



Notice is hereby given that a Meeting of the Recreation Ground Committee will be held on Monday 2nd September 2024, in The Pavilion, Tollesbury Recreation Ground, Elysian Gardens, commencing at 7.00pm, to which members of the Council are summoned for the transaction of the under-mentioned business.

M. Curtis

Michelle Curtis – Clerk to the Council/RFO

26th August 2024

Councillors: A Ferneyhough, S Hawes, L Inwood, A St Joseph

Recording of Meetings

The meeting will be recorded to assist the Parish Clerk to compile the minutes. The recording will be deleted afterwards.

A G E N D A

1. **Chair**
To elect a Chair for the forthcoming year
2. **Vice-Chair**
To elect a Vice-Chair for the forthcoming year
3. **Apologies for Absence**
To receive apologies for absence
4. **Declarations of Interest**
To disclose the existence and nature of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Registrable Interests and Non-Registrable Interests relating to items of business on the agenda having regard to paragraph 9 and Appendix B of the Code of Conduct for Members. (Members are reminded that they are also required to disclose any such interests as soon as they become aware should the need arise throughout the meeting.)
5. **Public Forum**
Public participation - Residents wishing to raise a matter in the public forum should inform the Parish Clerk of the topic by noon the previous working day
6. **Minutes**
To confirm the minutes of the Meeting held on 4th March 2024
7. **Annual Play Equipment Inspection Report**
To receive the Annual Play Equipment Inspection Report
8. **Maintenance**
To discuss outstanding maintenance works and any new work required

9. Resident's Email

To receive and discuss an email received from a resident

10. Other Matters

To consider any other matters relating to the Recreation Ground

11. Date of the Next Meeting

The date of the next Recreation Ground Committee meeting is to be confirmed

If you would like an item on the agenda at any Parish Council or Committee Meeting, please submit your request in writing to the Parish Clerk at least a week before the meeting.

Clerk: Michelle Curtis

Address: PO Box 13205, Maldon, Essex CM9 9FU

Telephone: 01621 869039 **Email:** clerk@tollesburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Tollesbury Parish Council - Public Forum - Recreation Ground

Wed 2024 05 22 12:13 PM

To: 'Michelle Curtis' <clerk@tollesburyparishcouncil.gov.uk>

📎 4 attachments (7 MB)

IMG 1016.jpeg; IMG 0964.jpeg; IMG 1015.jpeg; IMG 1013.jpeg;

Good afternoon, Michelle.

Please note the following observations on the above topic:

- The Tollesbury Parish Council Website, see <https://www.tollesburyparishcouncil.gov.uk/amenities-facilities/recreation-ground/> provides little information, to the Village, on the use of the Victory Recreation Ground facilities. Moreover, does the Recreation Ground still have a Multi Use Games Area(MUGA).
- Whilst there are multiple points of entry to the Recreation Ground, and except for the children's playground area and skateboard area, there is sparse signage providing general information on making use of the Recreation Ground facilities. However, this is not the case with Woodup Pool where there are several informative signs, and more are proposed, see <https://www.tollesburyparishcouncil.gov.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/tpc-full-council-meeting-agenda-21.05.24.pdf>, Agenda Item 11.3, Woodup Pool.
- The children's playground area has signs which contain both conflicting and ambiguous information e.g.:
 - Sign One states 'No Dogs Childrens Play Area' – however 'No Dogs' would exclude Guide Dogs when **'By law, disabled people accompanied by their working assistance dogs, including guide dogs, have the right to access taxis, shops, restaurants, and other places open to the public.'** and 'Childrens Play Area' enables children up to the age of 18 to use the play area.
 - Sign Two states 'In this area you must remove your dog waste and put your dog on a lead', which implies that dogs are allowed into the play ground area. Evenso, allowing dogs into the playground area increases a risk of leptospirosis after getting water or soil contaminated by animal urine in either your nose, or your mouth, or your eyes, or a break in your skin.
- The zip wire adjacent to the play ground area has no warning signs that care is required when playing on the zip wire, or that there are any age restrictions, or that supervisory care should be provided to young children, when playing on the zip wire.

