

A meeting of the Facilities and Recreation Committee was held in the Pavilion, Manor Park Sports Club, Hackthorn Road, Welton on Tuesday 21st March 2023 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs R Fletcher (Vice-Chairman), A Greenway, G Thomas and Mr M Hubbert (Library Volunteers Co-ordinator) and Mr M Bradley (Welton Football Club)

Clerk: Mrs Julie Murray

A public participation session took place prior to the official start of the meeting.

23/03/25 Chairman's Remarks

Cllr Fletcher welcomed everyone.

23/03/26 Apologies

On a proposal from Cllr Fletcher, seconded by Cllr Greenway, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** following a vote to accept apologies from Cllrs Lowen, Briggs and Pikett and Ms L Barnes (Welton Sports & Social Club) and Mr J Hodges (Welton Football Club) having accepted their reasons for absence. Cllrs Seal and Hornsey were absent with no apologies received.

23/03/27 Declarations of Interests

Cllr Fletcher declared an interest in agenda item 12(b) as a library volunteer.

23/03/28 Minutes

On a proposal from Cllr Greenway, seconded by Cllr Fletcher, it was **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote that the notes of the meeting held on 16th January 2023 were approved and signed as the minutes.

23/03/29 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that a tree had fallen on the boundary of the allotments and a letter has been sent to the Stables asking them to remove the tree and inspect others for possible damage. The non-domestic rates bill has been received with 100% rate relief.

23/03/30 Welton Sports & Social Club

- a) Ms Barnes was unable to attend this meeting.
- b) The Club had requested some clarification on some of the wording on the joint agreement. We can confirm that it is a legally binding document and regarding the maintenance of the access road, this would be dealt with as and when any issues arise with method of payment being negotiated at the time; the Parish Council (PC) also has limited funds. Maintenance could include repairs to fencing, hedging, road surface etc. The highlighted section will be moved under the insurance section. The definition of this section is that the club must be mindful of what it does on the land and permission is sought from the PC for any event that is held on the field. An amended agreement will be sent to the Club for signing.
- c) On a proposal from Cllr Greenway, seconded by Cllr Fletcher, it was **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to agree the design for the sign on the gate.
- d) On a proposal from Cllr Greenway, seconded by Cllr Thomas, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** following a vote to grant permission for a Fun Day to be held on the 26th August subject to the necessary risk assessments and insurance cover being in place, copies of which should be sent to the Clerk as soon as possible.

23/03/31General Finance Matters

Members received and noted the financial report to 21.3.2023. Cllr Fletcher reported that currently the council was not able to achieve a rebate situation, and any decision regarding offering users a refund of surplus monies at the Year End would have to wait until the financial position was clear.

23/03/32Facilities Matters**a) Maintenance**

i. AGP Maintenance & Repair to Carpet – Four quotes had been received and on a proposal from Cllr Greenway, seconded by Cllr Fletcher, it was **RESOLVED** by a majority vote (2 for, 1 against) to accept the quotation from Machine & Pitch Maintenance for the next 12 months. On a proposal from Cllr Fletcher, seconded by Cllr Greenway, it was **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote for Machine & Pitch Maintenance to carry out the carpet repair.

ii. Retesting of the AGP – This must be carried out every 3 years for the pitch to remain on the FA Register and two quotes had been received and on a proposal from Cllr Greenway, seconded by Cllr Fletcher, it was **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to award the contract to Sports Labs Ltd.

iii. Moving the pipework is necessary to allow access to the expansion vessel which needs replacing, currently there is not sufficient space for it to be reached by the plumber. On a proposal from Cllr Greenway, seconded by Cllr Fletcher, it was **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to accept the quote from Nigel Smith Plumbing & Mechanical Services Ltd.

