from the local community for the future use of the Boswell field.

I have very fond memories of this field and more importantly the space in general, and the sense of community it creates. My parents played in the Sunday league (as the Waldemar Warthogs) and as kids we ran around, met new friends, collected foul balls, ate freezies and candy, and messed around by the river.

Now that we have our own family, it is an amazing feeling to play in that same Sunday co-ed league on the same field and watch our kids run around in the same manner and create their own memories.

My wife and I coach a U7 team on the new diamonds and don't get me wrong, they are very nice diamonds and will be great for minor ball and for larger more serious tournaments, especially as the Town continues to grow.

However, it would be a shame for anything else other than a ball diamond to be in place at the Boswell field. There is no way to replicate the small town, community type feel you get when you play in a long standing league or a smaller local tournament (like the upcoming firefighter support tournament). If those leagues and tournaments were forced to move to the new fields, it would completely change the experience and the Town would lose the sense of community and friendship that has been built on that field over many many years. You can't replicate the mature area with the river so close, and the addition of the splash pad is fantastic.

I have been to many ball diamonds and none come even close to comparing to Boswell Field.

In summary, I appreciate the opportunity to comment and am strongly against Boswell Field turning into anything new, it is beautiful the way it is :)

Chris Knechtel

Hello

Writing to you for the meeting in regards to the future use of the older two diamonds.

Ever since living in grand valley my husband and I have played ball here on Sundays. We really enjoy the fact we can walk down to these diamonds to hang out with our baseball family. It's really brought us together as a community and it's so nice to see all of our children grow up together and get excited about Sunday ball every week. We really hope we can keep the history of both of these diamonds going. Our son now plays (but at the new diamond). Which we're grateful for too, but with him just starting off it would be nice to have the two smaller older ones around still for the kiddos too.

What can we do as a community to keep this maintained and going? We absolutely love baseball, it's apart of us now.

Is a fundraiser needed to help maintain it? Do we need to all rally and come to the meeting to voice our opinion??

As a business owner in town and resident myself, I really hope we can listen to our community with this one!

Please add this to the notes for next meeting/pass along any details for this.

Thank you
Ashley Sweetapple, RMT

I think we should keep the ball diamond at Boswell Park. I assume it's still being used by the small kids to play T-ball and junior baseball.

It fits in well with the splash pad and the small kids playground there and is a nice low-key, easily accessible, ball diamond for our younger players. As they grow up, they'll move to the new diamonds that Town just built.

Steve Miles

Dear Town of Grand Valley,

I saw your Facebook post about the future of Boswell Park.

I have been a resident of grand valley for 8 years now, Boswell Park has been a place where my family has grown. My daughter started playing baseball last year, my son this year. My son is looking forward to spending many years playing.

However Boswell Park is not only special to us, but to probably everyone in town. We spent many nights listening to the cheers from our front porch because they can be heard all across town. Hearing the glee when a home run was hit was so cool even though we weren't at the game.

I don't think Boswell Park should be changed much, if at all. Perhaps some upgrades are necessary but the diamonds should remain.

Thanks for hearing me out.

Alison Daub

Please keep Boswell as it is. It is an important part of the community and being adjacent to the park / splash pad gives us parents a space that can accommodate children who are at different stages of their childhood. One may be playing at the park / splash pad while the other may want to work on some baseball skills. The smaller in town diamond offers a nice option for kids to get out and work / play on a ball field. The new diamonds are great, but Boswell offers a great in town space for kids to enjoy.

Aaron Muir

To whom it may concern,

At this time, I would like to formally express my concern—as both a parent and a member of the Grand Valley Minor Ball (GVMB) executive—regarding the potential repurposing of the Greta and Titch Boswell Memorial Lions Park Ball Diamond for uses other than community baseball.

This diamond is a well-established facility, equipped with the necessary amenities to support minor softball and baseball activities. For many years, prior to the Town assuming responsibility for its maintenance, it was diligently cared for and operated by GVMB volunteers. It would be deeply disappointing to see the years of dedicated work and community investment result in the closure or redirection of this important recreational asset.

