

Minutes of Histon & Impington Wellbeing, Recreation & Leisure
7:30pm, Monday 4th March 2024
Community Room, Recreation Ground, New Road, Impington

Wellbeing, Recreation & Leisure Committee Minutes

Membership: 8 + 2 ex-officio

Appendices:

Quorum: 3

WRL	<p>Present: Cllrs: Sarah Allen, Steve Carrington, Neil Davies, Chirs Hobbs (Chair), Tom McKeown, Joe Uttridge, Louise Wilbraham Ex Officio Members: Cllr Yvonne Murray Clerk: Theresa King Club Representatives :Mr Andrew Grimmer (Bowls Club), Mr David Rush (Croquet Club), Mrs Jane Fidler (Tennis Club) 1 vacancy</p> <p>8 members of the public</p>	
WRL23/065 065.1	<p>To Receive Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Cllr Stonham (personal)</p>	
WRL23/066 066.1	<p>MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS</p> <p>Andrew Grimmer declared a pecuniary interest due to his role as Chairman of Bowls Club in item 079.1</p>	
WRL23/067 067.1 067.2 067.3	<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</p> <p>Member of Tennis Club public spoke on item 071.1 Junior member of Tennis Club stated that he supported development of tennis facilities, however he expressed concern over the loss of the grass tennis courts. He described the grass surface as an iconic playing surface and stated that there were few other local grass courts. He also expressed concern on the large economic cost of converting the courts. as well as the impact on the natural environment and the food chain that currently existed both above and below the surface of the courts.</p> <p>Member of public spoke on item 071.1 Resident felt that the Recreation ground provided a place for sport and offered many facilities, however a large percentage of residents do not play sport. The resident felt that a project of this size for the usage it was outlined for was abhorrent, and that residents who were already feeling that budgets were stretched would find that the concept was very unwelcome. Resident had completed sports survey circulated before COVID and had not seen results, RFO to re-publish results. Resident felt that there was a bias towards sports and that there were other needs in the villages which the money could be spent on such as the pump track project or all-weather multi-sport facilities.</p> <p>Additional Member of public spoke on item 071.1 Resident felt that if extended facilities for tennis were needed, the potential Cambridge Science Park North (CSPN) project and the facilities that this would offer should be considered, and that any decisions should be delayed until the potential benefits from the project were known.</p> <p>RFO verbally noted that the report from the Recreation Development Group is only to note, no decision to proceed with the project has been made, and that it would need to be considered by Full Council before being actioned.</p> <p>With the agreement of the Committee, Chair brought forward item 071.1.</p>	RFO
WRL23/068 068.1	<p>To Approve Minutes of Meetings held 6th November 2024 (Appx 1)</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Uttridge, seconded Cllr Wilbraham, all in favour to approve. Two Councillors abstained.</p>	
WRL23/069 069.1	<p>Matters Arising from Previous Meetings – Actions list (Appx 2)</p> <p>Actions List noted.</p>	

<p>WRL23/070</p> <p>070.1</p> <p>070.2</p>	<p>To receive Reports</p> <p>Sports Clubs Histon Hornets Histon Hornets very happy working with Head Parish Ranger and communications, way of working similar to previously. Bad weather has created waterlogged pitches, generating a backlog of matches which they will work with staff to reschedule.</p> <p>Bowls Club Mr Andrew Grimmer took over as Chairman in November and has found the role challenging. Mr Grimmer thanked Cllrs Murray and Davies for their support with his new role and their support of the Club. Mr Grimmer also thanked office staff for their support with various issues regarding maintenance of the Green and Pavilion. Bowls Club are looking forward to working with HI Friends on the Dementia Day in May and looking forward to working with Head Parish Range and staff on green maintenance and matches during the coming season.</p> <p>Cricket Club Club has a new and proactive committee. They have withdrawn their third team from the league due to loss of key players, but will organise friendly matches to boost the team with intention to reinstate into league next year.</p> <p>Croquet Club Club trying to grow. AGM to be held 26th March 2024 in Community Room. Club will hold a University of Third Age course, starting Monday 13th May for 6 weeks.</p> <p>Tennis Club Club are looking forward to completion of hard court resurface. Meeting with Club representatives to look at Terms and Conditions to be scheduled. Formal Arrangement agreed only for summer use, club need decision on winter use soon so they can make a decision on setting fees for the coming year for members, will appreciate no major increases. Cllr Hobb reviewing fees and looking at booking of courts, will respond as soon as possible. New grass court season to start on 17th April 2024.</p> <p>Clerk/Operations Report – (Appendix 3) RFO outlined schedule for hard court resurfacing project and contacts for clubs going forward, changes may still occur as season progresses.</p>	<p>CH</p>
<p>WRL23/071</p> <p>071.1</p>	<p>To receive update from Rec Development Group (Appendix 4)</p> <p>Cllr Davies introduced himself as the Chair of the Recreation Development Group and noted his involvement as the Chair of the previous Recreation Development Group between 2002 and 2006. The previous Committee were looking then at a spend of over £1 million to make the Recreation Ground a community facility, which it has achieved with the inclusion of many groups in the villages such as the exercise classes for older people. The current development group was formed to look at ideas for development of the existing grounds, as any benefits from the CSPN project may be 15 -20 years away. Initial ideas had included a 3G pitch on the site, but this was superseded by the intention to build two other pitches at the Histon Football Club site and at IVC, making a third pitch unviable.</p> <p>The group had then looked at ways to improve existing facilities. Discussions were held with sporting club representatives, staff and other councillors, and the Tennis Club had been eager to drive all year usage with floodlit facilities. The club currently has over 400 members, 200 of which are young people and children, with a large increase in member numbers since the pandemic. New facilities could provide more access for the public as well as extended coaching options. and the option being presented included infrastructure improvements such as drainage changes, thereby future proofing the site. This will provide a legacy for future generations. Cllr Davies reiterated that the report is only a proposal, that it demonstrates a pathway of delivery and articulates the cost to deliver. Improvements to the car park and entrance way are also suggested.</p> <p>With the agreement of the Committee, Chair suspended Standing Orders.</p> <p>Resident commented that the proposal was top heavy financially. Cllr Hobbs said that data was still being collected so that usage of the space could be improved in order to</p>	

