

Minutes of a meeting of the **SPORT AND RECREATION** Committee held at the Council Offices, Pine Grove, Crowborough on Tuesday 24th January 2023 at 7.30pm

Present	Councillors	Michael Cooke	
		Martyn Everitt	
		Martyn Garrett	
		Richard Jury	Vice Chairperson
		Kay Moss	Chairperson
		David Neeves	
		Ron Reed	
		Matthew Street*	
Also present		Caroline Miles	Town Clerk
		Peter Cunnington	Operations Manager
		Tracie White	Minute Taking Administrator
		9 Members of public	
		Cllr Alison Arthur	
		Cllr Gareth Owen-Williams	

*Denotes non attendance

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A representative from Artytime addressed the committee and asked for support to an application to extend the footprint of the Arty Time scrap store on Jarvis Brook Recreation ground. She stated that Arty Time is currently championing an initiative to extend Jarvis Brook skatepark and is in negotiations with Sussex Clubs for Young People regarding investment funding for the project. The CEO of the company has indicated that funding could be made available to include the extension of the scrap store for use as a youth club. Arty Time currently has over one hundred members including local schools, nurseries and crafting groups. Extending the footprint of the building would enable larger community projects to take place in addition to a youth club facility.

The Committee enquired about current lease provisions. Arty Time confirmed they have a lease for the current building with Wealden District Council (WDC) which commenced in 2018 and that an extension to this would be re-negotiated if the project is approved. Timescales for the project was queried and members were advised that the Youth Investment Fund envisage project completion in 2025. Members sought clarification regarding the size of the proposed extension as it would encroach on the land that the council lease from WDC. Members were advised that as yet no plans have been drawn up as Arty Time were reluctant to spend any funds on architects until they have the support from the Town Council for the extension.

Cllr Gareth Owen-Williams is not a member of the Sports and Recreation Committee; therefore, he addressed the committee as a member of public.

He queried why the town council had ceased negotiations with WDC with regard to a new lease on Jarvis Brook Recreation Ground. The Clerk advised that negotiations with WDC had commenced and in the first instance WDC were asked if it would gift Jarvis Brook Recreation Ground to Crowborough Town Council. WDC had declined. The Clerk then received an email from Artytime stating that as part of the Jarvis Brook project it would like to extend the scrap store. No plans were submitted as to the size of the extension. Further negotiations on the lease were then stopped as the area of land on Jarvis Brook that the Council would be leasing would be unknown. Until Artytime are able to provide plans outlining the proposed extension, the town council will be unable to proceed.

The chairperson moved to hear Items 5 and 7 first due to members of the public present with an interest.

APOLOGIES

Cllr Matthew Street

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr David Neeves declared an interest in Item 5.1 and 5.2 as a member of Crowborough Cricket Club.

Cllr Kay Moss declared an interest in Item 9 as she lives close to Goldsmiths.

MINUTES

Minutes of the Sport and Recreation Committee meeting held on the 15th November 2022

A member noted that the Minutes stated one tree in relation to the memorial trees as part of the Queens Green Canopy initiative. It was agreed that the wording should have read trees.

10008 RESOLVED that the minutes of the Sport and Recreation Committee meeting held on 15th November 2022 as confirmed be ratified by the Chairperson with the amendment as noted.

WOLFE RECREATION GROUND

To note the update on Crowborough Cricket Club

Cllr David Neeves left the meeting at 19:40hrs as he is a member of Crowborough Cricket Club.

Crowborough Cricket Club have advised that they are not interested in having a pitch at Lime Kiln. A new set of proposals from the club has been received by the Council. Wolfe Pavilion Working Group will be to convening a meeting to discuss the new proposals.

To note the report from the Wolfe Pavilion Working Group and agree any action

The report was noted.

- 10009 RESOLVED** that the pavilion is demolished and the site secured as soon as possible.
- 10010 RESOLVED** to recommend to Full Council that £400,000.00 CiL funds is released and earmarked for Wolfe Pavilion and that the balance will be funded from future CiL funds or General Reserves.
- 10011 RESOLVED** that a suitably qualified architect is engaged to assist with the planning process and to draw up full plans for the design of the new Pavilion.

Cllr David Neeves returned to the meeting at 19:45hrs.

To note the Pavilion Steel Hoarding report and agree any action

The report was noted. It was agreed that the hoarding is required to ensure that the site is safe during demolition and construction. The hoarding can be reused for other projects.

- 10012 RESOLVED** to purchase hoarding from First Fence at a cost of £4,460.37 from account 4303/311.