- The Tollesbury Skate Park does have an information sign, which is somewhat old and in need of some TLC, which details Conditions of Use of the area, albeit the sign has been subject to graffiti which does not help in understanding all the Conditions.
- Close to the Youth Shelter there is a hole some 27cm deep x 62cm x 52cm, an accident waiting to happen?, and there are no restrictions on the Conditions of Use sign regarding damaging the Skate Park surrounding area.
- The Skate Park Conditions of Use sign states:
 - No dogs. No graffiti. No alcohol. No smoking (or Vaping?). No motor vehicles (or dirt bikes?). No littering.
- It is not clear if the Skate Park Conditions of Use, e.g. No smoking, and No alcohol take precedent over any organised event activities, as event activities may not be compliant with the Parish Council Skate Park Conditions of Use.
- The Recreation Ground general open area has no restriction or conditions of use signs, moreover, dogs do not have to be on a leash. Social media has recorded details of dog related incidents affecting both dog owners and other dogs.
- The Parish Council meeting 6th June 2023 also records details, Agenda Items 3 and 9.3, of a dog attack at the Recreation Ground, see <https://www.tollesburyparishcouncil.gov.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/tpc-full-council-meeting-minutes-06.06.23.pdf>
- As dogs are allowed to be unleashed, in the Recreation Ground general open area, there is a risk of leptospirosis after getting water or soil contaminated by animal urine in your nose, or your mouth, or your eyes, or a break in your skin. The risk of leptospirosis applies to the public, grounds staff and organised events personnel.
- Would there be benefit to the Village in providing a recognised segregated dog walking circuit at the Recreation Ground, together with a separate segregated area where dogs do not have to be on a leash.
- Other Recreation Ground activities which are not currently restricted include golf, overnight camping, alcohol and BBQ's.
- Has the provision of portable toilet facilities, at the Recreation Ground, been considered as the nearest public toilet facilities are some distance away.

- Given the above comments, of risks from unleashed dogs and leptospirosis, I would welcome your advice on the duty of care and health and safety obligations, the Parish Council may have, to the 'public' and 'workers' in their use of the Recreation Ground.
- The Parish Council Meeting Minutes 19th March 2024, Appendix B, Digital Page 9, Risk Assessment and Management, see <https://www.tollesburyparishcouncil.gov.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/tpc-full-council-meeting-minutes-19.03.24.pdf> makes no reference to Recreation Ground risks.
- The following recreation ground policies have been adopted by other Councils, and could possibly be used as a basis for Tollesbury Parish Council developing a Recreation Ground Policy document:
 - https://www.littleeastonpc.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/27/LEPC_Recreation-ground-policy_ver4.pdf
 - https://www.littleeastonpc.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/27/LEPC_Unmanned_Aircraft_Systems_Policy_25th_March_2021.pdf
 - <https://lhpc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/LHPC-Use-of-Recreation-Ground-FINAL-Version-May-14.pdf>
 - <https://www.crowhurstpc.co.uk/files/policies/Recreation%20Ground%20Hire%20Policy%20.pdf>
 - https://www.fourmarks-pc.org.uk/_UserFiles/Files/Policies/2022/FMPC%20Recreation%20Ground%20Rules%20of%20Use%20Policy.pdf
 - <https://www.knebworthparishcouncil.gov.uk/uploads/recreation-ground-rules-of-use.pdf>

I look forward to your feedback on the above in due course, and please can this topic be best handed off to either the Parish Council, or the Recreation Ground Committee as a Public Forum item. If in the meantime, you require any additional information then please do not hesitate to contact me.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please do not print this email unless it is necessary. Unprinted email helps the environment.

The content of this email and or attachment(s), are confidential and intended for the recipient specified in message only. It is strictly forbidden to share any part of this message with any third party, without the written consent of the sender. If you received this message by mistake, and to avoid future mistakes, please reply to this message and follow with its deletion.