

NEWENT RECREATION GROUND TRUST

(Charity Number 301585)

Minutes of the Newent Recreation Ground Trust virtual meeting on Thursday 6th August 2020 at 6.30pm

Present: Cllrs Mrs C Howley, Mrs G Moseley, Mrs S Marcovecchio, R Beard, Mrs M Duffield, A Ralph, Mrs J Gooch, Mrs K Draper, Ms C Birkan

Also present – The Trust Secretary

1. To elect a Chairman for the meeting

Resolved: Cllr Mrs Howley was appointed as Chairman. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duffield, Seconded Cllr Mrs Marcovecchio, All in favour.

2. To accept apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs Wadley and Heathfield

3. Declarations of Interest on items on the agenda

Cllr Mrs Gooch declared a pecuniary and therefore prejudicial interest in items 5 regarding Newent Rugby Club, due to a business relationship with the Club.

After a query raised by another Cllr, Cllrs Mrs Marcovecchio and Mrs Howley agreed not to vote on item 5, however, clarification would be sought regarding if an interest should be declared for future rugby club items.

4. To approve Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd July 2020

Resolved: The Minutes of the Recreation Ground Trust meeting held 2nd July 2020 were approved. **Record of Voting:** Proposed Cllr Mrs Duffield, Seconded Cllr Beard, 7 in favour, 2 abstentions.

5. Removal of rugby club's safety barriers

(Cllr Mrs Gooch left the meeting at this juncture)

Following the meeting on 2nd July, a letter was sent to the Rugby Club request the barriers be removed by 17th July. The Rugby Club responded stating that the contractor who put the barriers up last year was unable to take them down until October, due to a backlog of work. They could possibly get another contractor to undertake the works but it would cost £400 and the new season should be starting in September and the barriers would need to be reinstalled.

A lengthy discussion took place and comments included; Danter's are unable to attend with the barriers on site, the restrictions have been eased to 1 m distance and training is taking place, machinery would be required to remove the barriers, residents are being disadvantaged.

Resolved: The Rugby Club will be asked to fulfil their contractual obligation to remove the barriers by 16th August. Record of Voting: Proposed Cllr Ms Birkan, Seconded Cllr Beard, 6 in favour, 2 abstentions.

(Cllrs Mrs Gooch re-joined the meeting at this juncture)

6. Any other urgent business

An update was given regarding consents required from the Fields in Trust. After some conflicting information regarding events was received. The Fields in Trust were contacted to clarify the process.

The Fields in Trust responded today to confirm they had recently reviewed and changed the policy in respect of events requiring consent. They stated that in an effort to make raising funds and having community events easier for landowners of protected green spaces, the policy has been changed to allow temporary events to take place without the need to request consent from the Fields in Trust. The policy is still yet to be published by the Fields in Trust.

The Recreation Ground Trust had made an application for a fair to be held on the site in March, however, the invoice was not received and paid until June. As the Fields in Trust had already started the review at that time, the payment will be refunded.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.10 pm.