

**Minutes of the meeting of the  
Playing Fields, Allotments and Amenities Committee  
held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

The Minutes had been circulated from the meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> 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 31<sup>st</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> September. This will be subject to review on 12<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> October at p.m., where the 2023/2024 budget will be discussed.

**MEETING CLOSED AT 8.25pm**