

North Petherton Playing Fields Charitable Trust

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Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Trust held on Monday 26th June 2023 at 7.15pm in the Small Hall, Fore Street, North Petherton TA6 6QA

Present

Town Councillors: L Hyde, R Ives, L Parchment, P Reddington, L Spelman-Ives, P Spencer, and J Taylor

Representatives of the North Petherton Football Club and Ladies Rounders Team
Somerset Council, Cllr Revans

PF15/2023 Election of Chair

The Mayor presided over the election of a Chair for the meeting.

RESOLVED that Cllr Parchment be elected as Chair for the meeting.

Councillor Parchment took the Chair.

PF16/2023 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bradford and Dennis-Smith

PF17/2023 Declarations of Interests

No Declarations of Interest were made.

PF18/2023 Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Trust meeting held on 20 March 2023 be confirmed as a correct record subject to the spelling of Cllr Spelman-Ives' name being corrected in PF7/2023.

PF19/2023 Annual Report

Cllr Hyde, as the outgoing chair of the Management Committee, reported that during the past year things have been gently ticking over with routine maintenance and that the management committee has had some membership changes.

The footpath in Parker's Field has been discussed by the Management Committee and at Trust meetings and there have been meetings with the football club and members of the public.

There have been problems with the Titan structure at the Memorial Park; the equipment supplier has sent an engineer to look at the equipment but no further information has been forthcoming.

For some considerable length of time, it has been the Management Committee's wish to have a project, involving local young people, to paint / decorate the freestanding wall in the Memorial Park. Contact is being made with possible project leaders to obtain a general idea of costings. One of the aims of the project will be the reduction in anti social behaviour.

Cllr Hyde concluded her report by thanking everyone who supports the playing fields in so many different ways from using and enjoying the space to litter-picking or serving n the Management Committee.

RESOLVED that the Trust's thanks to Councillor Hyde is formally recorded for her work regarding the playing fields and in particular her sensitive handling of the various conflicts of interest between users.

PF20/223 Community Time

Speaker 1 – Representative of football club -

The Football Club has been working with the Trust to resolve various issues. It is good to seeing the recreation areas and their facilities being used.

Speaker 2 Representative of the Ladies rounders Team

The team have 5 home matches per year played at Parker's Field. The team's needs are simple - a pitch with cut grass.

Councillor Revans

It is great to see the Memorial Park so much improved and the equipment so well used. Incidents of anti-social behaviour are much lower than they used to be and the more people use the spaces appropriately the less likelihood will be of anti-social behaviour.

PF21/2023 Finance

The Secretary gave a broad overview of the Trust's finances, explaining that the expenditure on maintenance would be recharged by the Council and amounted to approx. £12,000. Work was needed to balance the end of year accounts before they could be submitted for approval.

It had previously been agreed that donations would be sought for the avenue of cherry trees at the Memorial Park – this does not appear to have been actioned and needs to be re-activated.

PF22/2023 Constitution

Changes to the constitution to clarify the position of Chair of the Trust were considered.

RESOLVED that the constitution is amended to clarify that the Mayor

- (i) will be on the Management Committee
- (ii) will chair Trust meetings.

PF23/2023 Management Committee

To appoint members of the management committee

- a. Council Members** (the constitution states *“three members of the Council (“Councillors”), nominated by the Council, of whom the Council shall nominate one to be the Chairman of the Management Committee”*)

RESOLVED

- (i) that Councillors Dennis-Smith, Parchment and Reddington be the Councillor representatives on the Management Committee (Plus the Mayor as agreed at PF22/2023 above)
- (ii) That Councillor Parchment be the Chair of the Management Committee.

b. Community members

(The Constitution states *“Up to 5 members representing the community”*)

RESOLVED

- (i) To re-appoint the 3 members of the community - Mr G Hearn, Mrs J Witaker and Mrs D Woodland
- (ii) That the Chair of the Trust will write to Mr Farnell thanking him for his service on the Management Committee.

PF24/2023 Parker’s Field General Report

The following issues were raised and discussed:

- Quotations for repairs to the Pump track
- Footpath across Parker’s Field
- Car park surface at Parker’s Field
- Pride that the football club have in their facility.

PF25/2023 Memorial Park General Report

No matters were raised.

The meeting closed at 20:32hrs