iv. White lining of the car park, yellow lining of disabled bays and hatched area – The Clerk has investigated the legal requirements as requested, and there is no requirement for the provision of disabled car parking spaces under the Equality Act 2010, although it is best practice to do so. A discussion took place about the parking on matchdays when cars are parked on the grass; it was felt that it was dangerous for pedestrians, as they drive over the footpath. Lining the bays will define where vehicles should park and improve the look of the area; it was suggested that a Working Group is formed to look at car parking provision at the site and how it could be re-designed or improved. On a proposal from Cllr Fletcher, seconded by Cllr Greenway, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** following a vote, on the grounds of Health & Safety and the council has taken reasonable steps on the points raised that the car park, disabled bays and hatched area will be re-lined and accepted the quote from Specialist Surface Solutions.

v. Reducing the height of the hedge between the play area and MUGAs. On a proposal from Cllr Fletcher, seconded by Cllr Greenway, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** following a vote to defer to the next meeting.

vi. Grass matting for emergency access - On a proposal from Cllr Greenway, seconded by Cllr Fletcher, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** following a vote to defer to the next meeting to allow time to seek expert advice.

b) Security

On a proposal from Cllr Fletcher, seconded by Cllr Greenway, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** following a vote to defer to the next meeting to allow for other options to be explored to replace the automatic barrier.

23/03/33Welton Football Club

a) Mr Bradley reported that the season was going well and numbers were at an all time high and they are having to turn people away, mainly due to not having enough pitches to play on; they are hoping to encourage a girls' team in the future. Chafer bugs appear

to be affecting part of the grounds and the Clerk will arrange for this to be looked at, provision had been made in 2020 for treatment, but the problem had resolved itself.

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- b) **FA Pitch Improvement Programme** – an inspection is due to take place next week to secure the funding for year 4 of the scheme.
- c) **Service Level Agreement** – a query was raised regarding the mid-term increase in fees in line with clause 13 of the agreement, due to the unexpected rises in utility costs. It was felt this wasn't a fair increase as the club had not budgeted for it and had resulted in them cancelling 2 slots per week on the AGP. The agreement was drawn up over 10 years ago and it was agreed the wording should be reviewed and rather than a 5-year contract, change it to an annual review with a condition for a 2-year notice period on either side. When the new document is written it needs to be more robust and sustainable. After the accounts have been finalised for the Year End, the Clerk will look at possible recompense from the date the increase took effect. It was also thought that to increase the charges for pitch hire was unfair as the increase in utility costs does not affect this area. The Clerk commented that the audited accounts as required in Clause 4 had not been provided for the last couple of years and these will be sent as soon as possible. It was proposed by Cllr Greenway, seconded by Cllr Fletcher and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to re-visit and review the hire charges in the new financial year.

23/03/34

MUGA & Outdoor Gym

- a) Three quotes to erect a fence around the Parish Council container at the MUGA site for safety reasons have been received and on a proposal from Cllr Greenway, seconded by Cllr Fletcher, it was **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to award the work to Burstow Property Services.
- b) Boxing in the outside water tap on the MUGA site - It was proposed by Cllr Greenway, seconded by Cllr Fletcher and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to construct this in-house at a cost of £200.00.
- c) Signs for different age groups (1 priority for younger age groups and 1 priority to over 11's) – A discussion took place and it was felt this would be difficult to control and could cause confrontation and on a proposal from Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr Fletcher, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** following a vote to take no further action.
- d) To consider a budget for the official opening and publicity – The FC will serve refreshments and on a proposal from Cllr Fletcher, seconded by Cllr Greenway, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** following a vote to have an ice-cream van providing 100 cones purchased by the PC at a cost of £200.00.

23/03/35

Sports Facilities

Cllr Thomas presented a draft questionnaire which will be sent out to local sports clubs through the office.

23/03/36

Library & Community Hub Matters

- a) The committee received details of income and expenditure to 21.3.23.
- b) Four quotations have been sought to replace the public access laptops at the library and it was proposed by Cllr Greenway, seconded by Cllr Thomas and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to purchase 4 new laptops from SCIS (UK) Ltd.
- c) Mr Hubbert reported that they were continuing with various events and numbers are increasing. There are some events for children planned over the Easter break. Social media is kept up to date by one of the volunteers.

23/03/37

Councillors Reports

None

Signed.....

Date: