

**MINUTES OF LEISURE FACILITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 20th JUNE 2023 AT
MILLFIELDS PAVILLION MILL WAY NEEDINGWORTH AT 8.00PM**

PRESENT:

Cllr S Mitcham (Chairman)
Cllr C Pearce
Cllr R Fountain
Cllr T Head
Cllr E MacPherson
Cllr A Whyte
Cllr M Williamson

IN ATTENDANCE:

Miss J Bowd (Parish Clerk)

There were no members of the public present.

1. To Elect a Chairman.
Resolved; That Cllr S Mitcham be elected as Chairman (Prop Cllr MacPherson 2nd Cllr Pearce) All in favour
2. To Receive Apologies for Absence.
Cllr S Mortlock – Personal
3. To Elect a Vice-Chairman.
Resolved; That Cllr C Pearce be elected as Vice Chairman (Prop Cllr MacPherson 2nd Cllr Williamson) All in favour
4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 18th April 2023.
Resolved: That the minutes of 18th April be signed as a true and correct record (Prop Cllr Williamson 2nd Cllr Whyte) 5 in favour 1 abstention
5. Millfields
 - (i) To note emails from Needingworth Colts declining invitation to attend tonight's meeting.
Members expressed their disappointment that the offer of attending the meeting to resolve matters was declined. See Planning & finance minutes 20th June 2023 for comments.
Noted
 - (ii) To consider permitting football training out of season at Millfields to remove the requirement for training at Overcote Lane.
The Chairman summarised the background to this item stating that permitting football training at Millfields during summer would remove the training from Overcote lane and utilise the facilities at Millfields to a maximum.
Cllr Pearce spoke to advise the need for the football pitches to be rested. He also stated he would not support teams from other Parishes.
Concern was expressed over the "policing" of use of sites and pressure on Overcote Lane car park.
It was agreed to continue with Needingworth colts training at Overcote Lane on an informal basis but the situation to be kept under review and brought back as and when deemed necessary.
6. Overcote Lane
 - (i) To approve purchase of "rules of use" signs for playing field.
A "proof" sign and suggested wording was provided.

Chairman asked why this was required. Clerk advised of an increasing use of the field by dog walkers. It was also noted that the village hall had asked for "no glass" on the playing field.

Resolved: That the sign should be purchased at a cost of £49.42 (Prop Cllr Pearce 2nd Cllr Fountain) 5 in favour 1 abstention.

(ii) To consider quote for tree works Overcote lane playing field.

Clerk summarised the reason for this item, namely that 3 residents who have property backing onto the field have complained about the "stickiness" from the trees this year asking that they be cut back.

Clerk has sought advice from a local tree surgeon who has advised that work at this time of year will only make matters worse but a crown lift in autumn would possibly help. It was noted that these are mature trees, and that felling would not be supported unless absolutely necessary.

Resolved: That quotes be obtained for remedial work to all trees on the field ready for autumn/winter work. (Prop Cllr Whyte 2nd Cllr Pearce) All in favour.

7. Items to report.
None

Being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.20 pm

Chairman.

Date