While we are enthusiastic about the newly constructed baseball diamonds, it's important to note that they still lack essential infrastructure—such as sheltered seating, permanent washroom facilities, and a concession booth. These elements are critical for the new site to function independently and adequately support the needs of the community, without full reliance on the Boswell Diamond.

We respectfully urge the Town to consider the value this facility continues to bring to Grand Valley and its youth, and to preserve it for future generations of ball players.

Thank you,

Sarah McTaggart

To whom it may concern,

My family has had the joy to use Boswell baseball diamond this season. It would be a shame to see this baseball diamond turned into anything else. There are hundreds of families with children enrolled in Grand Valley minor softball and potentially many more in the future, removing this diamond would put more stress on the new diamonds as well as make it difficult to have as many teams as there are now. I sincerely hope the town reconsiders removing those diamond.

Katie Broadfield

Leave the property as is. As in don't touch it.

Darlene Shaw

Dear Town of Grand Valley Council:

Th Greta and Titch Boswell Memorial Lions Park Ball Diamond is an important part of our community, and was donated by Greta and Titch Boswell for the community use of baseball! As life long residents and users of the ball diamond- this landmark even being considered for removal is ridiculous!

It should continue to be used for beginners baseball and could also host other community events such as a Farmers Market, summer camp fun, daily use by residents and visitors alike. This space has shared facilities with the splash pad and creates a great atmosphere for anyone- including family fun and many community activities. It's location is close to the GV Campground,

having the pavilion, parking area and washroom facilities- the park offers a great venue for many people.

This important piece of Grand Valley needs to be maintained and shared for future use! Also consider that the new sports fields have no sidewalk access and/or anything else to offer other than parking.

Truly,
Michelle and Richard Martin

To whom it may concern,

I have lived in the Grand Valley area for over 20 years. My whole family has played baseball at the Boswell ball diamond over those years. While we are very excited about the new ball diamonds in town I believe keeping and maintaining the diamond and facilities at Boswell is a must. The town of Grand Valley has seen an influx of people participating in softball in the last few years. Grand Valley Minor softball has multiple teams at all age levels. Adult baseball has also grown. Having 3 diamonds to use in town is not only convenient it's a must so that all who want to participate in baseball have the opportunity to. Not only would keeping the Boswell diamond be important for supporting the growth in baseball but also help protect a very important part of our town. It's also important for the community to have clean permanent washroom facilities, a pavilion, snack bar and the ample shade the Boswell park offers. Unfortunately the new ball park doesn't have any of these things. It would be integral to the community to keep the ball diamond at Boswell.

Thank you for your time

Kinda regards
Lisa Deckers

Hi there,

I'm writing to share why I believe the Boswell Baseball Diamond should remain a dedicated baseball field.

As a local business owner, and a parent who has had two boys play at Boswell, I've seen firsthand how important this diamond is to families in our community. It's where kids learn the game, build confidence, and make lasting memories.

The field is still in great shape and is ideal for younger age groups to use for practices and games. As Grand Valley continues to grow, we're going to need more field space, not less. Taking away this diamond would only make it harder for local teams to find room to play.

Boswell is more than just a field, it's a place that brings people together and supports the kind of active, connected community we all want to live in.

Thanks for your time and consideration. I hope to see Boswell remain a baseball diamond for years to come.

Kind regards,
Michelle Milley

Hello,

Please consider this email a formal request to keep Boswell Diamond an active ball diamond in the Town of Grand Valley.

My family has been going to Boswell Diamond for 3 generations of ball now and I can't imagine the next generation not being able to experience such a wonderful spot.

Boswell Diamond not only has wonderful facilities like shaded dugouts, a pavilion, bathrooms and a snack booth, it is also easily walkable to most town residents.

Boswell Diamond is also lovingly known as the spot where the heavy hitters "knock it into the river", instead of "outta the park".

It's our family's hope that Titch and Greta Boswell's memory and legacy live on through this wonderful community hub.

If funds are needed to help maintain the diamond, many of us are willing to contribute as well.

Please let Boswell Diamond remain!

Thanks for your consideration.

