

RAYLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE MEETING  
held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 7.30pm  
via remote access

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr D Sperring

Councillors: Mrs C Callis, E Dray, Mrs J Lumley, R Milne, Mrs J Sawford, Mrs M Spencer, C Stanley, K Podd and Mrs C Roe

In attendance: Miss K Gaiger – Deputy Town Clerk  
Mr M Letch – Locum Town Clerk

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Mrs J Lumley, R Milne, D Sperring, Cllr Mrs C Roe and C Stanley declared a non pecuniary interest as members of Rochford District Council.

Cllr Mrs J Lumley declared a non pecuniary interest as a member of Essex County Council

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr J Burton

3 SUBSTITUTES

None present

4 NON COMMITTEE MEMBERS ATTENDING

Cllr Mrs C Roe attended as a non committee member

5 MINUTES OF THE KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE MEETING held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020.

To receive and sign the minutes as a correct record.

6 YOUTH LIAISON

Members noted that ECC Youth Service have continued to visit the playing field during the pandemic meeting in accordance with guidelines and social distancing.

Essex County Council have confirmed that they can continue to provide the detached sessions in 2021/2022 for £5,000. The Committee Chairman stated that this has been a very successful partnership and all members agreed to continue next year.

RECOMMENDED to continue with the ECC Youth Service in King George V Playing Field for 2021/2022 for cost of £5,000.

## 7 GROUND CONTRACTOR

### 7.1 Meeting

Further to minute no 98 of the King George V Playing Field Committee held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020 members to noted that a meeting was held with the Ground Contractor and attended by Cllrs D Sperring, Mrs M Spencer and E Dray.

Members noted that the bollards on the vehicle approach from Bull Lane have been re-painted.

RECOMMENDED that the above information be noted.

### 7.2 Shutter

Members noted the shutter was serviced at a cost of £120.00

RECOMMENDED that the above information be noted.

## 8 HIRE CHARGES FOR PLAYING FIELD

Members received the hire charges for field hire and football pitches and agreed that there should be no increase for 2021/2022.

RECOMMENDED that the charges for field hire and football pitches remain the same for 2021/2022

## 9 KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD - BOOKINGS

### 9.1 New Bookings

None received.

RECOMMENDED that the above information be noted.

### 9.2 Approved Bookings

Rayleigh Bowls Club

Members noted that the Bowls Club did not use car park area or the playing field for parking on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020 as the event was cancelled due to Covid-19.

RECOMMENDED that the above information be noted.

## 10 PLAY AREA

Members noted that quotes have been requested to move the fencing with in the childrens play area to create a larger toddler area. Due to covid-19 these have been delayed

Members noted a quote provided by one company for the installation of new equipment and fencing in the play area. This work would be delayed due to Covid-19 in order to gain additional quotes and that during the pandemic it was not priority to close the play area for works when it provides a vital facility to residents.

RECOMMENDED that the above information be noted

## 11 FOOTBALL PITCHES

### 11.1 Rayleigh FC Training

Members noted that Rayleigh FC did not train at the playing field during the lockdown in March 2020 and commenced training when guidance from the Football Association and Government permitted. Training was then stopped when the second national lock down started on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Training has now re-started.

RECOMMENDED that the above information be noted.

### 11.2 Season 2019/2020

Members noted the 2019/2020 season did not finish due to the Covid-19 first national lockdown in March 2020

RECOMMENDED that the above information be noted.

### 11.3 Pitch Maintenance

Members noted that the top dressing of the pitch nearest to Eastwood Road was carried out at a cost of £7,500.

RECOMMENDED that the above information be noted.

### 11.4 Season 2020/2021

Members noted that the football season commenced the weekend of 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> September 2020 until the second National Lockdown commenced on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020. The season re-started weekend 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

Following guidance from the Football Association in connection with the Government showers and changing rooms are not permitted to be used this season. These are being painted and cleaned ready for next season.

The following dates were cancelled due to bad weather conditions 25<sup>th</sup> October, 31<sup>st</sup> October, 1<sup>st</sup> November and 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

RECOMMENDED that the above information be noted.

12 BOWLS CLUB

Members agreed a request from the Bowls Club to display signage on the fence/gateway from Websters Way car park. Due to the pandemic the club have seen a decline in membership and the signage would be to make their presence more visible to the public. The fence is the property of the Town Council. It was agreed that any queries relating to the signs would be discussed with the Committee Chairman.

RECOMMENDED that the above information be noted.

13 PAVILION SNACK BAR

Members noted that the current snack bar licence expires on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021. The operator would like to renew the lease for a further 3 years, in order to carry out maintenance and decoration to the area. The fees have been paid up to date. The snack bar has been operating during Covid-19 complying with the restriction in place. It was agreed that the operator has been a success trading under difficult circumstances and therefore it was vital he has the support of the council in order to make changes for the future.

Members agreed to extended the lease for a further three years until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024 at the current rent of £1,500 per year plus utilities.

RECOMMENDED to extend the lease for a further three years until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024 at the current rent of £1,500 per year plus utilities.

14 GREEN FLAG 2020/2021

Members noted that the Green Flag was awarded to the King George V Playing Field for 2020/2021. Members agreed to enter for 2021/2022 and to note that a full site visit be carried out in 2021. An updated management plan will need to be submitted.

RECOMMENDED to enter the Green Flag for 2021/2022

15 ESSEX PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION

Members noted the Essex Playing Field Association held their AGM and Best Kept Playing Field Award 2020 via Zoom on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020. Cllr E Dray attended on behalf of the Town Council. The Town Council were awarded the following

- Winner – Gold - Class 1 – Playing Fields Serving Communities of 2,500 or more
- Winner – Gold - Class 3 – Children’s Playgrounds
- Silver - Class 6 – Best Kept Football Pitch

RECOMMENDED that the above information be noted.

16 TREE SURVEY

Members noted that the tree survey was conducted in March 2020. A copy of the report is attached. RDC have quoted £900 to carry out the work as required.

RECOMMENDED to accept the quote of £5,000 from RDC to carry out the work as required.

17 COMMITTEE BUDGET

Members consider the Committee budget to the year end and agreed the proposed budget for the next financial year.

RECOMMENDED that the above information be noted.

Meeting closed at 8.10pm

Chairman

Signature ..... Date .....