To note the Design Brief and agree any action

The report was noted. Members requested the following amendments to the document:

A clerical error was noted in the design wishes section. It should state 'ground source heat pumps.' It was also requested that solar/thermal for hot water is added as well as PV battery storage. The solar element should also be tied in with the Wolfe Yard building to make the council building less reliant on non-green energy.

The build costs budget should be amended to £800,000,00 to take into account the higher demolition costs due to the removal of asbestos in the current building.

The time constraints section to be amended to state construction to commence immediately following contractor selection to negate price increases.

The 'client looking to achieve' section to be amended to state: two changing rooms each with showers for up to 15 people. Additionally, the community café should state the maximum occupancy for seating.

To note the Bowls Club report and agree any action

The report was noted. Members discussed costings for the terrace and the handrails. It was agreed that the town council support the Bowls Club by funding the terrace on the understanding that the club put regular funds aside annually to upkeep the premises as per the terms of the lease. The Bowls Club to fund the hand rail project.

- 10013 RESOLVED** to accept the officer's recommendation and use A1 Building Ltd, Option 2 for completion of the terrace works at a cost of £17,500.00 from cost centre 4308/301.

To note the donated bench report and agree any action

Members noted the theft of the bench is very disappointing so soon after its' repair as a result of vandalism. It was further noted that as this particular bench had been targeted several times that the perpetrator is likely unhappy with the lions club or with the position of the bench on the recreation ground. The bench will not be replaced.

Cllr Kay Moss declared an interest as a WDC Councillor.

Cllr Ron Reed declared an interest as a WDC Councillor.

JARVIS BROOK RECREATION GROUND

To note the report from WDC on the 'Our Parks' project and agree further action.

The report was noted. Members welcomed the initiative as it would appeal to all ages. It was agreed that it would be a good use of Jarvis Brook Recreation Ground as Wolfe Recreation Ground is used for cricket and football on a regular basis.

10014 RESOLVED to allow Wealden District Council to use Jarvis Brook Recreation Ground free of charge for 30 weeks of the 'Our Parks' programme.

2 members of public left the chamber at 20:02

To note the request from Artytime and agree any action

The request from Arty Time is unclear as there are no formal plans to inform the town council of the size of the proposed extension. Furthermore, any such extension will affect the terms of the current leases for both the town council and arty time due to encroachment.

It was agreed that a meeting take place between the Town Clerk, WDC and Artytime to establish what is required of each party to move the initiative forward.

9 members of public left the chamber at 20:05 hrs.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

To note the Finance report and agree any action

Members noted the Income and Expenditure report. Members enquired why payment for work carried out on 'tree works' is still outstanding. It was reported that the Council has still not received an invoice for the work despite chasing. Clarification was sought as to whether the committed monies for the 'noise assessment' on the pump track was used. It was agreed that any funds left from the pump track project should be moved back into the correct s106 account.

It was noted that there is no income showing from the Petanque Club. Clarification will be sought as to why.

It was agreed that the £800.00 Earmarked Reserves for the Petanque Club and height barrier be returned to general reserves as remedial works to the height barrier have been completed.

10015 RESOLVED to return £800.00 from 9069/902 to General Reserves.

The Earmarked Reserves were noted. Members agreed to move monies from Health and Safety back to General Reserves.

10016 RESOLVED to move £908.00 from Health and Safety 902/9065 to General Reserves.

CHARGING REVIEW

To note the officer's report and agree further action

The report was noted.

10017 RESOLVED to raise the fees for Lime Kiln pitch 1 to £570.00 from 2023 – 2026.

BOATING LAKE

The report was noted. The Operations Manager provided a verbal update of the issue and advised members that a solution is being worked on which may involved installing a sump pump to avoid being reliant on manual checks.

Members suggested workable solutions including a waterproof seal on the hatch lid and getting the outside brickwork sealed to prevent water ingress.

GOLDSMITHS

To note the Bike Track report and agree any action

The report was noted. Members were pleased to note that work had commenced. Thanks was given to all involved in bringing the project to fruition. It is anticipated that the track will open in March with an opening ceremony to mark the event.

To note the toilet report and agree any action

The report was noted.

To note the drainage ditch report and agree any action

The report was noted, Quotations have been sought for the works and it is anticipated the cost for the work will be in the region of £3-5,000. A report will be submitted for the next committee meeting.

**URGENT MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR NOTING AND/OR
INCLUSION ON A FUTURE AGENDA**

It was noted that barriers have been erected around the Swish box on Chapel Green suggesting that work may take place imminently to move the box. Works will be monitored and Swish will be contacted should they not be completed in a timely manner.

The meeting closed at 20:27 hrs.