Amie Greenwood-Zukowski

Hi,

I am writing to you regarding Boswell diamond. Both of my children play baseball at this diamond and my family believes that it is an important part of Grand Valley. At this diamond there is washrooms, a snack bar, and it is located right by the splash pad making it a perfect spot for young kids to play. The infrastructure is already there so I am not sure why we would tear it down. Baseball has become a very popular sport in Grand Valley and we need all the diamonds that we have. This year all of our teams do not have many (if any) times to have baseball practice, it has been only games due to no diamond time available. Taking away Boswell diamond will only make this situation worse.

Thank you for your time,
Melissa McCallum

Hello!

I want to give my feedback on the future of the Boswell diamond. My family of 4 has been using this diamond every summer for 16 years as players in the adult Sunday 3-pitch league, players in the Grand Valley Minor Softball league, and as volunteers and umpires. Boswell diamond is such a gem and very few other towns have a nicer ball diamond than Boswell. The ample shade, beautiful forested grounds, the river, the splashpad, bathrooms with running water, snack booth, and the Lions park all contribute to the family-friendly appeal of Boswell diamond. I understand that Grand Valley needed additional diamonds to meet the demand and I think it is great that our town now has the option of hosting tournaments with multiple

diamonds in use at the same time, hosting adult leagues that play at night, and allowing additional practice times for minor ball players.

However, these diamonds are not yet ready to host regular season games for minor ball - at least until there is additional infrastructure such as running water, working bathrooms, shade, trees, shelter, and seating areas. This infrastructure will come in time, I'm sure, but in the meantime, please keep Boswell diamond available for the minor ball players, the Sunday 3-pitch players, and one-day tournaments. The new diamonds are not suitable for all weather conditions and families will not be able to bring siblings to play since there is nothing for them to do and nowhere to shelter from the hot sun or rain showers. Both the Sunday 3-pitch games and the minor ball games also attract grandparents and other seniors that want to enjoy a game and socialize. Boswell is an ideal location for spectators of all ages.

As these lands flood almost every winter and spring, it would not be suitable for many other activities or permanent buildings.

Additionally, the historical significance of the Greta and Titch Boswell diamond should not be overlooked. The park was named in their honour only 13 years ago in 2012.

Thank you for reaching out to the town residents and asking for feedback.

Sincerely,
Carrie MacKinnon Molson

Hi,

I want to express my concerns about the potential loss of the Boswell Diamond. I can't confirm this, but I've heard that Titch and Greta donated it due to their love of baseball. It would be an insult to their memory if it was changed to anything other than a baseball diamond. The diamond is in good shape and is constantly being used by the youth of Grand Valley. When there are not games scheduled there are practices. The youth of Grand Valley enjoy using the diamond and it is great physical activity for them. Everyone that I have talked to is against Boswell being changed to anything, we all want it to remain a baseball diamond.

Thank you,
Chris McCallum

Future use suggestions, would like to see a gated off leash dog park and or outdoor tennis/pickle ball courts with possible conversion to outdoor rink in winter months

Thank you for allowing our input
Ryan Barron

Dear Council;

As a proud resident of Grand Valley and a parent whose child plays ball at the Greta and Titch Boswell Memorial Lions Park Ball Diamond, I am writing to express my heartfelt appreciation for this cherished community space and to advocate for its preservation as a heritage site. This ball diamond is more than just a field—it's a warm, inviting, and authentic ballpark for our children, surrounded by lush green space that fosters joy, connection, and memories that will last a

lifetime.

Named in honor of Greta and Titch Boswell, who dedicated over 60 years to our community and generously donated the land for this park, the ball diamond holds deep historical significance. For generations, families like mine have gathered here to watch their children play, creating a sense of continuity and community pride. Its heritage look and welcoming atmosphere make it a true gem in Grand Valley—a place where kids feel like they're playing in a real ballpark, not just any field.

In a time when so much of our history is being lost to development, we must protect spaces like this that define our town's identity. The Boswell Memorial Lions Park Ball Diamond is a vital green space that should remain untouched by redevelopment, as residential and town growth can be easily accommodated outside of Grand Valley's core. There is no need to alter or repurpose this beloved site. Instead, I propose a thoughtful revitalization that enhances its functionality while preserving its heritage look—perhaps through updated facilities or improved landscaping that maintains the park's historic charm and welcoming spirit.

