

MINUTES OF LEISURE FACILITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 20th FEBRUARY 2024
AT MILLFIELDS PAVILLION MILL WAY NEEDINGWORTH AT 7.45PM

PRESENT:

Cllr C Pearce (Chairman)
Cllr R Fountain
Cllr S Mortlock
Cllr A Whyte

IN ATTENDANCE:

Miss J Bowd (Parish Clerk)

There were no members of the public present.

18. To elect a Chairman
Following resignation of Cllr Mitcham a new Chair for Leisure Facilities is required.
Resolved: That Cllr Pearce be elected as Chairman (Prop Cllr Whyte 2nd Cllr Fountain) All in favour
19. To Receive Apologies for Absence.
Cllr E MacPherson - personal
Cllr M Williamson- personal
20. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 17th October 2023.
Resolved: That the minutes be signed as a true and correct record (Prop Cllr Whyte 2nd Cllr Fountain) 3 in favour 1 abstention.
21. Millfield's
 - (i) To review terms of hire – Needingworth Colts.
A discussion took place around the terms and relevant issues.
Clerk to check there is still a stretcher on site.
It was noted that chairs are being stacked obstructing the fire exit in changing room B.
Resolved: That condition 35 of colts hire agreement be amended to read “matches must be played on Saturday mornings and completed by 1pm.”
Clerk to write requesting that the car park monitor be asked to direct cars to the school car park to prevent roadside parking. Letter also to remind colts of the need to stagger match start times.
Clerk to write to all hirers advising that electrical equipment left on the premises will be removed unless PAT tested. (Prop Cllr Whyte 2nd Cllr Pearce) All in favour.
 - (ii) To consider measures to prevent anti-social behaviour Millfield's car park.
It was agreed that the anti-social behaviour causes nuisance to residents. Clerk to arrange quotes for installation of bollards and speed bumps and bring back to next meeting.
 - (iii) To review hire charges for 2024/25 (effective 1st April 2024)
Clerk provided revised fees with inflationary increases.
Resolved: That the fee be approved as per appendix A effective from 1st April 2024. (Prop Cllr Mortlock 2nd Cllr Whyte) All in favour.
 - (iv) To consider request from Needingworth Colts to extend use of Millfield's to the end of May 2024.
Cllr Mortlock pointed out a potential clash with cricket.
Members were concerned about the increase costs if season extended and also the wear and tear on the pitches which need time to recover post season.
Cllr Pearce commented that the dates had been set to be fair to all 3 hirers.
Resolved: That the request be declined (Prop Cllr Fountain 2nd Cllr Mortlock) All in favour.

- (v) To consider Fire safety regulations and agree necessary actions.
Clerk provided a copy of the new regulations.
Cllr Whyte asked what currently happens to which Clerk confirmed twice yearly visits by qualified fire protection company for checking of smoke detectors, alarms and fire extinguishers. Regular checks by staff recorded in logs.
Staff not qualified but could be considered competent.

Resolved: That the current system continue. (Prop Cllr Pearce 2nd Cllr Mortlock) All in favour.

22. Overcote lane playing field

- (i) To consider the purchase of a replacement goal net for the playing field.
Cllr Whyte spoke to say that he considered the current post rusty and bent which spoils the look of the playing field.

Cllr Mortlock wondered if the post height should be lowered.

Resolved: Clerk to check size to ensure any replacement will fit in existing holes. Clerk to obtain price for a post to be fabricated, if this is not a cheaper option post for £869.99 plus delivery be approved (Prop Cllr Whyte 2nd Cllr Pearce) All in favour.

- (ii) To review hire charges U3A Pétanque.

Resolved: That an inflationary increase of 85pence per week be approved effective from 1st April 2024. (Prop Cllr Pearce 2nd Cllr Mortlock) 3 in favour 1 abstention

- (iii) To consider 2024 School Holidays Parish Sessions -HDC

Clerk to establish cost to Council and take information to full Council March 5th, 2024.

23. Items to report.

None

Being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.27pm

Chairman.

Date

CHARGES FOR HIRE OF MILLFIELDS
2024/25

Needingworth FC (due 31st March)

- Main pitch subject to letting agreement - £636.37(subject to annual RPI increase)
- Cost of electricity for Floodlights based on number of hours played.

Needingworth Colts FC (due 31st March)

- First pitch - £665.50
- Additional pitches - £338.81 per pitch
- Mini-soccer pitches - £48.40 per pitch

Needingworth Cricket Club (due 30th June)

- £665.50
- £26.62 per junior team

Cubs use (Football tournament)

- £121.00

Use of cricket square by county

- £182.25

Hire of Millfields Pavilion

- £18.15 / hour

Rent of field for courses, etc.

- £42.36