



MEMBERS OF THE SPORTS & RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Met on Wednesday 21st June 2023 at 7.30 pm at Marshalswick Community Centre

PRESENT: Councillors Graham Leonard, Jenny Roberts, Mike White, Adam Twidell, James Lambert and Public Member Jez Cox

APOLOGIES: -

OFFICERS: Simon Thwaites, Clerk, Rebecca Pannese, Project, Amenities & Community Engagement Officer

ABSENT: Councillor Rehana Ahmed

537 Disclosures of Interest and Dispensations

There was none.

538 Election of Chair

Councillor Leonard was nominated by Councillor Roberts for Chair. This nomination was seconded by Councillor White before it was unanimously;

Resolved

To elect Councillor Leonard as Chair for the coming year.

539 Election of Vice Chair

Councillor White was nominated by Councillor Roberts for Vice Chair. This nomination was seconded by Councillor Lambert before it was unanimously;

Resolved

To elect Councillor White as Vice Chair for the coming year.

540 Review and approve the Terms of Reference (TOR)

The TOR for this committee were reviewed as required annually. A minor clarification point was agreed before the TOR were re-adopted for the coming year.

Post meeting note: The TOR require the presence of a public member for the meeting to be quorate. It was realised that with only one current public member this put unreasonable pressure on that person. Three of the committee members present immediately forwarded to the Clerk details of interested individuals which will be followed up.

541 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Sports and Recreation Ground Committee held on 15th March 2023, having been previously circulated, were reviewed before it was:

Resolved

That the minutes be approved and signed as a correct record.

542 Bike Track Update

Councillor Leonard updated the committee on discussions being held with the Highways Authority in respect of access and egress to/from the site during construction. It was noted that if this matter is not resolved, the Planning Authority are likely to refuse consent. An independent engineer is now in discussion with the Highways Authority on behalf of the Parish Council.

543 2023/2024 Capital Works

The following works were confirmed as taking place imminently;

- William Bell Open Space: Outdoor table tennis table.
- Damson Way Open Space: Surfacing works and replacement of the timber steps.
- Jersey Farm Adventure Playground: Installation of step poles and stepping pods.
- Sherwood Park: Basketball hoop and dribble area.
- Also;
- Damson Way: Maintenance work to all equipment.

544 CCTV at Jersey Farm Open Space

The Clerk informed the Committee that a quote had been received for the installation of CCTV at the Jersey Farm Open Space. This was done to allow the matter of anti-social behaviour at this location to be fully discussed. The quote was noted to be between £3,000 and £4,000.

Discussions centred around the benefits and disadvantages of having cameras at this site. Members agreed that other means of addressing the issues were available such as recruiting from the community wardens or 'ambassadors' to engage positively with users. These would include younger members of the community. The debate was inconclusive, however, following discussion, the inclusion of an appropriate sum within the 2023/24 draft budget was approved in principle but subject to;

- Exploring the above initiative to engage with the community – Councillor Twidell to draft a paper inviting residents via Facebook and other means to participate.
- The Clerk looking into the requirements of the National Code of Guidance (GDPR).
- The Clerk determining whether planning approval is required.
- The Clerk determining whether the District Council would approve the installation on its land.

545 Cost of Light Tokens for the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) at Spencer Meadow

Members were informed of an increase in the charge made to users of these courts for floodlighting. It was noted that 70% of the increase from £6 to £10 is being paid to the SYSCA to cover increased energy costs.

The Clerk undertook to investigate the cost of converting the existing lights to LED and report back to the committee.

546 Walkabout Dates

It was agreed to meet on 10th July at 6.30pm. It is hoped that three key locations may then be inspected with a further date to be agreed to visit those remaining.

547 Matters of Note

- Slide repairs at William Bell and Spencer Meadow have been carried out and the office has received positive feedback from families happy to have them in working order again.
- A new tennis net has been installed at Sherwood Avenue tennis courts and a new football net has been ordered for Harness Way Open Space following deterioration of the existing equipment.
- As part of the “Paradise for Pollinators” initiative, the following open spaces now have wildflower beds; William Bell, Harness Way, St Leonard’s and Wheat Close.
- The clothing bin located in the Spencer Meadow car park has been removed by HCC following multiple reports of fly tipping around the bin. Signs have been erected stating “No Fly Tipping, CCTV in operation” at the site and a permanent sign has been ordered.
- The SADC toilets in the Spencer Meadow car park are still out of order due to the damage from burst pipes over the winter. We receive many phone calls and emails asking when they will be open, however we have yet to have a response from officers at SADC following our recent enquiries.

548 Matters Arising Since the Circulation of the Agenda

The Clerk undertook to further pursue with the District Council the re-opening of the toilets in the Village Hall car park.

549 Suggestions for Future Meetings

There were no further suggestions other those detailed above.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 20th September 2023

Chair

Date.....