



JUNE 1967

## Archery plan leads to vandals warning

From Geoff Matthews, Basingstoke

A HUSBAND and wife who want to start an archery club at Basing, near Basingstoke, were warned last night that the scheme could be hit by local vandals.

Mrs Beatrice Selman, of 131 Cavalier Road, Basing, had been invited to the Parish Council meeting to explain plans to open a village "bow and arrow" club on behalf of her husband, a BOAC air crewman, who was away.

But when she revealed they only intended to erect a three-foot high fence around the proposed target area in the village recreation ground, Councillor Ken Wilson said: "I am certain the local vandals would soon break it down. They've already damaged swings in the children's play area — and this sort of fence won't get in their way."

Other councillors feared that the fence would not stop children running across while matches were in progress, but Mrs Selman stressed that shooting would always be under supervision.

She also emphasised that the club would be called Old Basing

Archery Club, if the council approved it, and would draw its membership exclusively from the village.

"Safety precautions will be absolutely paramount in our minds, but it isn't as dangerous as it seems," she added.

After Mrs Selman had left, the council decided to defer its decision until it has looked at alternative sites.

JULY 1967

## ARCHERY AT BASING — PERHAPS!

THE facilities at Basing recreation ground may soon be increased by the addition of an archery butt—but on the other hand it may not, as members of the parish council have not yet made up their minds about it.

27

At its meeting last month the council read a letter from keen archer Mr. Ronald Selman who wanted to establish a Basing archery club at the recreation ground. With the letter was a plan showing an area of the recreation ground which would be suitable.

The councillors wished to know more about the proposal, and on Monday evening Mrs. Beatrice Selman spoke to the parish council meeting about it.

Safety, equipment, and times of usage were discussed, together with the necessity of fencing the butt off from the rest of the recreation ground.

Later, however, the councillors decided that fencing off the proposed section of ground was "sterilising" a high proportion of the available space.

They agreed that possibly another strip could be found that might be acceptable both to themselves and Mr. Selman and before next month's meeting intend to discuss it with him.

Mr. Selman, who has lived in Basing for six years, is a Hampshire county archery coach who at present shoots for the Basingstoke Bowmen.

His idea is to start a club for the residents of Basing parish who are interested in archery as a sport. New members over 12 years old would also be recruited from the village if they were genuinely keen, and the club would steadily progress.

Before they make a final decision several of the councillors intend to go and see an archery club to find out how they are run and what safety precautions are taken.