

Minutes of the meeting of the **RECREATION COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **12th OCTOBER 2016** at **7.27 p.m.**

PRESENT **Councillor B Hall** (Chairman) and
Councillors E Adam, M Ashcroft, D G Atkinson, J Atkinson,
B Blenkinsopp, A M Chandran, Mrs B A Clare, J D Clare,
J Clark, N Collinson, Mrs M Dalton, M A Dalton, R S Fleming,
G C Gray, I Gray, K Henderson, J P Hillary, Mrs W P Hillary,
M Iveson, Mrs S J Iveson, W Iveson, P Kjenstad and
Mrs V M Raw.

OFFICIALS Mr A Bailey (Town Clerk)
Mr S Cooper (Works & Environment Manager)
Mr L Williams (Grounds Maintenance Service Coordinator)
Mrs M J Robinson (Leisure & Environment Assistant)
Mrs J Thexton (Leisure Manager)
Ms J Welch (Golf Manager)

42. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors P. Bergg, Mrs S Haigh, Mrs I Hewitson, K Robson and C Wheeler.

43. **MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS**

No applications for dispensations had been received.

44. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

45. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from members of the public.

46. **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor R S Fleming, seconded by Councillor M Ashcroft and

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Committee held on the **31st August 2016** be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

47. **SANTA TOURS WORKING GROUP NOTES**

Notes and recommendations from the meeting of the Santa Tours Working Group held on the **14th September 2016** were considered:

- i) That a suitably reduced and rationalised number of stops on Route 4 be used on a trial basis for the forthcoming Santa Tours.
- ii) That some amendments be made to Route 7 to accommodate the new housing development.

- iii) That a letter be sent to relevant nursing and residential homes advising that Santa will no longer be calling on Christmas Eve but could call on the day prior to this, by agreement, if required. Alternatively, a Santa costume could be borrowed up to 23 December.
- iv) That a letter be sent to St Clare's Church advising that, for operational reasons, the visit to the service at St Clare's Church on Christmas Eve would be discontinued, but that a Santa costume may be borrowed from the Sports Complex by the church, if required.

It was proposed by Councillor R S Fleming, seconded by Councillor B Hall and

RESOLVED – That it be recommended that the notes and recommendations be received.

48. **GOLF COURSE WORKING GROUP NOTES**

Notes and recommendations from the meeting of the Golf Course Working Group held on the **15th September 2016** were considered:

- i) That the new urinal should be located just beyond the 12th tee, as identified.
- ii) That the material and design, as previously suggested, be agreed.
- iii) That green keeping staff be commended for their work on the Golf Course.

It was proposed by Councillor R S Fleming, seconded by Councillor B Hall and

RESOLVED – That it be recommended that the notes and recommendations be received.

49. **FESTIVAL WORKING GROUP NOTES**

Notes and recommendations from the meeting of the Festival Working Group held on the 28th September were considered:

- a) Mr Spensley be contacted to ascertain if he would be organising a STEM event in 2017.
- b) Quotations be sought for the hire of an ice rink, and for a Brass Event similar to that held in 2016.
- c) The Youth Council be asked if they would be prepared to organise a fancy dress competition with a theme "throughout the ages".
- d) The Festival Application form be amended to include that:
 - i) Grants will not be paid for room hire fees for premises belonging to the applicant. Only in **exceptional** circumstances will grant aid for room hire in the applicant's premises be considered by the Festival Working Group.
 - ii) Grant approval is conditional on a representative of the organisation attending meetings of event organisers which will be held occasionally.

- e) A meeting to publicise the Festival and encourage people to organise events be held in October 2016.
- f) Meetings of event organisers be organised to encourage networking between them.
- g) The Event Organisers' Reference Guide be made available to potential organisers

It was proposed by Councillor J Atkinson, seconded by Councillor Mrs M Dalton

RESOLVED – That it be recommended that the notes and recommendations be received.

50. **OAKLEAF GOLF COMPLEX REPORT**

The Town Clerk and Golf Professional submitted their report for the period ending 2nd October 2016. The report gave comparisons of income from the corresponding periods in 2014 and 2015 plus the six month usage figures from 28th March to 25th September 2016.

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

51. **OAKLEAF SPORTS COMPLEX – USAGE COMPARISONS**

The Leisure Manager submitted a report for August 2016. The report compared usage figures and income from the same period in 2015.

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

52. **OAKLEAF SPORTS COMPLEX NEW DEVELOPMENTS**

The Leisure Manager submitted a report which advised of new sports sessions for those aged over 50, new dodgeball sessions and an initiative for archery drop in sessions.

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

53. **OUTSIDE EVENTS**

The Leisure Manager submitted a report which updated members on the event planning for the Fireworks Display. The report also gave information regarding the Elddis Caravan Rally which was held recently.

RESOLVED - that it be recommended:

- i. That the report be received.
- ii. That Officers investigate the possibility of providing security for caravan rallies.

54. **OAKLEAF SPORTS COMPLEX – SERVICE PLAN UPDATE**

The Leisure Manager submitted a report which updated members regarding the current position for targets and actions from the Annual Service Plan.

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

55. **BRITISH TRIATHLON ORGANISATION REPORT**

The Works and Environment Manager submitted a report regarding correspondence from the British Triathlon Organisation regarding proposed training on the tarmac track at the Oakleaf Sports Complex.

RESOLVED - that it be recommended:

- i. That the report be received.
- ii. That permission be granted for the British Triathlon Organisation to use the facilities.

56. **PARKS UPDATE**

The Works and Environment Manager submitted a report which detailed the checks and repairs carried out in the parks, the outcome of a meeting with Northumbrian Water regarding the lakes in West Park and an apology from a youth who had been excluded from the parks due to an incident in the Town Park.

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

57. **2017/2018 DRAFT REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS**

The Finance Manager had submitted a draft Revenue and Capital Budget for 2017/2018 for members' consideration in respect of the Recreation Committee.

Members considered each section of the Budgets for the Recreation Committee and

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that the report and draft Revenue and Capital Budget figures for 2017/18 be received.

CHAIRMAN.