I understand the Town is seeking public input on the future of the ball diamond, with feedback to be presented at the September 23rd Council meeting. I respectfully urge you to consider preserving this space in its current form as a ballpark and green space, honoring the legacy of Greta and Titch Boswell and ensuring it remains a place where future generations can create their own memories. Your commitment to engaging with our community on this matter is appreciated.

Thank you for your dedication to making Grand Valley a place where our history and community thrive.

Justin Cohen

Dear Town of Grand Valley Council,

This letter is to address the issue of closing down Boswell Park.

I strongly disagree about this decision!

I grew up near Grand Valley in the 1970's and 80's and that park has always been a hub of activity. I have played many ball games there with the Grand Valley minor girls teams, and have watched countless GV Royals games that my brother played on for years. Now I enjoy watching the next generation at this ball field.

Boswell diamond is in a prime location. It has lots of shade, washrooms, a snack booth, and is close to the downtown. None of these amenities are available at the new diamonds. This is a big deterrent for anyone wanting to enjoy a game of baseball...especially when it's hot out.

Please reconsider the decision to close down Boswell Park. We need to keep this in our community!

Sincerely,
Tracy Hughes

Good Day,

I am writing to share my thoughts regarding the future of Boswell Diamond.

This treasured space in town has long served as a vital recreation area for our community. Countless hours of volunteer work—particularly by members of Grand Valley Minor Softball—have shaped it into a welcoming and functional park. It's a place where young children can learn to play the game, where charities host weekend tournaments, and where spectators gather to enjoy the atmosphere.

While the new ball diamonds are a welcome addition to Grand Valley's recreation offerings, they currently lack the essential infrastructure—plumbed washrooms, running water, snack bar amenities, and shaded seating—that make Boswell Park so versatile and family-friendly. These limitations, combined with their distance from town and lack of pedestrian access, make the new diamonds less practical for broader community use at this time.

The recent addition of the splash pad at Boswell Park has further enhanced its appeal, making it an ideal spot for families to spend time together. Grand Valley needs more spaces like this—not fewer—and we should be actively working to preserve and improve what we already have.

I've heard concerning rumors that the town may be considering selling Boswell Park to developers. If true, this would be deeply troubling. It's hard to imagine any development that could serve the community as well, especially given the park's tendency to flood in the spring. Developers may have financial interests, but they do not prioritize the needs of local residents.

As a longtime resident of Grand Valley, a former volunteer with Grand Valley Minor Softball, and a parent whose children enjoyed Boswell Park throughout their youth, I strongly urge the Town to maintain and improve this valuable community asset.

Sincerely,
Michele Sguigna

Dear Town of Grand Valley Council,

I am writing to express my strong support for keeping **Boswell Diamond** operational and to highlight its importance to our community.

Boswell Diamond is more than just a baseball field—it is a gathering place that has been used for many generations. It's a place that fosters community spirit, encourages healthy activity, and provides a safe and fun space for residents of all ages. From youth leagues and local tournaments to adult recreational games, the diamond plays a vital role in our community. We value the new diamonds, but they do not compare to Boswell. They do not have bathrooms, shade, a snack booth, or the convenient location that Boswell holds.

Closing or neglecting this facility would mean losing a cherished piece of our town's identity. I urge the council to consider the long-term benefits of maintaining and investing in Boswell Diamond—not only for current residents but for future generations who deserve access to this quality outdoor space.

