

**Minutes of the meeting of the
Playing Fields, Allotments and Amenities Committee
held on Tuesday 30th August 2022 7pm at Diamond Jubilee Lodge**

Present:

Cllr B. Johnson (Chairman)
Cllr K. Avenell
Cllr L. Douglass

Also in Attendance:

Mrs F LeBon (Clerk)

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and read out the rules to allow the recording of the meeting.

1. Apologies and acceptance for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Diffey and Cllr Franklin. These were **ACCEPTED**.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

None raised

3. To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting 5th July 2022

The Minutes had been circulated from the meeting of 5th July 2022. These were **AGREED**.

Matters arising from the minutes were:

- The planning application for the extra car parking in the allotment extension area was in progress. All that requires completion is the design and access statement.
- The keypad has been installed on the allotment toilet block. The new lock was due to be installed on 31st August.
- The person who is hoped to take on the community allotment has yet to be contacted.

4. Public Participation

None raised

5. Allotments

a. To Receive Report of Meeting with Drayton Farms on 8th August 2022

The Clerk and the Head Groundsman met with representatives from Drayton Farms on the 8th August.

Matters discussed were:

- Maintenance of the vegetation between Cottingham’s Park and Drayton Farms. A management plan was agreed to ensure that the boundary vegetation does not shade the farmland and create a full hedge.
- The necessity to not have any fires on the allotment site, due to terms and conditions of Drayton Farms’ insurance.
- The planning application for a permanent car parking area on the allotment extension area, which was supported by Drayton Farms in principle.

b. To Review Area Outside Plot 132

Pictures of the stand pipe close to plot 132 were reviewed. It was **AGREED** to excavate this area to check for a minor leak in the pipework.

The Clerk reported that a large bough of a tree had come down and was potentially damaging the fencing at the allotments. Highways had been advised as it was believed to be a highways tree.

6. Tennis Courts

a. To Consider Report for Options for Increasing Tennis Participation and Agree Preferred Option

Options were considered utilising the Lawn Tennis Association’s proposal for funding to improve the provision for tennis and for engaging with National Tennis to improve the management process of the courts.

It was **AGREED** after a proposal from Cllr Douglass and a second from Cllr Avenell that the proposal for funding for a new Smart Gate should be accepted and that National Tennis should be engaged to manage the tennis provision in exchange for a license fee and profit share.

7. Parks

a. To Consider Fencing Replacement Quotes for the Recreation Ground

A report from the senior admin officer was presented to the council with three quotes for the replacement fencing at the Recreation Ground. It was **AGREED** to proceed with contractor ‘1’ at a cost of £4,995 for 60 metres of fencing.

b. To Receive Report into Condition of Football Pitches and Suitability for Play

It was reported that due to the recent extended drought conditions, the football pitches were unplayable for formal matches. This is due to the hardness of the area and the permanent damage to the grass structure which was likely to ensue. The head groundsman, after consultation with the local FA and neighbouring parishes recommended that no formal matches be permitted on the Recreation Ground until 17th September. This will be subject to review on 12th September, by which time it is hoped that there would be a prolonged period of rain. This was supported and **AGREED**.

8. Policy Review

a. To Receive Tree Policy

Subject to rewording of para 2 under ‘Damage and Tree Roots’ to make this wording read better, this policy was **AGREED**.

9. Exchange of Information

Cllr Avenell reported a trip hazard on the Recreation Ground close to the wildlife area. The Clerk will ask the grounds team to attend.

10. To confirm the date, time and venue of the next meeting

This was **AGREED** as Tuesday 4th October at p.m., where the 2023/2024 budget will be discussed.

MEETING CLOSED AT 8.25pm