	<p>make it more efficient, and Cllr Davies noted that discussions with the Tennis Club were gathering more information in terms of suggested usage, what demand there could be and what this could look like. Cllr Davies noted that it was to the Parish Council's credit that it was detailing the potential commitment so early in the process.</p> <p>Tennis Club representative Jane Fidler said that the Tennis Club were very enthusiastic about the project, and that four courts together were needed for club social events. The current grass courts cannot be used for this purpose as two courts are kept as match courts, not being used for general play until July. Mrs Fidler also noted that there was currently not a lot of coaching for Junior members. A Resident commented that access for all including the public would need to be carefully managed.</p> <p>Standing Orders reinstated.</p> <p>Cllr Davies confirmed talks with the Tennis Club regarding booking of courts and public access were ongoing and that there was a drive for more public access. Cllr Davies also noted that tennis is a sport for 5-70 year olds. Cllr Hobbs confirmed that the RDG is looking at improved utilisation across the whole site.</p>	
<p>WRL23/072</p> <p>072.1</p>	<p>To review Sporting Hub trial and confirm process for 2024/25 season</p> <p>RFO verbally outlined Sporting Hub Trial which allowed use of the Community Room for cricket refreshments and tennis club social events at weekends during the summer. Tennis Club were also given keys to access changing room toilets during weekdays. Cricket Club only need access to the kitchen for refreshments, but because of the layout of the site, this precludes any booking of the Community Room for parties. Staff work with tennis club to agree party bookings on Sundays, when Tennis Club are not holding their social events. The trial had resulted in approximately £1,000 loss of bookings. Cllr Hobbs asked if cleaning costs were charged to the clubs who used the facilities under this option, RFO confirmed no extra had been charged as yet. Prior to COVID, Cricket Club had had use of the Community Room as part of their formal contract.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Murray, seconded Cllr Davies, all in favour to approve use of the community room as Sporting Hub as per 2023 summer season, with a review before next formal arrangements area agreed in 12 months time.</p>	
<p>WRL23/073</p> <p>073.1</p>	<p>To agree acceptance of tailored offer of specialist support for Bowls Green maintenance including spraying and materials (Appendix 5)</p> <p>Report presented to Committee. Proposed Cllr Carrington, seconded Cllr Wilbraham to accept offer, all in favour. RFO to commission contractor to begin as soon as possible.</p>	RFO
<p>WRL23/074</p> <p>074.1</p> <p>074.2</p>	<p>To receive updates</p> <p>Security Working party. Working party not met. Cllr Uttridge noted issues with anti-social behaviour seem to occur in early afternoon. Cllr Hobbs suggested potential Development Worker role could cover this, and that discussion of the role by the Employment Committee would provide an opportunity to see what the role could be, what needs the Council has, and what tasks needed doing in order to come up with the best solution. Cllr Hobbs this suggested this should be considered in any plans. Cllr Uttridge suggested something should be provisionally put in place for the coming summer, a contingency plan for security if needed. RFO to investigate whether Finance Committee or Full Council can approve the spend, to cover the end of the summer term.</p> <p>Gate Access system working party</p> <p>Working party not met, but group has begun review of suggested plan. Cllr Murray said that it was felt that there will be some delay in any decision due to a dependency on the RDG and changes to the grass courts. Cllr Davies suggested that it would be known by autumn whether the plans were going ahead, with a Business Plan being presented to Full Council for decision. Cllr Murray said that the group believed it needed reviewing in connection with other projects and developments, such as the introduction of a booking</p>	Next agenda

