

MICKLEFIELD RECREATION GROUND (REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 523780)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TRUSTEE HELD ON MONDAY 18 JULY 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr J L Auty, Cllr D Brown, Cllr J A Crossley, Cllr R M Czwarno, Cllr N Duff, Cllr P Meir, Cllr E A Robertson and Cllr G A Rycroft

In Attendance: J L Hebden, Clerk to Micklefield Parish Council

The meeting opened at 7.31pm and was chaired by the chairman, Cllr J A Crossley.

22/21 – DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of any disclosable pecuniary interests or any other significant interests that the member wishes to declare for the purposes of the Localism Act 2011, s31 and the Councillor Code of Conduct para 9 and Appendix B paras 4 – 9.

22/22 – DISPENSATION REQUESTS

No dispensation requests received by the Clerk prior to the meeting.

22/23 - APOLOGIES

22/23/1 – RECEIPT

Members received apologies for absence from Cllr D Backhouse.

22/23/2 – REASONS

Cllr D Backhouse's reason for absence had been approved at the Parish Council meeting and re-approval was not required.

22/24 – EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

There were no items requiring the exclusion of the public.

22/25 – MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16 MAY 2022

Proposed by Cllr R M Czwarno

Seconded by Cllr E A Robertson

RESOLVED by unanimous vote that the minutes of the annual meeting held on Monday 16 May 2022 are an accurate record. The Chairman signed the minutes for verification.

22/26 – MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16 MAY 2022

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the annual meeting held on Monday 16 May 2022 that were not addressed by the agenda.

22/27 - FINANCE

22/27/1 – ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Proposed by Cllr R M Czwarno

Seconded by Cllr P Meir

RESOLVED by unanimous vote to approve the accounts for payment:

Bulb - Electricity	32.00
Proelectric Solutions - Electrical Installation Condition Report (EICR)	165.00
TOTAL	197.00

Two members signed the schedule for verification.

22/27/2 – BANK RECONCILIATION

Members noted a bank reconciliation to 30 June 2022.

22/28 - HEIGHT RESTRICTION BARRIER

22/28/1 – UPDATE

Members noted the installation of the height restriction barrier at the entrance from Great North Road. The clerk was in the process of arranging the purchase and installation of a key safe, so that the key could be stored nearby for use by emergency services.

22/29 - 4 & 5 RAILWAY COTTAGES

22/29/1 – ELECTRICITY STATEMENTS

Members noted electricity statements (estimated use) for the periods 3 May to 2 June and 3 June to 2 July 2022 and that the account was £106.16 in debit.

22/29/2 – EICR

Members noted the completion of the EICR on 31 May and that that the following works were required: replacement of a cracked double socket in the changing room and the replacement of the back box at the heater spur upstairs.

22/29/3 – REMEDIAL WORKS

Proposed by Cllr J A Crossley

Seconded by Cllr R M Czwarno

RESOLVED by unanimous vote to approve the replacement of a cracked double socket in the changing room and of the back box at the heater spur upstairs at a cost of £40.00.

22/29/4 – FLOODLIGHT DAMAGE

Members noted that the floodlights were not functioning due to water ingress and the resulting degradation of the system.

22/29/5 – FLOODLIGHT REPAIR

Proposed by Cllr J A Crossley

Seconded by Cllr R M Czwarno

RESOLVED by unanimous vote to approve that the PVC conduit is rewired and made watertight and that the sodium floodlights are replaced with 100w LED floodlights at a cost of £420.00.

22/30 - FOOTBALL PITCH AND LETTINGS

22/30/1 – GARFORTH JUNIORS

Members noted that Garforth Juniors had moved to 9v9 football and no longer required a 7v7 pitch on the training ground.

22/30/2 – GARFORTH RANGERS AFC

Members noted that Garforth Rangers AFC had recently submitted a letting renewal application for the 2022/23 season.

22/31 - LOWER PECKFIELD LANE

22/31/1 – ‘NO PARKING’ SIGNS

There was no update on the provision of ‘No Parking’ signs on the access gates on Lower Peckfield Lane.

22/32 - SECURITY

22/32/1 – DAMAGED FENCE

Members noted that a portion of the fence separating the road/car park from the field had corroded and been vandalised, creating a gap large enough to allow motorbikes, dirt bikes and quad bikes to access the recreation area of the Recreation Ground.

22/32/2 – REPAIR

Proposed by Cllr J A Crossley

Seconded by Cllr R M Czwaro

RESOLVED by unanimous vote that Cllr G A Rycroft supplies and fits a chain and padlock around the posts adjacent to the open portion of the field/road separation fence to secure the gap.

22/33 - ACCESS

22/33/1 – WORKING GROUP REPORT

Cllr J A Crossley gave an update and recommendations from the working group for improved access. The group had assessed all the pedestrian access points for suitability and concluded that the access near the field entrance gate was the most suitable due to its location i.e. accessed by vehicles and pedestrians from the main entrance on Great North Road, near a parking area and with lots of space for the alterations needed. Improvements to the access would also require improvements to the internal access road and the access area. The cost was estimated at £5,000.00.

Proposed by Cllr J A Crossley

Seconded by Cllr R M Czwaro

RESOLVED by unanimous vote that the trustee would like a fully DDA compliant entrance at the field access gate at an estimated cost of £5,000.00 and asks that the Parish Council looks into providing it, as well as laying Bitmac in the area and laying scalplings on the informal internal entrance road.

22/33/2 – NETWORK/AECOM ACCESS REQUEST

Members noted a request from Network Rail and AECOM to access Micklefield Recreation Ground on 7 – 8 June, to conduct a non-intrusive walkover survey for the purpose of recording habitat types present and identify potential protected species.

