

Minutes of the meeting of the **RECREATION COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 28th NOVEMBER 2018** at 7.27 p.m.

PRESENT Councillor Brian Hall, (Chairman) and
Councillors Eddy Adam, M Ashcroft, Kathy Beetham, P J Bergg, Bill Blenkinsopp, Mrs D Bowman, Arun M Chandran, B A Clare, J D Clare, J Clark, Mrs M Dalton, R S Fleming, I Gray, George C Gray, Mrs S Haigh, Dave Hardaker, K Henderson, Kate Hopper, M Iveson, Mrs S J Iveson, Mrs V M Raw, Paul Symons and Sally Symons.

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

58. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Derek G Atkinson, Jim Atkinson, Jed Hillary, Wendy Hillary and Ken Robson.

59. **MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS**

No applications for dispensations had been received.

60. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

61. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

Mr R Gibson made a statement regarding Item 6 (b) on the Agenda (Events Sub-Committee Minutes, 29th November 2018).

He said that he represented a Facebook Page called Aycliffe Residents' Point of View. It has been discussed on there about a female taking the Santa role. The view is that a male should take the role. Members do not want a female Santa.

62. **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 **17th October 2018** be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

63. **EVENTS SUB-COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the meeting of the Events Sub-Committee held on the 29th October and 22nd November 2018 were considered.

It was proposed by Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp seconded by Councillor R S Fleming:

RESOLVED – That it be recommended that:

- i. The Minutes of the Events Sub-Committee held on the 29th October be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
- ii. The Minutes of the Events Sub-Committee held on the 22nd November be confirmed as a correct record subject to the following:

Santa Tours – Minute No 44 (ii)

Councillor R S Fleming thanked the people who had come forward to volunteer for the Santa Tours.

Discussion took place on the permission given for a female volunteer to perform the role of Santa Claus

It was proposed by Councillor R S Fleming, seconded by Councillor M Ashcroft that the Recreation Committee does not accept Minute 44ii of the Minutes of the Events Sub-Committee held on 22nd November and that all volunteers performing the role of Santa be male.

A named vote was requested which resulted as follows:-

For the Proposal:-

Councillors Brian Hall, Eddy Adam, M Ashcroft, Kathy Beetham, P J Bergg, Mrs D Bowman, Arun M Chandran, B A Clare, J D Clare, J Clark, Mrs M Dalton, R S Fleming, I Gray, George C Gray, Mrs S Haigh, Dave Hardaker, K Henderson, Kate Hopper, M Iveson, Mrs S J Iveson, Mrs V M Raw, Paul Symons and Sally Symons.

Against the Proposal:-

Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp.

RESOLVED - That it be recommended that volunteers performing the role of Santa be male.

64. **OAKLEAF GOLF COMPLEX REPORT**

The Town Clerk submitted a report for the period ended 18th November 2018. The report gave comparisons of income from the corresponding periods in 2016 and 2017. The report also gave information about the Lynx demo which was held in November.

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

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

The Leisure Manager submitted a report with statistical information on usage for September and October 2018. The report compared usage figures and income from the same period in 2017.

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

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

The Leisure Manager submitted a report which gave details regarding the Oakleaf Sports Complex Christmas events and forthcoming meditation courses and Little Monsters Markets.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- i. The report be received.
- ii. The Officer be congratulated on her efforts to increase the scope of events at the Oakleaf Sports Complex.

67. **PARKS UPDATE**

The Works and Environment Manager submitted a report which advised of progress on the Town Park Skate Park, Aycliffe Village Play Area and issues regarding the play equipment installed in Cobblers Hall Play Area.

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

68. **OAKLEAF SPORTS COMPLEX SERVICE PLAN**

The Leisure Manager submitted a report to update members regarding the 6-monthly position of the Service Plan Targets.

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

69. **OAKLEAF SPORTS COMPLEX CHANGING ROOMS ARTEX REMOVAL**

The Leisure Manager submitted a report to update members on the planned asset management works at the Oakleaf Sports Complex changing rooms.

RESOLVED - that it be recommended that:

- i. The report be received.
- ii. Permission be granted to progress the Artex removal.

70. **OAKLEAF SPORTS COMPLEX BAR SERVICE LIFTS**

The Leisure Manager's report updated members on the proposed works to the function room and bar lifts.

RESOLVED - that it be recommended that:

- i. The report be received.
- ii. Permission be granted to upgrade the lifts in the bar and function room.

71. **ELMFIELD SITE**

The Town Clerk submitted a report which gave members updated information regarding the possible transfer of land within the former Elmfield School site for members' consideration.

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

CHAIRMAN.