Thank you for your time and consideration.
Sincerely,
Cheryl Greenwood

To the Town of Grand Valley,

As a resident of Grand Valley for the past 16 years, I've had the privilege of regularly using Boswell Ball Diamond, which is a vibrant hub for our community. I've played Sunday 3-pitch, coached my daughter's softball team, and watched both of my children grow up learning and loving the sport here. This diamond isn't just a field—it's a place where families come together, community members socialize, and players of all ages enjoy the sport. With its convenient amenities like washrooms, a concession stand, bleachers, picnic tables, a sheltered area, and a nearby splash pad—nestled among trees and bordering the river—it offers a truly idyllic space to enjoy the outdoors. During summer days, my teenager often meets friends at Boswell to practice and play for fun, reinforcing its role as a safe, accessible, and desired outdoor space for kids to play. The newer Amaranth diamonds are an excellent addition to the town, but still lack the comfort, appeal, and accessibility of Boswell. The Boswell space embodies the spirit of Grand Valley's motto: "Nature's Playground." Changing the land use, selling or developing this land would strip away a vital part of our community's identity. I urge you to preserve Boswell Diamond for future generations to enjoy.

Sincerely,

Jeff Molson

Dear Members of Town Council,

As a mother of 3, who's son has played baseball with Grand Valley Minor Ball for almost 10 years, I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposed removal of one of our community's ball diamonds. As a local (we reside in Amaranth) and supporter of local sports programs, I believe this decision would negatively impact the growing baseball community in Grand Valley.

Grand Valley Minor ball registration is currently on the rise, a clear sign that baseball is thriving in our community. With more children and families participating, the demand for field time has also increased. Having multiple diamonds allows us to accommodate not only minor ball, but also Sunday league and other adult recreational leagues. All of which have flourished this season, with the availability of 3 diamonds.

The diamond in question is especially valuable due to its existing infrastructure. The presence of a snack booth, pavilion and washroom facilities make it far more accessible and family-friendly than the new fields in town, which currently lack these amenities. These features are important not only for players, but also for the many parents, volunteers, and spectators who spend time at the fields.

Grand Valley already has the staff and resources to maintain all current diamonds. Removing one would be a step backward—forcing minor ball to potentially turn kids away due to lack of space. That would be a disservice to the families who want their children to stay active and involved in local community sports.

Additionally, having more diamonds means we can host tournaments. These events attract teams from surrounding areas and bring valuable business to local restaurants and shops. This is not just about sports—it's about supporting our local economy and keeping our community vibrant.

If Boswell diamond is removed, there's a very real risk that families will seek opportunities to play elsewhere. This would hurt not just our sports programs, but the community as a whole.

I respectfully urge Town Council to reconsider this decision. Let's support the growth of baseball in our town and invest in facilities that foster healthy, active, and connected communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Cassandra Bryan

To our beloved Town

As someone who has lived in and around the Valley for the past 35 years. Who truly adores this town has done a lot of businesses, created a lot of art in the town, worked for the Town, volunteered for both the Lions and Agricultural Society but most importantly who neighbors this wonderful ball Diamond I must jump in to put my two cents in.

The Diamond is extremely well utilized so much so we the players and families clamor to get time for games and practices. It's well equipped with washrooms and a snack bar and most of all especially for the kids is centrally located.

Over 170 children are registered in our local league. This is roughly 25% of all the town's youth population. Not to mention hundreds of adults enjoy playing on these grounds . Now we have other teams and communities and their patrons that come here causing a trickle down of revenues to our downtown core and interest in our community.

The trickle-down effect of such traffic generates revenue for our downtown and interest for economic development and growth. So that's literally thousands of people that use these grounds.

It's one of the few local things outside and organized that parents can do with their kids nowadays.

Maybe we convert the abandoned diamond up the road in Hereward to a dog park should you wish. My understanding is that it is Thomasfield grounds, however if it is a baseball diamond you want to convert to a dog park that seems viable. This would also serve as repurposing something not being used at all vs as the current diamond.

It is the heart of our summers and has been revered by many many previous generations. To my understanding Greta and Titch they even severed their own property to give back to the community for this purpose. A noble gesture to which we should pay homage and respect.

A donation in mind with a purpose. To futher elaborate for those who aren't aware of the park and the properties history here are some facts provided by the Lions Club and Historical Society.

The ball park was built in 1954. This was the first major project for the Lions after the Club was formed in 1951. Greenwood Construction donated the heavy equipment, their operators, and materials. Joe and Durwood Greenwood were born and raised in Grand Valley and they both lived here their entire lives. Joe Greenwood was also a Lion's member when the park was built. The outfield fences were constructed with vertical boards donated by the local lumber yard which was located on William Street.

