

**HORDEN RECREATION GROUND**

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING**

**HELD ON MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup>. DECEMBER 2013**

**Present :** Cllr. J.White (Chair)

Cllrs. : D. Nichol, D. Tait, L. Williams, R. Bagnall, I. Roberts, E.Connor,  
W. Smith, W. Hill, M. Robinson, G. Phillips, , D. Langan , L.Williams

**HRG 13/14/54 1.Exclusion of Press and Public**

Because of the confidential nature of the following business it was:

**RESOLVED: the motion to exclude the press and public be agreed**

**HRG 13/14/55 2. Apologies for Absence:** received from Cllrs. E. Wood and J Clark.

**HRG 13/14/56 3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting of 11<sup>th</sup>. December 2013**

**RESOLVED: These minutes be accepted as a true record and to be signed by the Chair.**

**Matters Arising**

- Cllr. D. Langan gave a brief report regarding the telephone conversation, between himself and Janine Hobson of Mortons Solicitors and subsequent actions which had taken place as a result.. .. (Copy on File)
- Members were also informed that, following instructions from the Council/Trustee, Mortons Solicitors had cancelled the Mediation Meeting scheduled for Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>. December 2013.
- A cheque for £3900, from Mortons Solicitors, had been received in respect of returned Mediation and Barrister's Fees.
- Mortons Solicitors stated that Stephanie Jarron, following the instructions of the Council/Trustee, was to appear in Court, on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>. December 2013, to request a 'Stay' for one month in order to allow the Council/Trustee to continue "In-House " mediation with HCW AFC.  
  
A letter, dated 12<sup>th</sup>. December 2013, had also been received from HCW AFC regarding their response to the Resolutions of the meeting on 11<sup>th</sup>. December 2013 .
- A copy of correspondence, dated 11<sup>th</sup>. December 2013, from HCW AFC to the Newcastle Court requesting a "Stay" for **two calendar months** had also been received together with a copy of the HCW AFC minute of the Working Group Meeting, between HCW AFC and the Council/Trustee held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup>. December 2013.
- Correspondence had been received today from Mortons Solicitors informing the Council/Trustee that the Court had made its own adjournment until January 22<sup>nd</sup>. 2014 at 12:15 p.m.

**HRG 13/14/57 4. The Verbal Report of the Working Group Meeting held tonight, Monday 16<sup>th</sup>. December 2013 from 6.30p.m. to 7.30 p.m.**

Cllr. D. Langan informed the members of the following:

- The representatives of HCWAFc had **agreed** to be available to answer any queries or resolutions as required during this meeting.
- The representatives of HCWAFc had **agreed** that the Report of the previous meeting of the Working Group Meeting, held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup>. December 2013 was an accurate account.
- **Agreed** the members inform the Full Meeting of the Trustee, which was to commence at 7.30p.m. of their offer of £2500 in settlement of the Club's Electricity Usage for the Annual Periods from 13<sup>th</sup>. February 2010 to 2<sup>nd</sup>. October 2013 for full consideration.
- The representatives of HCWAFc had been given a further explanation as to why the Council/Trustee had resolved to return the cheque for payment in respect of the annual Periods of 2010; 2011; 2012 and 2013.

This resolution was the result of the Council/Trustee taking advice from Mortons Solicitors which indicated that Court proceedings could be compromised if the Ground Fees payment was accepted for the 2013/2014 Annual Period.

Considerable debate ensued regarding the points raised in this verbal report and it was:

**RESOLVED:**

- The offer of £2500, in respect of Outstanding Electricity Charges covering the Annual Periods (as outlined in the figures provided by HCWAFc) from 13<sup>th</sup>. February 2010 to 2<sup>nd</sup>. October 2013 be accepted; and HCWAFc be requested to pay by Bankers Draft so that this sum of money can be received as soon as possible and specifically accounted for accordingly.**
- HCWAFc be requested to pay, again by Bankers Draft, the sum of £3083 in respect of payment of Outstanding Ground Fees covering the Annual Periods from 2010/2011;2011/2012; 2012/2103 so that this sum of money can be received as soon as possible and specifically accounted for accordingly.**
- HCWAFc be requested to pay, again by Bankers Draft, the sum of £1506 in respect of payment of the current Annual Period of 2013/2014, so that this sum of money can be received as soon as possible and specifically accounted for accordingly.**
- HCWAFc be informed that, subject to the above payments being paid promptly and cleared, the Council/Trustee would NOT pursue the Court Case against HCWAFc.**

**HCWAFc also be informed that, subject to the above payments being paid promptly and cleared, the Council/Trustee will allow the Football Club to continue its use of the facility on the same basis as Horden Rugby Club's use of its respective facility.. i.e. the payment of Ground Fees and Electricity Charges.**

The representatives of HCWAFc, Mr. N. Stephens, Mr. C. Cain and Mr. S. Wright were then invited into the meeting and were informed of the above resolutions.

Mr. N. Stephens asked for clarification of the requests within the resolutions.

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Horden Recreation Ground held Monday 16<sup>th</sup>. December 2013 (continued)

Personal opinions from the HCWAFC and the members of the Council/Trustee were exchanged in strong debate.

\*At this point, approx.8.30 p.m., Cllr. M. Robinson left the meeting to attend a previously arranged commitment.\*

Mr. Stephens requested that these proposals be put in writing and e-mailed to him, tomorrow morning, to allow him to consult the Club's solicitor and committee members before any decision of acceptance or otherwise could be made.

Mr. Cain and Mr. Wright gave their views on the issues raised.

Members of the Council/Trustee commented that the outstanding debts regarding Ground Fees and Electricity Charges, were owed to the people of Horden, and that the recovery of these sums of money was the responsibility of the Council/Trustee.

Mr. Stephens commented that he felt that a more firm basis, for their continued use of the facility, was necessary; and he referred to the Draft Lease which he had presented to the Council/Trustee.

His attention was drawn to the meeting of the Working Group , whereby it was stated that an "agreement" for future organisation **be discussed at a later date**, subject to the outstanding debt issues having been resolved.

The Council/ Trustee:

**RESOLVED:**

**That the resolutions be put in writing and e-mailed to Mr. Stephens, tomorrow morning (Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>. December 2013) to allow consultation with the Football Club's Solicitor and committee members ; and the Council to receive their decision regarding the payment of the outstanding debts, outlined in the above Council/Trustee resolutions , as soon as possible.**