

# Lanchester Parish Council

## Minutes of the Recreation Committee held in the Conference Room in Park House, Lanchester on Wednesday 4 September 2013 at 7.15pm

**Present** Mr K Harrison (Chair)

Mr S Walker, Mrs M Gray, Mrs A Cook,  
Mr C Burton, Mr Philip Richardson, Mrs J Richardson  
Mr B Glass, Mr Peter Richardson

**Apologies** Apologies for absence were received as follows:

Mr M Wardle - other commitments

Mr B Gray - other commitments

The above apologies were received and accepted

### **187/13 Election of Chair**

**Resolved** - that Mr K Harrison be elected as Chairperson for the ensuing year.

### **188/13 Election of Vice Chair**

**Resolved** - that Mr S Walker be elected as Vice Chairperson for the ensuing year.

### **189/13 Inspection of Park House Play Area**

Councillors undertook an inspection of Park House Play Area.

### **190/13 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest

### **191/13 Public Participation**

The public participation policy was distributed for the public present.

### **192/13 Park House Play Area**

Members considered the inspection visit and were pleased with how the site had matured and the play equipment had been maintained.

**Recommended that the following minor works are undertaken:**

- (i) the shrub / planting area within the fenced play area is tidied up and the small self seeded horse chestnut is removed
- (ii) the roof of the climbing frame is painted
- (iii) prune back the trees in the nature area that are overhanging the seating
- (iv) minor pruning of the trees / shrubs backing onto the Kings Head car park
- (v) fill in any holes in the grassed kick about area
- (vi) mend the safety surfacing near the large swings

Members discussed the condition of the play safety surfacing.  
**Recommended** - that prices are sought to replace the safety surfacing

**193/13 Bank Stabilisation – Smallhope Burn at Kitswell Park**

Members were informed that Durham County Council are currently undertaking some works on Smallhope Burn at Kitswell Park to stabilise the bank side.

The works which are due to commence this week will take 4 – 6 weeks to complete. Following the works the fencing and paths will be re-instated. The County Council have confirmed that the works will not affect sports play and immediate neighbouring properties and sports clubs have been informed.

**194/13 Play Inspection Report – Kitswell Park**

Members considered the Annual inspection report for Kitswell Park.

The report did not identify any major maintenance faults but did identify some remedial work which should be undertaken when practicable.

Members were informed that some of the recommendations had already been carried out by our Handyperson.

Members were also informed that a meeting has been arranged with Proludic, the play company who installed the play equipment to discuss the outstanding issues.

**Recommended that:**

- (i) prices and advice for the outstanding work are obtained from Proludic
- (ii) the work is undertaken

**195/13**

**Play Inspection Reports – Manor Grange, Hollinside, Hurbuck Cottages and Park House**

Members were informed that the annual play inspections for Manor Grange, Hollinside and Hurbuck Cottages Play Areas had been received from Durham County Council and no risks or outstanding maintenance had been identified.

The report for Park House Play Area was still outstanding and had been requested from the County Council.

**Recommended that:**

- (i)** the play inspection reports for Manor Grange, Hollinside and Hurbuck Cottages be received
- (ii)** the play inspection report for Park House Play Area be secured

**196/13**

**Hurbuck Cottages – request for a seat**

Members were informed that a request had been received for a seat at Hurbuck Cottages recreation area.

A visit had taken place at Hurbuck Cottages to discuss the request and a number of residents had attended. The residents present agreed that the location for the seat should it be approved by Council should be within the small play area.

The lack of fencing around the perimeter of the site near to the road was identified by residents as an area of concern.

**Recommended that:**

- (i)** a bench seat be installed at Hurbuck Play Area
- (ii)** a letter is sent to residents to inform them of the decision
- (iii)** the fencing be considered at a future meeting

**197/13**

**Kitswell Park under 5's play area**

Members were informed that a resident had requested that one of the swing seats in the under 5's play area be replaced with a baby / toddler seat.

A meeting with a play company to discuss and request prices was due to take place on 11 September.

**Recommended that:**

- (i)** prices be sought for a baby / toddler seat
- (ii)** the seat be purchased and installed

Business concluded at 8.15pm