According to Titch Boswell (as told to Randy McClelland), the Lions made an agreement with Mr. Stuckey who owned the property between the ball diamond and the trailer park plus a strip of land that the ball park's right field is on. If the Lions provide access to his property, the Lions could use the land in right field. That is why there is a fence in centre field, to allow access to the Stuckey property.

The light poles and lights were installed in 1961 and were paid for by the Lions as part of the 1961 Grand Valley Centennial celebrations.

In the early 1980's the Lions reworked the ball diamond and removed the hill in right field.

The current pavilion/washroom/snack bar structure was built in 1996 with money donated by former Lion, Willis Montgomery and his wife Marjorie. The previous snack bar had been the building which once served as the clubhouse for the Grand Valley Lawn Bowling Club. This bowling club was located on the property where the Dufferin housing apartments are now, behind the Presbyterian Church.

We convene there. We love the lights and the cheers. It is our safe haven. If it's the cost of electricity or overhead of maintenance that's what our tax dollars are for and or please make these issues publicly known and we can have fundraisers to assist with such overhead.

Being such a bedroom community we already have a divide between the new development and the old downtown. If you reside here in the town in the core of the town you'll recognize while we love the safety and slow pace it provides, you'll hear grumblings of "needing things to do".

On a side note, I'd like to also recognize the library staff and their programming. We are very grateful for their community efforts and their keenness to stay hip and involved with the local youth.

This town was built on farmers resilient beautiful hardworking people who love their neighbor and nature. We don't live here not to socialize and box ourselves up only to wait for the next working day. We really appreciate and enjoy our current events and facilities that house them.

Regards

Love Grand Valley Always
Anthony Fenech

As a Grand Valley resident, I believe this park needs to stay active with softball. I learned how to play fastball on this diamond, coached some. Yes, the new diamonds are a great fit for fastball and Slo-pitch, but the Boswell park is still a Minor Ball and 3 pitch diamond. It still gets used for 3 pitch tournaments and Sunday adult 3 pitch league. With amenities like the washrooms, snack booth and splash pad, it is a great place for adults to bring their kids along. Now with the anticipated restoration on the batting cages, we still need this place. Why do all these upgrades (Splash pad and batting cage) to just shut down the park or change it to something else. And what will the somewhat else cost? Please consider all the feedback from the public because even if people on council don't use this park and just sees it as a column on a spreadsheet, the public sees it as much more than that. Just think, if the public was consulted or had a say about the new diamonds, there would be far less issues. Just leaving it up to an engineer has caused safety issues with orientation of the diamonds, the parking lot being at the opposite end of the park and temporary washrooms that are so far from the benches, people need to sit for an inning just to walk to them.

Please listen to the public's feedback.
Thank you.
Craig McClelland

Dear Council, Staff and Mayor Soloman,

I'm sure by now you have received numerous emails and input regarding the Boswell Park. I am hoping the right choice is made.

I do have a little bit of input to add,

As past President of Grand Valley Minor Softball, and also currently the Umpire In Chief, and currently the head coach of the Grand Valley Expos men's team, I speak with many parents and players and they tell me how they love playing and coming to the Boswell Park for its small town charm and great playing surface. It currently sits in the best shape it has ever been in. All new wash/change rooms, pavilion was recently redone, new roof on the dugouts and the slashpad across the parking lot. I think the playing surface could get a few more years out of it if it was worked up with a soil conditioner. However long term, it will need clay added periodically.

I would like to add my input on both Boswell and the 2-3 sideroad new diamonds. I feel the current grooming of the diamonds are being done wrong. The groomer should start at the pitcher's mound and go in a circle until you reach the grass. I notice that the crew currently goes side to side which takes the shape of the diamond away which also creates berms that hold water. Now that minor ball is done for the season, I feel that Boswell doesn't get maintained for the Sunday league. There has been a broken bench for over 2 months that was a hazard that I myself reported on the town website.

The 2-3 Diamonds are a beautiful addition to our town. We ultimately need a pavilion there with facilities so we could hold some tournaments. The Expos and GVMB would love to host some year-end tournaments that would draw families from up to an hour and a half away to our community. We were always limited to the size of tournament we could host when we only had the single Boswell field. I still feel we are in the same boat with no amenities on 2-3.

