

Minutes of the meeting of the **RECREATION COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 31<sup>st</sup> AUGUST 2016** at **7.22 p.m.**

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

**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 C Walton (Corporate and Policy Officer)  
Ms J Welch (Golf Manager)

28. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors J Clark,  
Mrs I Hewitson and C Wheeler.

29. **MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS**

No applications for dispensations had been received.

30. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

31. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from members of the public.

32. **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 29<sup>th</sup> June 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

33. **FESTIVAL WORKING GROUP NOTES**

Notes and the following recommendations from the meeting of the Festival Working Group held on the 17<sup>th</sup> August 2016 were submitted:

1. The dates of the 2017 Festival be Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> July to Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> July inclusive.
2. Programme advertising should be in a readable size font.

3. Attempts should be made to encourage organisation of music events.
4. An information pack for organisers be produced.

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

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

34. **SENIOR CITIZENS' EXCURSIONS**

The Leisure and Environment Assistant submitted a report which asked members to consider the venues and format of the Excursions in 2017.

**RESOLVED** – that it be recommended that:

- i. The report be received.
- ii. Destinations for the Senior Citizens' Excursions in 2017 be:
  - a. Blackpool
  - b. Yorkshire
  - c. South Shields
  - d. Northumberland
  - e. Edinburgh/Borders
  - f. Lake District
  - g. Barnard Castle

35. **OAKLEAF GOLF COMPLEX REPORT**

The Town Clerk and Golf Professional submitted their report for the period ending 21<sup>st</sup> August 2016. The report gave comparisons of income from the corresponding periods in 2014 and 2015.

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

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

The Leisure Manager submitted a report for the period ending 21<sup>st</sup> 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.

37. **OAKLEAF SPORTS COMPLEX – NEW DEVELOPMENTS**

The Leisure Manager submitted a report advising of a burglary which had taken place at the Oakleaf Sports Complex.

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

38. **OUTSIDE EVENTS**

The Leisure Manager and Leisure and Environment Assistant submitted a report which gave information regarding attendances at Fun in the Parks and the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration held in the Town Park.

**RESOLVED** - that it be recommended that:

- i. The report be received.
- ii. Officers and Chair and Vice Chair of Recreation investigate the possibility of an alternative venue instead to Horndale Park for Fun in the Parks
- iii. Officers coordinate grass cutting to avoid clashing with events.

39. **PARKS UPDATE**

Works and Environment Manager submitted a report to bring members up to date with items relating to the Council's parks, including damage to play equipment at Scott Place play area, the opening of the Scoot Park at Horndale Park and work carried out on West Park Lakes. The report also advised of problems with a youth and young children at the Scott Place play area.

**RESOLVED** - that it be recommended that

- i. The report be received.
- ii. Officers investigate the possibility of dashboard cameras for Park Patrol Vehicles.

40. **EXEMPT BUSINESS**

**RESOLVED** – that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it was, in the opinion of the Council, advisable that the public and press be excluded from the meeting.

41. **EXCLUSION**

The Corporate and Policy Officer submitted a report regarding an incident in the Town Park which members were asked to consider.

**RESOLVED** - that it be recommended that:

- i. The report be received.
- ii. No further action be taken.

**CHAIRMAN.**