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**MEMBERS OF THE SPORTS & RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

Met on Wednesday 4th December at 7.30pm 2024 at Marshalswick Community Centre

**PRESENT:** CouncillorsGraham Leonard (Chair), James Lambert, Mike White, Carol Chalkley, Raihaanah Ahmed

Public Member Jez Cox

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor Adam Twidell

Public Member Chris Cooke

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

**ABSENT:** -

**608 Disclosures of Interest and Dispensations**

There was none.

**609 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Sports and Recreation Ground Committee held on 18th September 2024 having been previously circulated, were reviewed before it was unanimously:

**Resolved**

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

**610 2024/25 Capital Works**

The Projects, Amenities and Community Engagement Officer updated the committee on the status of the works scheduled for the current financial year. The following capital works have been completed;

* Spider climber and football wall in Sherwood Park Open Space
* Group see-saw in William Bell Open Space
* Granite footpath in Harness Way Open Space

**611 2025/26 Capital Works**

Following discussion at the previous committee meeting, items were suggested for installation in 2025/26. Discussion ensued regarding what apparatus proves to be the most popular amongst members families and which items require upgrading. Following discussion, it was;

**Resolved**

To pursue with seeking quotations for enhancements at Spencer Meadow Playground and Harness Way Open Space, for installation in the 2025/26 financial year.

**612 Alleyway between the William Bell Open Space and The Ridgeway**

The issue of surface water on the recently installed surfacing causing damp to a resident’s external wall has been resolved. Having received approval for funding, a french drain framed to the outside edge by kerbing has been installed and the wall tanked.

*Members are asked to note* that both the contractor and the remedial work were requested and approved by the householder, the contractor being known to him.

**613** **Duke of Edinburgh Park Ranger Scheme**

A verbal update of the scheme was provided by the Clerk and PACE Officer. Members noted that the current participants of the scheme are underway with their volunteering in the playgrounds and that an adult coordinator has been appointed following a DBS check.

**614** **Brainstorming for a 5 year plan**

Committee members agreed the benefit of a five-year plan for capital works and in order to facilitate optimum investment in the parish playgrounds agreed that some further investigations be carried out to determine what residents currently use / would like to see. The following suggestions were made;

* A social media survey asking residents to share their wishlist and what they like best about our existing facilities
* Approach the School Council at Wheatfields Infants and Juniors and ask them to share their views
* Observe the usage of our current apparatus and determine which is the most popular

Members agreed to continue discussions at the next meeting in March following the above. A Members walkabout was also suggested to enhance discussion and this will be arranged in due course.

**615 Matters of Note**

* The basket swing in Harness Way has been replaced due to wear and tear.
* Maintenance work across the playgrounds are continuing.
* The Play Inspection Company will carry out their annual safety inspections on all seven Parish Council playgrounds in January 2025.
* The all weather footpath at Harness Way has been completed to a high standard. This is expected to increase use of both playgrounds over the winter months.
* Renovation of the timber slide at St Leonard’s playground will commence in the spring.

**616 Any other business**

Members discussed the incomplete skate ramp artwork and Cllr Lambert suggested an alternative street artist. The Office will contact them to see if they are interested in the project.

**617 Matters Arising Since the Circulation of the Agenda**

There were none.

**618 Suggestions for Future Meetings**

* To consider replacing the rugby goals on the Jersey Farm open Space with football goals.
* To review the Terms of Reference with regard to the requirements for a meeting to be quorate and how to address any perceived issues.

**There being no further business the meeting concluded at 8:40pm.**

**Date of next meeting – 7:30pm Wednesday 4th March 2025 at Marshalswick Community Centre**

Chair …………………………………..

Date……………………………………..