

HORDEN RECREATION GROUND
Minutes of Meeting held 4th March 2014

Present: Councillor J Clark (Chairman)
 Councillors I Roberts, E Connor, W Smith, R Bagnall, G Phillips, M Robinson, D Nicol, D Langan, L Williams, D Tait, and E Wood.

Apologies: Councillors, J White, M Clark and W Hill

Staff: Mr P Davison (Clerk)

Also Present:

HRG **Apologies for Absence**

13/14/72 Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillors J White, M Clark and W Hill.
RESOLVED: that the apologies submitted be APPROVED.

HRG **Minutes of Meeting held 4th February 2014**

13/14/73 **RESOLVED:** that the minutes be confirmed as a correct record to be signed by the Chairman.

HRG **Matters Arising**

13/14/74 The Clerk advised that the point of contact for the HCWAFC Supporters Club had been ascertained and that payments regarding clauses in the lease would be addressed shortly.

HRG **Public Participation**

13/14/75 There were no members of the public present.

HRG **Horden Colliery Welfare Cricket Club**

13/14/76 Members considered the correspondence from the club with regard to their request for fund raising events to be held at the ground. The Clerk answered questions and advised that he and the Parks and Cemetery Manager had already had a meeting with the club to discuss their requirements and recommended that the event take place, subject to satisfactory operational arrangements being made.

Members welcomed the clubs attempts to raise funds to increase their sustainability and work in partnership with the trustee and it was

RESOLVED: that the event requested for 25th May be agreed to and that the cricket club be afforded the opportunity to use the football ground as part of their event if they so wished.

HRG **Bowls Pavilion Kitchen**

13/14/77 Members considered the quote and plan received for the proposed kitchen refurbishment. The Clerk advised that if approved, the work could start the following week and be completed before the bowls season commenced.

RESOLVED: that the quotation for £2,500 from Weardale Construction be APPROVED.

HRG **Finalisation of the 2012/13 Annual Return /Accounts Submission to the Charity Commission (due 31st January 2014)**

13/14/78 The Clerk advised that the submission should have been finalised and completed by 31st January 2014, however, this had been over looked and would be addressed by the April meeting.

RESOLVED: that the information be NOTED.

**HRG
13/14/79**

Exclusion of Press and Public.

that in accordance with Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves information prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

RESOLVED: that the press and public be excluded for the following items.

**HRG
13/14/80**

HCRA Freedom of Information Request

Members considered the correspondence previously circulated. Much debate ensued with regards to the provision of the information requested and the suggested content of the response letter. The Clerk advised that under the FOI Act, the information requested was not exempt and must be provided. The Clerk advised that responding to FOI requests was the responsibility of the Clerk and that the item had been included on the agenda for Members to note.

Members considered this and provided the Clerk with instructions as to what to include in the draft letter and bring this back to a later meeting in order to approve.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk draft a revised response to HCRA and bring back to the next meeting for Members to approve before dispatch.

**HRG
13/14/81**

HCW AFC Issues

Members considered the Clerk's report. Much discussion ensued with regard to the recommendations and associated papers circulated to the report.

Councillor D. Langan wished to have it recorded in the minutes that he took exception to item 4.8 of the report and found it insulting. A member also commented on the quality of the advice being provided to the trustee by the trustee's solicitors, barrister and Clerk.

RESOLVED: that

- (i) In accordance with 3.2 of the report, the Clerks actions not objecting to Mr J Stubbs being able to represent the club be ENDORSED.
- (ii) In accordance with 3.9 of the report, the trustee inform Mortons Solicitors that a Part 36 offer of £4589.62 for pitch fees (2010-2014); a £2,500 contribution to electricity invoices (previously agreed by HCW AFC); an additional charge of £200 as a contribution for electricity invoices covering the period from October 2013 to date; and the provision of a usage agreement which would contain clauses to comply with the trustee's charitable obligations be put to the club for consideration.
- (iii) In accordance with item 3.24 of the report, that the trustee deduct their usage of the grandstand and recharge the club accordingly as set out with the methodology provided.
- (iv) In relation to 4.8 of the report, that it be amended to state:
The Council is limited to what can be disclosed to the public due to the litigious nature of the issues concerned which require an urgent close to the dispute