

Minutes of the meeting of the **RECREATION COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 8th SEPTEMBER 2010** at **8.05 p.m.**

PRESENT **Councillor B Hall** (Chairman) and
Councillors S. Bambridge, W.M. Blenkinsopp, Mrs. D. Bowman, T.R. Bowman, Mrs. B.A. Clare, J.D. Clare, V. Corsby, W. Curtis, Mrs. M. Dalton, P. Ducker, G.C. Gray, I. Gray, Mrs. J. Gray, B. Haigh, Mrs. S. Haigh, K. Henderson, T. Hogan, W. Iveson, Mrs. A. Palmer, Mrs. V.M. Raw and A. Warburton.

OFFICIALS Mr. A. Bailey (Town Clerk)
Mr. D. Thompson (Works Manager)
Mr. S. Cooper (Environment Officer)
Miss J. Simpson (Leisure Manager)
Miss C. Ryder (Senior Admin Officer)

The Chairman welcomed Miss Judith Simpson, the newly appointed Leisure Manager, to her first meeting and congratulated her on her appointment.

23. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson and Mrs. E.M. Paylor.

24. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

25. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from members of the public.

26. **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor V. Crosby, seconded by Councillor Mrs. M. Dalton and

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Committee held on the 7th July 2010 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

27. **SHOW WORKING GROUP NOTES**

Notes and recommendations from the meeting of the Show Working Group held on the 28th July 2010 were considered.

It was proposed by Councillor G.C. Gray, seconded by Councillor P. Ducker and

RESOLVED – that the notes and the following recommendations of the Show Working Group held on the 28th July 2010 be agreed:

2011 Show

- i) That a firm cost be established for the Honda Dockland Imps for their attendance on Saturday the 27th and Sunday the 28th August 2011 and then agreed with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Town Clerk prior to being confirmed with Peter Johnson Entertainment Agency.
- ii) That rides on the simulator be charged at £1 per person. The fees to be collected by a member of Great Aycliffe Town Council staff.

2010 Show

It was agreed that the officers and staff who attended the Show on the 28th and 29th August be commended on the excellent work this carried out to make the Show a success.

28. **OAK LEAF GOLF COMPLEX**

The Town Clerk and Golf Professional submitted a report for the nine weeks ended the 29th August 2010. The report gave comparative income statistics for the same period in 2009.

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

29. **OAK LEAF SPORTS COMPLEX**

The Leisure Manager submitted a report for the nine weeks ended the 29th August 2010. The report gave statistical information regarding attendance and income at the complex for June and July 2010 compared with June and July 2009.

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

30. **OUTSIDE EVENTS**

The Leisure & Environment Assistant submitted a report which updated members on the outcome of the Senior Citizens' Excursions. A further report and analysis of preferred destinations for trips in 2011 would be presented to the next Recreation Meeting for consideration.

The report set out information with regard to the Show which had been held on the weekend of 28th and 29th August. Emphasis was made to the problems which had occurred from dust on the running track which had spoilt the show for some traders and visitors.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended:

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That a report on suitable destinations for the 2011 Senior Citizens' Excursions be prepared for the next Recreation Committee.
- (iii) That a report be submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee on the cost to grass over the running track to prevent dust problems.
- (iv) That the Members thanks be recorded to the staff who worked on the 2010 Show to make it such a success.

31. **TOWN PARK - GIANT SWING**

The Works Manager submitted a report for members to consider the replacement of the existing tyre swing in the Town Park with a Spinning Net.

The tyre swing had been installed in the Town Park in 2004 as part of the new junior play area. However, following accidents which had occurred during the use of this swing the manufacturer had been consulted to investigate the equipment.

Use of this swing as it remains at present would result in a risk assessment being submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee as to either accept or not accept the risk of injury.

The swing is currently out of use pending a decision as to its future use. If it were to be replaced by a spinning net this would cost £5,537. Members were concerned at the high cost of replacement and felt that it may be possible to find a cheaper version of adapting this equipment.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended:

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That Officers look for alternative ways of adapting this equipment at a cheaper price and report back to the Recreation Committee.
- (iii) That the swing remain out of action and a notice be erected on the equipment stating that it was not in use due to misuse.

CHAIRMAN