

Ninfield Parish Council Minutes

Recreation Ground Committee Minutes 2nd March 2023, at 6.30pm Sparkes Pavilion

CLLrs Present:

Chair S Guard (SG), K Williamson (KW), K Crittall (KC).

In attendance J Scarff – Clerk & RFO

4 members of the public (MOP), part time from 7pm – 7.30pm

BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED

1. **To receive the Chairmans Welcome.**
The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **To receive and accept apologies** and reasons for absence in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 S 85 (1).
Apologies received from GP for personal reasons.
3. **Disclosure of Interests**
In accordance with the Localism Act 2011 to receive any disclosure by Members of personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of the interest and whether the member regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Revised Code of Members Conduct
Any changes to register of interests should be notified to the clerk.

KC and SG declared an interest, as members of other village societies, in the item to discuss the container on the recreation ground.
4. **Public participation session re matters on the Agenda at the Chairman's discretion.**
There were no members of the public at the beginning of the meeting.
5. **Exclusion of the Public**
To exclude the public for a particular agenda item the following resolution must be passed.
'Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.'
There was no requirement for this resolution.
6. **Minutes of previous meeting** to be considered for approval and signed as a true record the Meeting of the Recreation Ground Committee 6th **October 2022**.
KW proposed, KC seconded.
Resolved that the minutes be agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting. All agreed.
7. **Business to be transacted.**
 - a To discuss the hire of the recreation ground and pavilion, including any measures the committee feels need to be put into place, consideration of a travel plan and agree any actions required.

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Stoolball
Football
Cricket
Any other users.

The clerk reported that she had asked the football teams not to encourage players or fans to park in Church Lane. KC suggested that part of the hire agreement with Sparkes Pavilion is the submission of a travel plan. SG suggested that for football there should be a gap between matches for parking purposes and that there is a limit of 4 matches per weekend. The hirers must consider the condition of the recreation ground not just the pitch.

There was a discussion about using the memorial hall carpark when possible, but it would require a volunteer from the committee to open and close it.

SG highlighted that the language used at football matches is extremely unpleasant. It has been highlighted by some local residents and has put some off staying to watch matches.

The clerk reported that Pass & Move were planning to do some maintenance on the football pitch – verti draining, reseeding and administering herbicide. The clerk will ask if they will include the area immediately in front of the pavilion.

Resolved Hirers of the pavilion are to provide a travel plan, which they police, when they sign the agreement. For the next season the cllrs feel that there should be a specified number of games per day. There would be a meeting arranged before the next season with both football clubs to discuss all aspects of the usage for the next season.

7pm 4 MOP arrived. The Chair allowed public speaking.

A member of the public explained that she is setting up a Stoolball team and would like to be able to play on Ninfield recreation ground.

The season starts in May and the new club were hoping to start training in April.

They intend to play in the league and would like to use the recreation ground on a Thursday evening for home matches, away matches on a Tuesday.

Resolved That stoolball can use the recreation ground and the clerk will sort out the agreements and detailed arrangements.

The 4 x MOP left the meeting.

Resolved that the charge would be discounted for the first season to £150.

SG reported that the cricket clubs have a new groundsman.

The clerk updated the meeting on the latest regarding the school lease. The solicitor has looked at the lease to remind himself of the terms. We will have more information as he understands what the Academy Trust are looking for.

The cllrs discussed the use of the new MUGA for children's parties. They agreed that the principle was fine but details of what the area would be used for would be required for a booking.

Before the first use there is a planning condition to let ESCC know so they can

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monitor the noise created from any usage for a period of 12 months.

It was agreed that to hire the MUGA with the use of Sparkes for a children's party the charge would be £12 per hour for a village resident and £15 per hour for anyone else.

b To discuss the planned events on the recreation ground and agree any actions required.

Arrangements are not confirmed yet for the Coronation and will be confirmed after the next carnival meeting.

Carnival would like to use the rec 13- 16th July for the annual village fete.

Resolved that Carnival can use the rec for the annual village fete 13th – 16th July.

c To hear an update on the project to put a storage container on the recreation ground and agree any actions required.

The planning application will be submitted shortly.

To agree a date for the next meeting. Please bring diaries.

The next meeting will be 11th April at 6.30pm