

RECREATION COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 7th APRIL 2021

Minutes of the meeting of the **RECREATION COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, and virtually, on **WEDNESDAY, 7th APRIL 2021 at 8.30 p.m.**

PRESENT

Councillor Jed Hillary, (Chairman) and:

Councillors Eddy Adam, M. Ashcroft, Derek G. Atkinson, Jim Atkinson, Kathy Beetham, P.J. Bergg, Arun M. Chandran, B.A. Clare, J.D. Clare, J. Clark, 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 and Ken Robson.

OFFICERS

Mr. D. Austin (Town Clerk)

Mr. S. Cooper (Works and Environment Manager)

Mr. L. Williams (Grounds Maintenance Services Co-ordinator)

Mrs. J. Thexton (Head of Leisure and Events)

Mrs. S. Stretch (Senior Administrative Officer)

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Michael Stead

134. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Bill Blenkinsopp, Mrs D. Bowman and B. Hall.

135. MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS

No applications for dispensations had been received.

136. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

137. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

138. MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Malcolm Iveson and seconded by Councillor Martin Ashcroft, and

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting of the Recreation Committee, held on the 24th February 2021, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

139. OAKLEAF GOLF COMPLEX REPORT

The Town Clerk submitted a report for the six week period ended 28th March 2021, updating members on golf course and driving range figures, both of which had been severely impacted by Covid-19 lockdown restrictions and very poor weather conditions.

The golf course had reopened on 29th March following the lifting of government restrictions.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- i) The report be received.

140. OAKLEAF SPORTS COMPLEX UPDATE

The Head of Leisure and Events submitted a report to update members on the Oak Leaf Sports Complex for the six weeks ended the 28th March 2021.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- i) The report and information be received.
- ii) The Sports Complex opens on 17th May 2021, subject to the further lifting of government restrictions and guidance from sports governing bodies.

141. OAKLEAF SPORTS COMPLEX – SERVICE PLAN

The Head of Leisure and Events submitted a report presenting the draft Oakleaf Sports Complex Service Plan for 2021/22 for members' consideration.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- i) the report be received.
- ii) the draft Oak Leaf Sports Complex Service Plan be approved and implemented.

142. PARKS UPDATE

The Works and Environment Manager submitted a report to update members on issues relating to the parks. The report advised that the advisory signs regarding the feeding of the wildfowl around West Park Lakes had been vandalised soon after installation and requested consideration from the Committee as to whether the signage should be replaced.

After discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Arun Chandran and seconded Councillor R. Fleming that no new signage to be purchased.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- i) The report be received.
- ii) No replacement signage be purchased and installed.

143. WOODHAM PLAYGROUND

The Works and Environment Manager submitted a report regarding the proposals to replace the infant play area within Woodham Park.

Designs and quotes had been sought and received from three play equipment providers:

- Proludic
- Kompan
- HAGS

It was proposed by Councillor J. D. Clare and seconded by Councillor Arun Chandran that following the clear indication of the preferred option via public consultation, the HAGS design should be chosen.

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that:

- i) The report be received.
- ii) That the HAGS design be implemented at Woodham Park infants play area.

CHAIRMAN.