	system for all facilities to tie in with the current accounts system. Item for next agenda.	Next Agenda
WRL23/075 075.1	To receive Building Survey report for 12 New Road building and agree next actions (summary of actions included within Clerk's report) Proposed Cllr McKeown, seconded Cllr Carrington, to delegated immediate solutions to staff to organise and complete, all in favour .	
WRL23/076 076.1	To Approve Membership of Youth Provision Working Group and delegate drafting Terms of Reference Cllr Wilbraham to lead Working Group. Cllrs Allen, McKeown and Davies agreed to become members. Cllr Carrington suggested asking a member of the public to join, this can be added to the Terms of Reference. Cllr Allen suggested young people's forums could be held. Proposed Cllr Wilbraham, seconded Cllr Allen to approve membership, all in favour . Working party to meet and draft Terms of Reference to present to next WRL meeting. Working party to report to WRL, terms of reference to include why group formed, what they plan to achieve and how.	Next Agenda
WRL23/077 077.1	To review and approve replacement item for play area at the green (Appendix 6) RFO presented report, items chosen with input from Cllr McKeown. RFO noted prices were from August 23 so allow 5% for inflation increases to costs. Recommendation from staff to select Inclusive roundabout. Cllr Allen questioned access to roundabout, Cllr McKeown suggested asking contractors to ensure good surface to reach roundabout asked of contractors. Cllr McKeown also noted path of play area in general needing action, add to projects for consideration. Proposed Cllr Wilbraham, seconded Cllr Carrington to select Spinmee Roundabout from Online Playground, all in favour. Delegated to RFO and Cllr McKeown to implement installation. Cllr McKeown also noted Balance Beams replacement next project for location.	
WRL23/078 078.1	To discuss concept to adapt MUGA for Blind Football usage Cllr Carrington verbally explained item to gauge Committee agreement to investigate possible conversion of MUGA for blind football use. Cllr Carrington explained a current Hornets team Manager is partially sighted, and that there are only two facilities for blind football in the country. As he understood it, changes were simple with boards on the sides of the court and the use of special footballs. If the Committee were in approval, Cllr Carrington would undertake further investigations into requirements. Cllr Allen queried whether the changes might prohibit other sports using the facilities, Cllr Uttridge queried whether there would be uptake for the facilities. Cllr Carrington outlined that play is only during the week. Cllr Carrington to investigate and present costed paper to next WRL meeting.	SC/Next Agenda
WRL23/079 079.1	To agree to make a contribution towards Bowls Club renovation of Pavilion of £200, from Grounds Maintenance Budget Money will be used to provide paint for improvement of Bowls Pavilion. Proposed Cllr Davies, seconded Cllr Wilbraham, all in favour to approve.	
WRL23/080 080.1	To discuss and agree concept to rename Recreation Ground as Histon and Impington Sports and Recreation Ground, implications and costings to be explored prior to approval at Full Council Cllr Hobbs talked on item, noting 80% of the recreation ground use was for organised	

	<p>sport. There are some recreation facilities but residents see grass fenced off for sport and deem it unavailable. Discussion followed, covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Allen noted most residents just know it as “the Rec”. • Cllr Uttridge asked if is there was enough value in changing it and David Rush queried whether there would be any benefit in changing name such as being able to obtain more grant funding • Cllr Wilbraham suggested the concept of what the facilities are for needs changing, some residents feel it cannot be used at weekends. • Cllr Davies noted it been a “Rec” for 100 years, it is community based and that the committee should focus on other priorities. • Cllr McKeown noted that if it became the H&I Sports ground we might lose sight of the recreational aspect, making this a sports venue and then delivering recreation elsewhere in the village. • Cllr Wilbraham felt that the perception of the venue as being for recreation was not working, that in her opinion young people felt they were not welcome here after school. Cllr Uttridge noted that youth were in general welcome, it was the behaviour of some that was not welcome. • RFO noted that the implications of changes to constraints such as byelaws or any other administration costs which would be needed should be investigated. • RFO also noted that the change would need to go to Full Council if supported by Committee. • Cllr Davies suggested that as discussions regarding the site and its use evolve, the name change should be kept at the back of the Committee’s mind. <p>Cllr Hobbs suggested that this was the beginning of a discussion, and suggest a workshop be held to discuss in more detail before bringing to next meeting, Cllr Hobbs to organise workshop.</p>	<p>CH/ Workshop</p>
<p>WRL23/081 081.1</p>	<p>How to communicate the meeting of 6th November 2023 and items for next agenda:</p> <p>Next agenda: Security Working party; Gate Access Working Party; Youth Provision Working Group Terms of Reference; Blind Football on MUGA proposal</p>	
	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 22nd January 2024, 4th March 2024 Meeting closed: 9.22 pm</p> <p>Appendix 1: Minutes of the meetings 6th November 2023 Appendix 2: Action List Appendix 3: Clerks/Operations Report Appendix 4: Rec Development Group report Appendix 5: Support offer for Maintenance of Bowls Green Appendix 6: New play item for Play Area at the Green</p>	