

RECREATION COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 30th NOVEMBER 2022

Minutes of the meeting of the **RECREATION COMMITTEE** held in the Church Hall, St Clare's Church, St Cuthbert's Way Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 30TH NOVEMBER 2022 at 7.15pm**

PRESENT

Councillor Carl Robinson (Chairman) and:
Councillors, Eddy Adam, Martin Ashcroft, Lindsey Aston, Jim Atkinson, Arun M Chandran, Bob Fleming, Ian Gray, Brian Haigh, Sandra Haigh, Andy Hill, Sandra Kirkby, John Moore, Ken Robson, Michael Stead, Anne Woodward, and John Woodward.

OFFICERS

Mr Dan Austin (Town Clerk)
Mr Steve Cooper (Works and Environment Manager)
Mr Lee Williams (Grounds Maintenance Services Co-ordinator)
Mr Andrew Clark (Sports Complex Manager)
Mrs Judith Thexton (Head of Leisure and Events)
Mrs Julie Walton (Corporate Assistant)

IN ATTENDANCE

Ian Templeton, Allotment Tenant from St Oswald's Site

53. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Tony Armstrong, Peter Bergg, Dorothy Bowman, John Clark, Neil Collinson, George Gray, Phillip Hawkins, Jed Hillary, Wendy Hillary, Joanne Jones, and Neville Jones

54. MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS

No applications for dispensations had been received.

55. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Carl Robinson declared a non-pecuniary interests in Agenda Items 6 and 7 as a member of the Oak Leaf Golf Club.

The meeting agreed that Councillor Robinson could remain in the chair for these agenda items subject to not participating in any debate or vote.

56. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

57. MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Ken Robson, seconded by Councillor Arun Chandran and:

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Committee, held on the 19th October 2022, be confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

58. GOLF WORKING GROUP NOTES

It was proposed by Councillor Bob Fleming, seconded by Councillor Arun Chandran, and:

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting of the Golf Working Group, held on the 22nd November 2022, be confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

59. OAKLEAF GOLF COMPLEX REPORT

The Head of Leisure and Events and Golf Administrator submitted a report and statistical information related to income at the Oakleaf Golf Complex for the six-week period ended 20th November 2022.

It was proposed by Councillor Bob Fleming and seconded by Councillor Arun Chandran and:

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that the report be received.

60. OAKLEAF SPORTS COMPLEX USAGE COMPARISONS

The Sports Complex Manager submitted a report updating members on statistical information in relation to the attendance and income at the Oak Leaf Sports Complex for October compared with the last five years.

It was proposed by Councillor Arun Chandran and seconded by Councillor Bob Fleming and:

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that the report be received

61. OAKLEAF SPORTS COMPLEX NEW DEVELOPMENTS

The Sports Complex Manager submitted a report to provide Members with information in relation to events and new developments at the Oak Leaf Sports Complex and requesting Member's consideration of a number of specific requests.

A discussion was held in relation to each recommendation, and it was agreed to consider each recommendation in turn.

In relation to the recommended 20p increase in the price of Madri beer Councillor Martin Ashcroft put forward an amended proposal, seconded by Councillor Ian Gray that the price of Madri be increased by the lesser amount of 10p.

A vote was taken, and the amended motion failed.

It was then proposed by Councillor Eddy Adam, seconded by Councillor Arun Chandran and:

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- i) the report be received.
- ii) the price of Madri be increased by 20p per pint.

- iii) a partnership with Newton Aycliffe Football club be formed and that the proposal to offer the facilities at a promotional rate in return for free advertising be agreed.
- iv) the request from Durham County Council to use the Sports Complex Function Room as a polling station for elections be approved.
- v) the request from Shildon Model Railway Club to hold an exhibition at the Sports Complex between 2nd and 4th June 2023 be approved.
- vi) the Open Mic night continues for the trial period in the first quarter of the new year, and that a fee not exceeding £75 is paid to the hosts funded from the Sports Complex Internal Events Budget.

62. PARKS UPDATE REPORT

The Works and Environment Manager submitted a report to bring members up to date with items relating to the parks.

A discussion was held around the purpose of the height restrictors in Council car park and facilities and how public awareness of the restrictors could be improved.

It was proposed by Councillor Arun M Chandran and seconded by Councillor Eddy Adam and:

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- i) the report be received.
- ii) the height restrictor at the entrance to Horndale Park be replaced via an insurance claim and that efforts be made to recover the cost of the claim from the third party.
- iii) Officers investigate options for improving awareness and visibility of the height restrictors at the Council Offices, for example via improved signage and reducing the height of the hedging.

63. EVENTS SUB COMMITTEE PROPOSAL

Members considered the proposal from Councillor Ken Robson which was seconded by Councillor Arun Chandran that the Events Sub-Committee be increased to twelve members (plus Mayor and Deputy Mayor as Ex Officio) and that Councillor Neil Collinson and Councillor Carl Robinson be added to the membership of the Sub-Committee

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- i) The membership of the Events Sub- Committee be increased to twelve members and that Councillors Carl Robinson and Neil Collinson be appointed to take up the vacancies.

CHAIRMAN.