

SPECIAL RECREATION COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 22nd JANUARY 2020 – 6.00 P.M.

Minutes of the meeting of the **SPECIAL RECREATION COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 22nd JANUARY 2020 at 6.00 p.m.**

PRESENT

Councillor B. Hall (Chairman) and
Councillors Eddy Adam, M Ashcroft, Jim Atkinson, Kathy Beetham, Mrs D. Bowman, Arun M. Chandran, Mrs M. Dalton, R.S. Fleming, George C. Gray, I Gray, Dave Hardaker, Jed Hillary, Wendy Hillary, M. Iveson, Mrs S.J. Iveson, Ken Robson and Paul Symons.

OFFICERS

Mr A. Bailey (Town Clerk)
Mrs C.A. Walton (Corporate and Policy Officer)
Mr S. Cooper (Works and Environment Manager)
Miss C. Ryder (Senior Admin. Officer)

79. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors D.G. Atkinson, P.J. Bergg, Bill Blenkinsopp, Kate Hopper, Mrs. V.M. Raw and Sally Symons.

80. MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS

No applications for dispensations had been received.

81. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

82. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

A representative from Newton Aycliffe Youth Football Club (NAYFC) was in attendance and gave a brief update on their meeting with the Football Foundation and Durham FA. NAYFC would be eligible for a grant to improve the quality of the pitches at the Oakleaf if the Council were to enter into an agreement with them.

The Chairman informed the representative that this would be further discussed under item No. 5 on the agenda.

83. EXTERNAL FUNDING – NEWTON AYCLIFFE JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

The Works and Environment Manager had submitted a report for the Council to consider entering into an agreement with Newton Aycliffe Youth Football Club to enable the club to apply for additional funding from the Football Foundation to assist in improvements of the football pitches at the Oakleaf.

Members considered all aspects of the agreement and the possible ongoing effect over the 10 year period of signing an agreement with NAYFC. Main concerns were that this Council would need to be able to hold annual events on the site and this would need to be one of the conditions of such an agreement.

Members felt that as the deadline date for the agreement to be completed was the end of February the Town Clerk be instructed to negotiate with NAYFC prior to finalising such an agreement.

It was proposed by Councillor Jim Atkinson and seconded by Councillor M. Ashcroft that the Council agree to an agreement which would protect the Council's interests in the pitches and their use.

Members took a vote which resulted in 17 Members for and one abstention.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended:-

- (a) That the report be received.
- (b) That the Town Clerk be authorised to negotiate a suitable agreement with Newton Aycliffe Youth Football Club which would protect the Council interests in the pitches.

CHAIRMAN.