

**SPORTS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL**

**Held on Monday 10 September 2018**

**At 6.00pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall**

**Present:**

Cllr H W Chirgwin (Chairman)

Councillors:                    C Brown                    J S King  
   H B Eaglestone            L M Price  
   B J Churchill              D Temple  
   H B Eaglestone

Officers:                        Mrs Sharon Groth -Town Clerk  
   Mr John Hickman - Operations & Estates Officer  
   Mrs Nicky Cayley - Democratic Services Officer

**R453 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for his absence was received from Cllr Harvey due to a plumber repairing his boiler.

**R454 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr King declared an interest in agenda item 8 – Bowls Green – as his wife was a Committee member of West Witney Bowls Club.

**R455 MINUTES**

- a)        **RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held 9 July 2018 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
- b)        **MATTERS ARISING:** there were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2018.

**R456 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

**R457 OPERATIONAL REPORT – PROGRESS ON IMPROVEMENTS AND REPAIRS SINCE LAST MEETING**

The Committee received and considered the report of the Operations and Estates Officer as circulated with the agenda. The report covered play areas including the Ralegh Crescent refurbishment, the splash park, lake and country park, King George V Field, Park Run, The Leys tennis courts and West Witney Sports Ground.

**RECOMMENDED:**        that the report be noted.

R458 **WITNEY LAKE AND COUNTRY PARK**

The Committee received and considered correspondence and the report of the Operations and Estates Officer as circulated with the agenda.

a) **Dogs Off Leads**

Having considered the correspondence from a farmer complaining about dogs off leads worrying her sheep, members discussed how it would be possible to help solve the problem. It was felt that placing signs at all entrances to the field with an appropriate form of wording reminding dog owners that dogs must be kept under control would be the most appropriate form of action.

**RECOMMENDED:** that the correspondence be noted and that signs be placed at all entrances to the Lake and Country Park reminding dog owners that that they had a responsibility to keep their dogs under control at all times.

b) **Witney Angling Society**

Members considered the correspondence from the Angling Society and the report of the Operations and Estates Officer.

**RECOMMENDED:**

1. that the report and correspondence be noted;
2. that the disabled platforms be replaced to be funded from the current repairs and renewals budget;
3. that subject to checking on the demographic of the town, signs be put up reminding anglers of the fishing rules – these may be in several languages suitable for the demographic;
4. that the Angling Society be encouraged to produce a leaflet in different languages explaining how angling works in the UK.

E459 **PARK RUN – ADDITIONAL EVENT ON NEW YEAR'S DAY**

Members received and considered correspondence from Park Run requesting an additional event on New Year's Day.

**RECOMMENDED:** that Park Run be allowed to hold an additional event on New Year's Day.

E460 **BOWLS GREEN**

The Committee received and considered the report of the Operations and Estates Officer, who advised there would be additional costs for West Witney Bowls Club to bring the green back up to spec.

The Committee also considered Witney Town Bowls Club's request to site a storage container outside their new bowls pavilion.

**RECOMMENDED:**

1. that the report be noted;
2. that West Witney Bowls Club be contacted and told that if their irrigation system was not corrected to ensure proper green maintenance, the Town Council would install a system and charge the club;
3. that Witney Town Bowls Club be given permission to install a storage container outside their pavilion.

*Cllr Temple left the room at 6.35pm.*

R461 **CRICKET**

The Committee received and considered the report of the Operations and Estates Officer as circulated with the agenda. The club using The Leys had complained about the quality of the pitches.

Witney Mill Cricket had enquired about a reduced rate for using West Witney for a third "youth" team.

*Cllr Temple re-entered the room at 6.38pm.*

**RECOMMENDED:**

1. that the report be noted;
2. that the Operations & Estates Officer carries out further research on extending the grey water system from the splash pad to the cricket wicket and pavilion toilets and obtain quotes;
3. that if Witney Mills Cricket Club's 3<sup>rd</sup> team play at West Witney for the 2019 season, they be offered a rate of £33 as long as 50% of the team is made up of youth players.

R462 **FOOTBALL**

The Committee received the report of the Operations and Estates Officer as circulated with the agenda, along with the STRI report which had just arrived as was tabled at the meeting.

**RECOMMENDED:** that the report be noted.

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The meeting closed at 6.50pm.

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Chairman.