

RECREATION COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 15th JANUARY 2020

Minutes of the meeting of the **RECREATION COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 15th JANUARY 2020** at **7.36 p.m.**

PRESENT

Councillor Jed Hillary, (Chairman) and
Councillors Eddy Adam, M Ashcroft, Derek G. Atkinson, Jim Atkinson, Kathy Beetham, Bill Blenkinsopp, Mrs D. Bowman, Arun M. Chandran, B.A. Clare, J.D. Clare, Mrs M. Dalton, R.S. Fleming, George C. Gray, I Gray, Mrs S. Haigh, Dave Hardaker, Wendy Hillary, Kate Hopper, M. Iveson, Mrs S.J. Iveson, Mrs V.M. Raw, Ken Robson and Paul Symons

OFFICERS

Mr A. Bailey (Town Clerk)
Mrs C.A. Walton (Corporate and Policy Officer)
Mr D. Austin (Finance Manager)
Mrs J. Thexton (Leisure Manager)
Mr S. Cooper (Works and Environment Manager)
Mr L. Williams (Grounds Maintenance Services Co-ordinator)
Miss A. Donald (Town Clerk's PA)

67. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors P.J. Bergg, B. Hall, J. Clark, B Hall and Sally Symons.

68. MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS

No applications for dispensations had been received.

69. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

70. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

A representative from the Aycliffe Village Residents Association (AVRA) asked the following question:

Would the Council 'Carry out an urgent review of access and egress to children's play area within Aycliffe Village park to allow greater use of the facilities throughout the year, due to currently no access available to facilities following inclement weather'.

It was noted that the land in question was owned by Durham County Council and the play area leased to the Town Council. Officers were requested to approach the County Council regarding permission for any potential work and GAMP for the possibility of funding and to report back to the Committee on the feasibility of the request.

71. MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Dave Hardaker, seconded by Councillor Bill Blenkinsopp, and

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Committee, held on the 27th November 2019, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

72. OAKLEAF GOLF COMPLEX REPORT

The Town Clerk submitted a report for the period ended 5th January 2020. The report gave comparisons of income from the corresponding periods in the previous two years for Green Fees and the Driving Range. The report also gave information regarding retail sales at the Golf Shop.

The Golf Administrator advised that extremely wet weather had had a negative effect on green fees and shop sales.

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

73. OAKLEAF SPORTS COMPLEX – USAGE COMPARISONS

The Leisure Manager submitted a report with statistical information on usage for November 2019. The report compared usage figures and income from the same period in the previous year.

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

74. OAKLEAF SPORTS COMPLEX – NEW DEVELOPMENTS

The Leisure Manager submitted a report which outlined a number of new developments at the Oakleaf Sports Complex

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

75. PARKS UPDATE

The Works and Environment Manager submitted a report updating members on items of repair, removal and inspection regarding the parks.

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

76. EXEMPT BUSINESS

It was proposed by Councillor Arun M. Chandran, seconded by Councillor M. Ashcroft, and

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

77. EXCLUSION REPORT

The Management Team submitted a report regarding an incident at the Oakleaf Sports Complex and requesting that an exclusion from the premises be considered.

After discussion it was

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that

- i) The report be received.
- ii) An exclusion from all Council premises for 18 months be imposed.

78. RE-ADMISSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was proposed by Councillor M. Ashcroft, seconded by Councillor Arun M. Chandran, and

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that the press and public be re-admitted to the meeting.

CHAIRMAN.