

Minutes of the Woodup Pool Committee meeting held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023 in the Pavilion commencing at 7.00 pm.

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**Present:** Cllrs. Rogers  
Non-voting Member: Andrew Eastham

**In the Chair:** Cllr. Hawes

**Clerk:** Michelle Curtis

**1. Apologies for Absence**

There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Ferneyhough and Goldie.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Mr Eastham disclosed personal interests as follows:

- Membership of Tollesbury Sailing Club and is also a Committee Member.
- Mr Eastham works for Fellowship Afloat Charitable Trust (FACT) and is a Director for Tollesbury Saltings.

**3. Public Forum**

There were no members of the public present.

**4. Minutes**

**Minutes of the Meetings held on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

**Resolved:** the minutes for the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023 represented a true account of the proceedings of the Meeting. Unanimously agreed by those who were present.

The Chairman signed the Minutes.

**5. Review Current Season**

With the exception of the weed issue in June, it was a successful season at Woodup Pool. Due to the weather, the pool was quieter than it had been the previous years.

Lifebuoys – Three new lifebuoys were installed at Woodup Pool. Local businesses sponsored these.

Bins – At a previous meeting, it was suggested that the litter issue at the pool may be because there were insufficient bins. This was explored further, and there are adequate bins; people's behaviour is the issue.

Toilets – No issues.

Empty/Fill Process – FACT had emptied and filled the pool during the season, and there were no issues. On behalf of the Parish Council, the Committee thanked FACT for carrying this out.

During the summer (6-week school holidays), the Clerk notified residents via social media when the pool would be emptied and refilled.

Pool Safety Checks – FACT carried out Pool Checks.

### FACT Usage

Overall, it had been a successful season.

**Action:** Mr Eastham will forward the 2024 programme to use the pool to the Clerk for consideration by the Full Council.

### Scout Usage

**Action:** Clerk to ask 1<sup>st</sup> Blackwater Scouts for their proposed usage of Woodup Pool for 2024, which will be submitted to the Full Council for approval.

### Water Testing

The Clerk advised that she had only received one water testing result from Maldon District Council (MDC). The Clerk had emailed MDC to find out if the water was tested more than once.

### Donations

A total of £31.98 was collected from the donation boxes.

### Parking

Parking continues to be an issue. Visitors are parking on the double yellow lines, the area is patrolled by the CPO's.

### Telephone

The BT telephone equipment had been removed.

### Working Parties

Cllr Rogers suggested that instead of paying for work such as spraying the weeds encroaching on the beach area, a working party was organised to carry out the work, inviting members of the community who have already expressed a desire to support.

It was agreed to consider this when such jobs are required.

## **6. End of Season Maintenance and Closure**

The Committee proposed that Woodup Pool be closed for four weeks from early-January to early-February for annual maintenance (including the sluice gate) and inspection work (including the Risk Assessment) to take place. This will also allow the Committee to monitor the impact of weed growth over the summer months and hopefully prevent another closure during high-season.

Cllr Hawes reported that she was in contact with the management of a similar pool in Bristol to compare maintenance approaches and weed management.

**Action:** Clerk to provide the local swimming group with advanced warning of the planned closure.

The Committee intends to inspect the condition of the pool bottom when possible.

## **7. Precept 2024/25**

The Committee considered the funds required for the general running of the pool in the next financial year. The proposed budget will be submitted to the Finance Committee for consideration when setting the precept.

Earmarked funds (£1000 Risk Assessment - £2000 towards sluice/weed control maintenance)	£3,000
Contract (Grass cutting)	TCB*

General Maintenance (sluice gate/general maintenance)	£1500
Toilets (includes additional toilet cleaning and toilet during the school holidays)	£2250
Water Testing	£400
Additional Litter Bin	£500
Community Protection Officers (additional patrols during the school holidays)	£440

\*Grounds Maintenance Contract currently out for tender

**8. Bike Racks**

The email from Green Marine (Boatyard) Ltd regarding the proposed location for the installation of bike racks at Woodup Pool as discussed by the Woodup Pool Committee at the meeting on 5th June 2023 was received and noted.

The Committee will revisit this at the first onsite meeting in April 2024 and reassess suitable locations.

**Action:** Clerk to discuss suitable locations with the Risk Assessor.

**9. Other Matters**

Mr Eastham reported that when Woodup Pool is open, users go onto the saltmarsh, causing damage. Mr Eastham asked for ideas on how this issue could be addressed.

The Committee felt that users needed to be educated and suggested that this could be done via the Tollesbury Climate Partnership.

**10. Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting is on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024. It was agreed to reschedule the meeting until after the visit from the Risk Assessor and the report is available.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 8.30pm.

Signed.....

Date:.....