

Minutes of the meeting of the **RECREATION COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **28th MAY 2014** at **7.40 p.m.**

PRESENT **Councillor B Hall** (Chairman) and
Councillors J Atkinson, B Blenkinsopp, A M Chandran, Mrs B A Clare, J Clark, N Collinson, Mrs M Dalton, M A Dalton, R S Fleming, I Gray, G C Gray, Mrs S Haigh, K Henderson, Mrs I Hewitson, 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)
Mrs M J Robinson (Leisure & Environment Assistant)
Mrs J Thexton (Leisure Manager)
Mr D Thompson (Works Manager)
Miss J Welch (Golf Manager)

4. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors E Adam, R Bowman, T Twissell and C Wheeler.

5. **MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS**

No applications for dispensations had been received.

6. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

7. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from members of the public.

8. **MINUTES**

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

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Committee held on the **9th April 2014** be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

9. **GOLF COURSE WORKING GROUP NOTES**

Notes and recommendations from the meeting of the Golf Course Working Group held on the **19th May 2014** were considered.

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

RESOLVED - that the following recommendations from the Golf Working Group be accepted:-

- (i) That works to change the yardage on the 17th tee be agreed and that fencing to the back and side of that tee for protection to the public be agreed for next season.
- (ii) That work on the 11th tee improvements to lengthen the hole be agreed and made available for next season.
- (iii) That the information in respect of the weed killer spraying be noted.
- (iv) That temporary works be carried out to the 15th tee to allow for junior training with further works undertaken for the following Spring.
- (v) That the 15th hole be made a Par 5 as from the weekend of the 23rd May.
- (vi) That additional hazard posts be agreed to be placed on the water hazards.
- (vii) That the Head Greenkeeper look to having medal tees cut on a Friday to improve them for Sunday matches.
- (viii) That general maintenance matters on the course be notified to the Greenkeeping Staff when they arise in order for them to be carried out quickly.
- (ix) That the Town Clerk in association with the head Greenkeeper and Golf Manager undertake risk assessments on the course with each golf hole being documented. Incidents / accidents being logged at the Golf Shop.
- (x) That appropriate insurance be taken out as a package for the whole of the golf memberships to include the green fee payers and visiting parties if this had not already been undertaken by the Men's Section.
- (xi) That membership numbers be increased to at least 400 members but be kept under review.
- (xii) That the Finance Manager look at the possibility of Direct Debits being used for payment of fees.
- (xiii) That details of the Lady Members be forwarded to the Ladies Club.
- (xiv) That all member contact details be forwarded to the Golf Club Secretary.
- (xv) That the Ladies and Gents changing rooms be swapped in order to allow the Ladies to have the larger changing facilities.
- (xvi) That the Town Clerk amend the Golf Club Constitution to include a Vice-Captain and Competition Secretary.
- (xvii) That the Durham County Golf Union Fees be continued to be paid by the Council.

- (xviii) That a 1st Tee notice board be provided for club use and all information boards updated.
- (xix) That the Town Clerk organise a meeting with the Ladies Section to discuss their Constitution.
- (xx) That following a request from a member of the Golf Club the Town Clerk prepare a response on the following points:-
 - (1) That the current Wardening system continue with checks being made of dress code and green fee tickets as a priority.
 - (2) That the possibility of 5 day Club Members being allow to play on Bank Holidays be phased in as the ruling was already in place as part of the terms and conditions.

10. **SHOW WORKING GROUP NOTES**

Notes and recommendations from the meeting of the Show Working Group held on the **14th April 2014** were considered.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs M Dalton seconded by Councillor Mrs V M Raw and

RESOLVED - it be recommended that:-

- a) the report be received
- b) Phillips Catering be awarded the catering franchise
- c) Kings Café be awarded the ice cream franchise
- d) Mrs S Philips be awarded the confectionary franchise
- e) the Handcraft and Horticulture Schedule be approved
- f) medals and trophies be given to main dance competition winners.
- g) Newton Aycliffe Pipe Band be requested to perform a marching display in the arena.
- h) the strongman competition be booked at a cost of £1315.00
- i) discussion with the Golf Manager take place regarding the golf tournament.
- j) a decision regarding the civic/sponsor function be deferred until the next meeting.

11. **OAKLEAF GOLF COMPLEX REPORT**

The Town Clerk and Golf Professional submitted their report for the seven weeks ending 18th May 2014. The report gave comparisons of income from the corresponding periods in 2012 and 2013 and comparison of season ticket sales for the previous three year period. The report also detailed usage figures for the period April 2013 to March 2014.

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

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

The Leisure Manager submitted a report for the period ending 18th May 2014. The report compared usage figures and income from the same period in 2013.

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

13. **FOOTBALL PITCH ALLOCATION**

The Works Manager submitted a report which detailed applications for football pitches for the 2014/15 season with recommendations for pitch allocation.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:-

- i the report be received.
- ii pitches be allocated as per the officer's recommendations.

14. **FIREWORK DISPLAY**

The Leisure Manager submitted a report which gave members information regarding progress with the 2014 firework display. Proposed solutions to problems outlined in earlier meetings in SAG meetings were explained in detail.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:-

- i the report be received.
- ii the Officers' actions to engage professional services be endorsed.

15. **OUTSIDE EVENTS**

Members considered information received in respect of the Cutting Loose 2014 event which is to be held in West Park.

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

16. **FIXED PLAY PROVISION CONSULTATION**

Members considered information from Durham County Council regarding a consultation on fixed play provision throughout County Durham.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:-

- i the information be received.
- ii the draft response as provided for members' consideration be endorsed and forwarded to Durham County Council.

17. **GREENFIELD SCHOOL AND TENNIS CLUB**

Members considered a letter from Mr M Thornton on behalf of Greenfield School requesting a letter of support regarding their endeavours to secure funding to refurbish the 3G football surface.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:-

- i the letter be received.
- ii the Town Clerk send a letter of support for the project.

CHAIRMAN.