

ARTHUR NICHOLSON RECREATION GROUND TRUST

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE BIDBOROUGH VILLAGE HALL ON 31 JULY 2023 STARTING AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs Summers (Chairman), and Councillors Mrs Collins, Eames, Marriott, Stevens, and Mrs Vidler

In Attendance – Neil Harris (Clerk)

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence was received from Councillor Hinds.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no disclosures.

3. Minutes

It was **Agreed** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 26 June 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

5. GDPR Policy

It was unanimously **Agreed** that the GDPR Policy as circulated at the meeting and attached to these minutes be approved.

6. Trust Deed Amendment to include Bowls Club on Committee of Management

The Chairman reported that it had been agreed at the last meeting that the Trust Deed be amended to allow the Bowls Club to join the Committee of Management with a similar increase in the number of Trust representatives by one thereby maintaining the balance of membership as set out in the Trust Deed. This had now been agreed by the Charity Commission.

The Chairman then indicated to the Trust that they had received, from an interested Member of the Public, a copy of a number of documents suggesting changes that could be made to the draft Terms of Reference for the Committee of Management. It was unanimously **Agreed**

that these documents be circulated for consideration at the first meeting of the Committee of Management.

The Trust also wanted to push on with the first meeting of the Committee of Management and it was unanimously **Agreed** that it be proposed that the first meeting be 18 September and that this date be suggested to the Clubs and their representatives but that the date could be changed if this date was not acceptable to the Clubs with the intention that the meeting be held as early as possible.

7. Review of Leases Update

It was reported that meetings were being held with the BSA.

8. Bidborough School PTA Request to use the Recreation Ground for a Firework Display on 3 November 2023

The Clerk to the Trust reported that he had written to the Bidborough School PTA informing them of the decision of the Trust at the last meeting regarding their request for use of the Recreation Ground on 3 November. The Clerk indicated that he had not received a response.

It was unanimously **Agreed** that the Clerk to the Trust chase the Bidborough School PTA again for a response and that as the next meeting was not until the end of September that if a decision on whether the event could go ahead as determined by the responses to the questions asked by the Trust is required before that date that the Chairman of the Trust be given delegated authority to make the decision on the application as long as she feels that she has the necessary information to make that decision without reporting back to the Trust.

9. Lengthsman Contract

The Clerk to the Trust reported the prices from the quote received from MDH Horticultural Contractors and indicated the annual cost of the work would be approximately £4750 which was less than the budget set aside for this work. The cost for this year of £2400 was also able to be funded from within the budget.

It was unanimously **Agreed** that, subject to the Council proceeding with MDH Horticultural Contractors, that the contract for Lengthsman work as set out in the schedule submitted to the Trust be awarded to MDH Horticultural Contractors at the prices set out below for the period from 17 August 2023 to the end of the calendar year : -

Every 2 Weeks

1. Play area - £40.00

Monthly

2. Recreation ground - £140.00
3. Bank behind Play area - £140.00 (though this work could be part of the Council contract.)

General

4. Pond Area Strim and Hedge - £280.00

5. Recreation Ground around gate - £140.00
6. Recreation Ground Beech Hedge - £140.00.

10. Play Park Tender

The Trust considered the revised Play Park tender document that had been submitted to them and it was unanimously **Agreed to Recommend to the Bidborough Parish Council** that

(1) the Play Park tender document be approved, and that Councillor Vidler be given delegated authority to make minor amendments to the document arising from the latest consultation

(2) the approved Play Park tender document be used for the tender process and that process commence in accord with the timetable set out within that document

The Chairman of the Trust and Councillor Vidler indicated that they had visited Langton Green Recreation Ground where they had similar issues of a play area sharing a recreation ground with a Cricket Club and had noted that they had used weldmesh panelling for their fence and felt that could be a good option for use with this play area. The cost of this panelling could be in the region of £5.5k to £10k just for materials. It was suggested that all Members of the Trust should take the opportunity to visit Langton Green. It was unanimously **Agreed to Recommend to the Bidborough Parish Council** that it should consider the use of weldmesh panelling for the new fencing of the Play Area and that ROSPA be asked to inspect the current fencing and to advise on the best and most appropriate fencing to be used to protect the new Play Area.

15. Duration of Meeting

7.00pm to 7.18pm