22/33/3 - ACCESS

Members noted that the Clerk did not deny access, as a previous more intrusive survey was approved by members in February 2021 but requested and received a risk assessment (hazard management) and work methodology.

22/34 -MUGA/WILDFLOWER MEADOW

22/34/1 – MUGA

Members noted no change to the condition of the MUGA.

22/34/2 – WILDFLOWER MEADOW

Cllr D Brown gave update on the wildflower meadow. The meadow had bloomed but the sustained period of hot weather and lack of rain was a concern, although the flowers should have set seed already, which would help if their flowering period was cut short due to the weather.

22/34/3 – STORAGE BUILDINGS

There was no official update on the Scouts' use of the storage buildings; however, the Scouts had posted pictures of the cleaned-out buildings on social media with a request for help from a builder.

22/35 - TREES

22/35/1 – ABORICULTURAL SURVEY

There was no update on the commissioning of an aboricultural survey of the trees in Micklefield Recreation Ground.

22/35/2 - STORM DAMAGED TREE

There was no update on the removal of the storm damaged tree on the southern perimeter for health and safety reasons.

22/35/3 – WILDFLOWER MEADOW TREES

Meadows agreed that a site visit was necessary to decide the extent of the pruning of the trees/shrubs around the wildflower meadow to aid pedestrian access.

22/36 - DIAMOND JUBILEE PLAY AREA AND SKATE PARK

22/36/1 – BIKE RACK

There was no update on the installation of a bike rack in the skate park/play area.

22/36/2 – QUARTERLY INSPECTION

Members noted the quarterly inspection report.

22/36/3 – WOODEN RUNG

Proposed by Cllr R M Czwarno

Seconded by Cllr J L Auty

RESOLVED by unanimous vote to approve the replacement of the damaged wooden rung on the zip wire ramp.

22/36/4 – MAINTENANCE INSPECTIONS

Members noted that the current appointment to undertake the annual quarterly inspections ended on 30 June.

22/36/5 – CURRENT CONTRACT VALUE

Members noted that the current contract value was £415.36 (inc. VAT) per annum i.e. £103.84 per visit (inc. VAT).

22/36/6 – MAINTENANCE INSPECTIONS APPOINTMENT

Proposed by Cllr J A Crossley

Seconded by Cllr R M Czwarno

RESOLVED by unanimous vote that Brambledown Landscape Services Ltd. continues the quarterly operational inspections of Diamond Jubilee Play Area for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 and to increase the contract value by the CPIH rate in May 2022 (7.9%).

22/37 - CAR PARK

22/37/1 – ENTRANCE SIGN

There was no update on the provision of an entrance sign.

22/38 - YOUTH SHELTERS

22/38/1 – UPDATE

Members noted there had been no change to the condition of the youth shelters.

22/39 – PECKFIELD LEVEL CROSSING CLOSURE – MITIGATION PROPOSALS

Further to its previous consultation with the Parish Council, Network Rail had sent revised proposals for mitigating the proposed closure of Peckfield Level Crossing, which were considered in the context of their impact on the Charity, its land and amenities, and users.

(i) Proposed by Cllr J A Crossley

Seconded by Cllr R M Czwarno

RESOLVED by unanimous vote to request an in-person meeting to discuss the proposals as the Trustee is unhappy with the current proposals as compared to the previous proposals.

Furthermore, whilst the Parish Council can discuss the proposals in its role as the Trustee of Micklefield Recreation Ground Charity as it has a scheduled meeting, it cannot respond as a Local Authority and represent the electorate, as the consultation period has not given time for a Parish Council meeting to be scheduled.

(ii) Proposed by Cllr J A Crossley

Seconded by Cllr R M Czwarno

RESOLVED by unanimous vote that:

- (a) C1 - is essential but that the third passing point from Great North Road is on charity land and that the road should be referred to by its name, Lower Peckfield Lane, and not Pit Lane, to avoid confusion
- (b) C – as previously stated in the Parish Council's consultation response of December 2021 (minute 21/191/1), the proposed bridleway through the recreation ground is not acceptable as it makes the existing bridleway a 'dog-leg' ultimately making it unnecessary as riders can just continue along Great North Road. Further, a 10 acre Recreation Ground is not a suitable place to give horses and riders absolute rights, for the health and safety of both horses and riders and patrons, and a bridleway passing in front of a building that is used as changing rooms cuts off access between the building and recreation ground.

- (c) C4 – the stepped bridge benefits the users of the recreation ground as it maintains access but the Trustee would not support the bridleway through the recreation ground as part of the scheme.
- (d) C2 – was liked in its previous version as it was beneficial to the Trustee and avoided the need for a bridleway in the recreation ground. However, the new proposal ends the bridleway (described as an ‘in and out’ bridleway but essentially a dead-end) before the A656. The Parish Council as Trustee is not convinced that this is achievable (as approval from Leeds City Council Public Rights of Way Section is unlikely) and that ultimately this scheme will not happen, leaving a bridleway through the recreation ground.

Cllr D Brown left the meeting at 9.45pm.

21/40 – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS

The following agenda items were requested:

- To agree a method of permanent repair of the damaged lower perimeter fence
- To approve the installation of a defibrillator unit in the changing rooms on the condition that it is owned and maintained by the football club

The following item was raised to note:

- Cllr J A Crossley gave an update on the planning application for the old school site (adjacent to the recreation ground)

21/41 – NEXT MEETING

Members noted that the next meeting of the Trustee would be held on Monday 19 September 2022, in the I.T. suite of Micklefield Youth and Adult Centre (The Old Fire Station, Great North Road, to commence at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.54pm.

Signed:

(Chairman)

Date:

Joanne Hebden
Clerk to the Council
Micklefield Parish Council
(Sole Trustee of Micklefield Recreation Ground Charity)

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