The red shed has been moved out to 2-3 and where it currently sits would be a lovely spot for a small pavilion like the Liz Taylor pavilion on Water st. This would be ideal for fans to get out of the sun/rain and still be able to watch both diamonds.

A bigger pavilion between the parking lot and field would be great for functions etc.

I would have to say that I have been to close to 100 diamonds throughout Ontario and ours would be rated very high for playing fields and charm and at 2-3 the lights are likely the best I have seen!!

I have to say you "knocked it out of the park" with the new build, but we can't stop there. The addition and recent work to the Community Centre is also a breath of fresh air for our community. Well done!!

Hoping the right decision is made, and we can continue to beautify our parks that get talked about everywhere I play!

Regards,
Darryl Bell

Grand Valley Council,

In my opinion, the Greta and Titch Boswell Memorial Lions Park should remain a ball park. With the number of young children and the expected growth of Grand Valley, there will be a need for a third softball diamond, especially for the children in the upcoming years.

My family and I moved here in 1982 and became involved at the Lions Park immediately, either by playing softball, coaching, having my children play at this field and with the Grand Valley Lions. We met many people who became lifelong friends at the Lions Park through volunteering at the park, coaching our children playing softball together or just being spectators cheering the Grand Valley teams on.

This is a great ball park for the children to learn to play ball as it is not large and intimidating, has a snack booth, washrooms and is near to the Splash pad and playground area. Kids need to have fun while learning to play ball and they do have fun at the Greta and Titch Boswell Memorial Lions Park. All you have to do is come and watch them learn.

Money will have to be spent to upgrade these facilities but in my opinion, it will be money well spent.

Thank you.

Randy McClelland

The future of the Greta + Litch Boswell Memorial Ball Park should continue to be an important part of Grand Valley History. It is something we should all be proud of.

The park has a fenced diamond, good lighting, covered players benches and overhead netting in home plate.

It has a pavilion, food booth, batting cage, running water and flush toilets. All this in place with no cost to our taxpayers.

A cleanup of the river bank at the ball park and the trailer park would be a nice improvement. If they cut a path from one to the other, minor ball teams could host tournaments and offer family camping.

Thank you for your time.

Yours truly

Paula Cord Agar

RECEIVED

AUG 18 2025

TOWN OF GRAND VALLEY

Per _____



KEEPING THE PAST ALIVE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

**67 AMARANTH STREET EAST
GRAND VALLEY, ON L9W 5L4**

Town of Grand Valley
5 Main Street North
Grand Valley, ON L9W 5S6

Mayor Soloman and members of Council

Reference: Future of the Ball Diamond at the Boswell Park

In the early 1950s the newly formed Lions Club recognized the need for Grand Valley to have a good quality ball diamond. The ball park was built using volunteer labour and donated equipment and materials. This park is a fine example of a community coming together to provide a recreational amenity for its residents. This park is a link to the town's history.

The governing body of this municipality, present and future, should do their utmost to preserve and maintain this ballpark so that it will continue to be used for the purpose for which it was constructed. The park has old time character, and is a valuable asset that can still be used by minor ball teams.

The Town lost much of its visual history because of the 1985 tornado, so it is even more important that this venue is preserved and protected, for the quaint and charming small-town ball park that it is.

Residents living in the vicinity of this ball park say that the diamond is still being well used.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rick Taylor, President
East Luther Grand Valley Historical Society

RECEIVED

SEP 10 2025

TOWN OF GRAND VALLEY

Per _____

To Council Members,

I live at 38 Mill St. East and have a great view of the Ball Park.

It is used all summer by kids and adults for ball games and tournaments.

Kids can arrive at the park by bicycle and walking and the park has all the facilities needed to enjoy games and the splash pad.

I recommend leaving the said park as it is for kids and adults to enjoy.

The park land was donated to the town many years ago for the community to enjoy.

Thank you in advance for your kind consideration.

Regards,

Marilyn Stuckey

Member of Grand Valley Historical Society