

Minutes of the meeting of the **RECREATION COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 8th APRIL 2015** at **7.25 p.m.**

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

OFFICIALS Mr. A. Bailey (Town Clerk)
Mrs. C. Walton (Corporate and Policy Officer)
Mr. D. Austin (Finance Manager)
Mrs. J. Thexton (Leisure Manager)
Mr. D. Thompson (Works Manager)
Miss J. Welch (Golf Manager)
Miss C. Ryder (Senior Admin. Officer)

101. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor M.A. Dalton.

102. **MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS**

No applications for dispensations had been received.

103. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

104. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from members of the public.

105. **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor R.S. Fleming, seconded by Councillor Mrs M Dalton and

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Committee held on the **25th February 2015** be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

106. **FESTIVAL WORKING GROUP NOTES**

Notes and recommendations from the meeting of the Festival Working Group held on the 23rd March 2015 were considered.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Atkinson, seconded by Councillor Mrs. V. Raw and

RESOLVED – that the notes and the following recommendations from the Festival Working Group meeting be received:-

- i The cost of staging be obtained.
- ii The Banner Project proceed.
- iii Banners be placed in the Town Park with the remainder in the Town Centre.
- iv GAMP be approached for a £750 Community Grant.
- v Festival Grant Applications:
 - a Aycliffe Village Hall Association Social Evening £250 - approved
 - b Pioneering Care Partnership Summer Open Day £1,750 – Mrs Robinson contact the organisation for clarification of event details.
 - c AYTP Live Rock Band Music Night £500 – deduct £75 for advertising. Grant of £425.00 approved
 - d AYTP Live Acoustic Music Night £500 - deduct £75 for advertising. Grant of £425.00 approved
 - e Rotary Club Community Fair £
 - f Oakleaf Golf Club } Mrs Robinson contact the organisation to discuss
 - g Oakleaf Golf Club } the events in greater detail.

107. **GOLF COURSE WORKING GROUP NOTES**

Notes and recommendations from the meeting of the Golf Course Working Group held on the 9th March 2015 were considered.

It was proposed by Councillor R.S. Fleming, seconded by Councillor J. Atkinson and

RESOLVED – that the notes and the following recommendations from the Golf Course Working Group meeting be received:-

- i) That a reciprocal membership scheme be set up with Catterick Golf Club on a six month trial basis.
- ii) That the Golf Manager arrange for the measurement of the 11th hole, prior to ordering new score cards, including hazard notification information, as soon as possible.
- iii) That a bridge be placed over the ditch to connect the new medal tee at the 11th.
- iv) That consideration be given to installing cleaning equipment at the exit of the golf course.
- v) That tarmac scrapings be laid to improve the condition of golf course paths.

- vi) That consideration be given to the placement of a fence between the 2nd and 13th Tees.
- vii) That consideration be given to setting aside a practice putting green adjacent to the golf shop and rear of the range.

108. **OAKLEAF GOLF COMPLEX REPORT**

The Town Clerk and Golf Manager submitted their report for the six weeks ended the 29th March 2015. The report gave comparisons of income from the corresponding periods in 2014 and 2013.

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

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

The Leisure Manager submitted a report for the six weeks ended the 29th March 2015. The report compared usage figures and income from the corresponding period in 2014.

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

110. **OAKLEAF SPORTS COMPLEX – SERVICE PLAN 2015-2016**

The Leisure Manager submitted a report and Service Plan for the Oakleaf Sports Complex for the period 2015-2016.

RESOLVED - that it be recommended:-

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That the Oakleaf Sports Complex Service Plan for 2015-2016 be accepted.

111. **BAR SUPPLIES CONTRACT EXTENSION**

The Finance Manager and Leisure Manager had submitted a report and information on an option to extend the current brewery contract with Heineken for the supply of drinks to the Complex bar for a further two years. The proposal would give significant savings on the cost of draught bar supplies thus allowing the Council to pass on the reductions to its customers.

RESOLVED - that it be recommended that:-

- (i) The report be received.
- (ii) That the option to extend the current contract with Heineken for the supply of drinks at the Oakleaf Sports Complex bar be agreed for a further two years.
- (iii) That the Leisure Manager be authorised to reduce the bar prices once the new contract has been entered into with Heineken.

112. **CUSTOMER SURVEY RESULTS**

The Leisure Manager had submitted information following the annual survey in December and January to give a snap shot of how the complex was performing from the customers point of view.

Members queried the results from the high percentage of people dissatisfied with the cleanliness of the Function Room and Changing Rooms. It was pointed out that the figures didn't seem to give an accurate account of those facilities.

RESOLVED - that it be recommended:-

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That the information be received.
- (iii) That the Leisure Manager seek alternative ways for a survey to be carried out to ensure accuracy of results.

113. **CANCELLATION POLICY REVIEW**

The Leisure Manager submitted a report and copy of the cancellation policy in respect of bookings within the Oakleaf Sports Complex. Following three complaints being received it was felt that the policy should be fully reviewed.

RESOLVED - that it be recommended:-

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That the cancellation policy be accepted and approved.

114. **BMX TRACK – PUMP TRACK PROPOSAL - HORNDALE**

The Corporate and Policy Officer and Works Manager submitted a report in respect of a proposal for a BMX Pump Track to be provided at Horndale Park. The Youth Council had applied to Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership (GAMP) for external funding for the BMX Track and had received agreement in principle by GAMP, however this would depend on the findings of a consultation exercise and approval from the Town Council.

Officers had viewed various sites for the BMX with Horndale Park being the preferred option with the Track being installed as close to the current MUGA as possible.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended:-

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That funding for the construction of the BMX Track be obtained from GAMP.
- (iii) That Officers be authorised to moved forward with the proposed for a BMX Track at Horndale Park.

115. **WHAT'S ON GUIDE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

The Town Clerk submitted a report for members to consider a proposal made by Great Aycliffe and Middridge Partnership (GAMP) to set up an information network to bring together all organisations that provide activities for children, young people and families in the GAMP area and to produce a 'Whats On' Guide. GAMP were seeking assistance with the funding of the project from this Authority.

Members expressed concerns over the funding of the project in future years and felt they needed more information before the project could be considered in detail.

RESOLVED - that it be recommended:-

- (i) That the report be received.
- (ii) That the project be approved in principle pending more detailed information on the viability of the project in the longer term being obtained.
- (iii) That an item be placed on the next Recreation Committee agenda for consideration when more information is available.

CHAIRMAN.