

Kington Recreation Ground Trust

**Charity No. 520963**.

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**Minutes of the meeting of the Kington Recreation Ground Trust**

**held at 6.00pm on Monday 4th June 2018 at the**

**Old Police Station, Market Hall Street.**

**Present:** Cllr. M. Fitton (Chair)

Cllr. E. Banks

Cllr. J. Dennis

Cllr. C. Forrester

Cllr. F. Hawkins

Cllr. R. MacCurrach

Cllr. P. Prior

Cllr. L Rees (arrived at 18.10)

Cllr. E. Rolls

Cllr. R. Widdowson

Cllr. I. Wood-Johnson

**In attendance**: Liz Kelso, Clerk;

Mary Tolhurst, assistant

057/18 **Apologies**

Apologies were noted from Councillor R. Banks.

058/18 **Declarations of Interests and requests for dispensation**

There were no Declarations of Interest and no requests for dispensation.

059/18 **Minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2018**

It was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held 4th May 2018 as previously circulated be signed by the Chairman as a true record of proceedings at that meeting.

060/18 **Resolution to exclude the public**

It was resolved that members of the press and public public in attendance, if any, be excluded from the next agenda item, on the grounds that the following agenda item is likely to include discussions that are commercially sensitive

061/18 **To note report of meeting with Kington Cricket Club**

Cllr Elizabeth Banks reported that she had had a follow-up meeting with John Cromar and Pete Smith from the Cricket Club. The Cricket Club require clear evidence of the right to play cricket on the cricket ground which does not necessarily require a lease of the pitch area. It has been suggested that a small amendment to the current lease of the pavilion might suffice if it includes some reference to the right to play cricket on dates and times to be agreed. Subject to the Cricket Club confirming that this is sufficient for English Cricket Club purposes, it was noted that legal advice would be required for a Deed of Variation of the original lease to be drawn up. A quote for this work will be obtained for consideration.

It was generally agreed that the Cricket Club should be able to begin to generate more of an independent income in order to stay ahead of the rents and charges in their rental agreement.

The meeting then returned to public session

062/18 **Proposals for work on Recreation Ground and other public open spaces funded through grant funding**

It was noted that the deadline for starting work using the Tarmac Grant is imminent so some work will need to take place shortly. It was agreed that the Recreation Ground and land at Crooked Well would be a priority. Potential projects to include:

* Improvements to the path from the entrance to the play area at the Recreation Ground and extending it the skate park site and beyond to the bank of the Arrow. It is proposed that tarmac be used for the surface down to the river, then ‘a more rural finish’ beyond that, suitable for wheelchair use / disabled access.
* Repair and improvements to the fence line between the Recreation Ground and the adjacent caravan park, possibly erecting a fence inside the Recreation Ground boundary to improve security of the Recreation ground
* Repairs to the fencing around the play area at Crooked Well. This item was considered a priority and a quotation is to be obtained for the work required there.
* Provision of disabled play equipment at the Crooked Well site and possibly on the Recreation Ground
* Improvements to the tramway entrance to Crooked Well through the land currently privately owned. It was agreed that no work take place on this land until ownership has been transferred to both Crooked Well and the small parcel of land.

Details plans, particularly for the additional footpaths, would need detailed plans and a specification drawn up and Cllr. Banks identified a student who might be prepared to undertake this work.

The Mayor and Clerk had meet with Balfour Beatty to ascertain whether they would be able to project manage any work and was awaiting a further meeting to discuss the possible costs for this.

Members were generally in agreement with the proposed way forward and details and quotes are to be provided for consideration at a later meeting.

063/18 **Accounts for the year ended 31.3.2018**

These were discussed. After clarification of the amount of £18,526.39 in ’misc’ (the Town Council grant for the playground upgrade) it was proposed by Cllr Rolls and seconded by Cllr Elizabeth Banks that the accounts be accepted.

064/18 **Clerk’s report**

The Clerk gave a verbal report, including:

* details of suggested tree surgeons are still awaited for tendering purposes.
* Repairs are needed to the handwasher in the Ladies toilet and the toilet roll holders in the Gents; signs are needed to remind users to not put anything down the toilet pan, other than toilet paper.
* There are no sanitary / female hygiene bins in the Ladies toilet block. This will be investigated further and a report made to the next meeting
* The Groundsman has requested to be supplied with a high Vis jacket for work purposes
* The Strimmer course for the Groundsman has previously been agreed, but there is no date available yet for the next course.
* A small area of the surface of the children’s play area appears to be lifting. The Clerk will contact the contractor to arrange a repair urgently.
* Cllr. Wood-Johnson has arranged for the mower to have new tyres and to be repaired
* The shelter requires repainting. The groundsman can do this but the work may require some overtime.

065/18 **Litter**

There have been an increasing number of complaints about litter in the Grounds. This was discussed: some of it spread around by birds but some is obviously litter that has not been put into the bins. The Clerk suggested that we revisit the ‘Stop the Drop’ campaign and will investigate this, and Street Cleansing in general with Balfour Beatty.

066/18 **Use of the recreation ground for events**

A Festival event has been organised by the Kington Festival Committee at the Cricket Pavilion and surrounding area in celebration of Michael East (Wizard). This was not booked via the Recreation Ground Trust and the Trust had not been informed. It was agreed that in future all events must be notified to the Recreation Ground Trust so that booking conflicts can be avoided. It was also agreed that in this instance, there would be no charge for the use of the Recreation Ground.

It was further agreed that the Management Group review the booking form for events, how the need for prior booking is communicated and charges for events, parking etc. at the Recreation Ground and report back to a later meeting of the Trust.

067/18 **Date of next meeting and items for the agenda**

The next meeting of the Recreation Ground Trust will take place on Monday 2nd July at 6.00pm at the Old Police Station.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed.