

Present: Cllrs Hawes, Inwood, St Joseph
Non-Council Member: Mr F Compton

In the Chair: Cllr Ferneyhough

Clerk: Michelle Curtis

1. Chairman

Resolved: to appoint Cllr Ferneyhough as the Chairman of the Recreation Ground Committee. Unanimously agreed.

2. Vice-Chairman

Resolved: to appoint Cllr St Joseph as the Vice-Chairman of the Recreation Ground Committee. Unanimously agreed.

3. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence. All members were present.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest disclosed.

5. Public Forum

There were no members of the public present.

6. Minutes

Minutes of the Meetings held on 8th November 2022

Resolved: the minutes for the 8th November 2022 represented a true account of the proceedings of the meeting. Unanimously agreed by those who attended.

The Chairman signed the Minutes.

7. Annual Play Inspection Report

The Annual Play Inspection Report dated May 2023 was received.

Members noted that the Assessor had identified most items in the report as very low or low risk.

The wetpour safety surfacing was highlighted as a moderate risk. The wetpour safety surfacing was recently replaced.

The Assessor also raised the corrosion of the skate ramps.

Action: Clerk to ask Gamart Engineering when they would schedule the work.

Painting of skate ramps

Action: Clerk to speak to Cllr Rogers, who has a contact who could graffiti the skate ramps once they have been repaired.

Painting of some of the equipment

Action: Mr Compton and the Clerk to contact Contractors to obtain quotations.

Painting of youth shelter

The Committee agreed to hold a working party to spray paint the youth shelter.

Action: Clerk to obtain a price for spray paint.

It was agreed to hold a working party to wash down the play equipment and benches.

Action: Clerk to organise a suitable date.

8. Maintenance

Kickwall

It had previously been suggested that a post was installed on the kickwall with a net to prevent the ball from going over the kickwall.

Mr Compton said he had seen youth using the kickwall and did not think a net was necessary. The kickwall is sometimes used to kick the ball over.

The Committee agreed not to proceed with a net at the moment.

Action: To obtain a quotation to paint a goal and targets

Trees

The Clerk reported that the Contractor had submitted an application to Maldon District Council to fell one of the poplar trees, which was dying. The application had been submitted for two trees as a nearby tree was also dying. The Parish Council has approved the expenditure for the removal of one tree. The Committee thought removing both trees would be good if planning permission was granted.

Action: Clerk to obtain a quotation for the felling of the second tree.

9. Grounds Maintenance Work Specification

Members reviewed the work specification.

The following amendments would be proposed to the Full Council:

- 1) Removal of item 6 – The erection and dismantling of goalposts at the beginning and end of the football season
- 2) To specify when the pitches need to be marked:
Last Saturday in July for the Adult Pitch
Last Saturday in August for the Junior Pitches

Action: Clerk to check with the current Contractor whether the spraying around the tree bases four times a year and the cutting/strimming around the tree bases monthly were required.

10. Other Matters

Mr Compton advised that the seeding works on the junior pitches had commenced.

The Clerk reported that a working party was being set up for a Pavilion project, and members of the Recreation Ground Committee are invited to join.

11. Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Recreation Ground is on Tuesday 19th September 2023. It was agreed to reschedule the meeting to November.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10 pm.

Signed.....

Date:.....