

Minutes of the meeting of the **RECREATION COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2010** at **7.30 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 Crosby, B Curtis,  
Mrs M Dalton, R S Fleming, I Gray, G R Gray, G C Gray, Mrs  
J Gray, B Haigh, Mrs S Haigh, K Henderson, Mrs S J Iveson,  
M Iveson, W Iveson, Mrs A Palmer, Mrs E M Paylor, Mrs V M  
Raw and A Warburton

**OFFICIALS**    Mr A Bailey (Town Clerk).  
Mr D Snowball (Leisure Manager)  
Mr D Thompson (Works Manager)  
Mr S Cooper (Environment Officer)  
Mr N Whinham (Golf Professional)  
Mrs M J Robinson (Leisure & Environment Assistant)

59.    **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs I Hewitson, T Hogan and Mrs H J Hutchinson.

60.    **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

61.    **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from members of the public.

62.    **MINUTES**

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

**RESOLVED** - that the minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Committee held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2009 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

63.    **OAKLEAF GOLF COMPLEX**

The Town Clerk and the Golf Professional submitted a report for the six weeks ended the 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2010 showing income for that period compared with the corresponding period in 2009.

The Golf Professional advised members that the renovations to the shop have now been completed and exterior fencing has been installed to the front of the building and the first tee.

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

64. **OAKLEAF SPORTS COMPLEX**

The Leisure Manager submitted his report for the six weeks ended 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2010. The report gave usage comparisons for November 2009 compared with the same period in 2008.

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

65. **FACILITY DEVELOPMENTS - OAKLEAF SPORTS COMPLEX**

The Leisure Manager submitted a report which advised of various initiatives to encourage young people and children to use the facilities and courses on offer at the Sports Complex.

**RESOLVED** – that it be recommended

(i) that the report be received.

(ii) that members of the Youth Council be invited to discuss ideas and themes with the Leisure Manager.

66. **OUTSIDE EVENTS**

The Leisure Manager submitted a report which reported on the Santa Tours on Christmas Eve. Due to severe snow on the ground it was necessary to assess local roads for safety.

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

67. **INNER PEDESTRIAN FOOTPATH - SIMPASTURE PARK**

The Works Manager submitted a report which requested members to consider proposals regarding the inner pedestrian footpath at Simpasture Park after receiving a complaint from a member of the public regarding wheelchair access.

Councillor R S Fleming proposed that apart from general maintenance, no further action be taken at this time.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor J D Clare.

A vote was taken which resulted as follow:

24 - In Favour  
1- Abstention

**RESOLVED** – that it be recommended that no further action be taken.

68. **WEST PARK LAKES - WILD FOWL**

The Environment Officer submitted a report which asked members to consider a resident's request for a refuge island on West Park Lake.

**RESOLVED** – that it be recommended that no alterations be carried out to the lakes at this time.

69. **BOBBY ROBERTS' SUPER CIRCUS**

Members were asked to consider a booking request from Bobby Roberts' Circus to visit the grounds of the Oakleaf Sports Complex during 2010.

**RESOLVED** – that it be recommended:

- (i) that the Town Clerk locate a suitable site for the Circus.
- (ii) that an appropriate bond be obtained prior to arrival.
- (iii) that appropriate safeguards be put in place.

**CHAIRMAN.**