

**HORDEN RECREATION GROUND**  
**Minutes of Meeting held 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2013**

**Present:** Councillor R Bagnall (Chairman)  
 Councillors W Hill, D Nicol, J Clark, D Langan, E Connor, G Phillips, L Williams, I Roberts, M Robinson, D Tait, M Clark and W Smith.

**Apologies:** J White, E Wood

**Staff:** Mr P Davison (Clerk)

**Also Present:**

**HRG 13/14/18**      **Apologies for Absence**  
 Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillors J White and E Wood.

**RESOLVED:** that the apologies submitted be APPROVED.

**HRG 13/14/19**      **Minutes of Meeting held 4<sup>th</sup> June 2013**  
**RESOLVED:** that the minutes be confirmed as a correct record subject to Councillor E Connor declaring a prejudicial interest in item HRG 13/14/16 being included to be signed by the Chairman.

**HRG 13/14/20**      **Matters Arising**  
 There were no matters arising that were not already covered on the agenda.

**HRG 13/14/21**      **Public Participation**  
 There were no members of the public present.

**HRG 13/14/22**      **Income and Expenditure Accounts 2012/13**  
 The Clerk advised that further information needed to be clarified regarding the income before these could be further considered.

**RESOLVED:** that the item be deferred to a later meeting

**HRG 13/14/23**      **Horden Colliery Heritage Centre**  
*Councillors W Hill and W Smith declared a prejudicial interest in the item on the grounds that they were part of the group and left the room at 6.13pm.*

Members considered the correspondence previously circulated. Members felt that a conversion of the lift from a service lift to a public lift would benefit the Heritage Centre and attract additional footfall into the building. The Clerk advised that they would contact Durham County Council to evaluate the lift and whether it could be converted for use for the public.

**RESOLVED:** that the Trustee work in partnership with the Heritage Centre in order to secure grant funding for the conversion to commence, should it prove necessary.

*Councillors W Hill and W Smith re-entered the room at 6.25pm.*

**HRG 13/14/24**      **Green Flag Award 2013/14**  
 Members considered the recommendations provided by the judges. It was noted with concern that some recommendations had not been acted on in previous feedback and members felt that the recommendations should be addressed before the next judging.

The Clerk advised that all of the recommendations would be evaluated and addressed where possible, but stated that staff workload issues may impact this work.

**RESOLVED:** that the Clerk address the recommendations in the report and provide an update on progress at a later meeting.

**HRG  
13/14/25**

**Exclusion of Press and Public.**

that in accordance with Section 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves information prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

**RESOLVED:** that the press and public be excluded for the following items.

**HRG  
13/14/26**

**HCWAFC Issues**

Members considered the correspondence previously circulated. The Clerk advised that the initial court hearing date had been set for 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 11am. A Member noted with concern that there had been a considerable delay in the issuing of proceedings since the end of June and queried why it had taken so long.

The Clerk advised that several corrections on the paperwork to be issued to the court were required had caused the delay.

The Clerk provided an update on actions taken with regard to letters received to individual Members on 1<sup>st</sup> September before the Trustees meeting.

The Clerk advised that as the Trustee had not been informed of the items contained within the letter by the correct process, it would be unlawful to consider the matter at the meeting.

The Clerk also stated they had consulted with the Trustees solicitor before issuing a refusal to allow HUFC to play, although once possession proceedings had been resolved, the use of the pitch could be re-examined.

**RESOLVED:** that the Clerks actions be ENDORSED.

**HRG  
13/14/27**

**Durham Constabulary**

Members considered the correspondence received from Durham Constabulary previously circulated. There was much discussion upon the accuracy of the report and whether the report would be used in any future litigation proceedings involving the council.

**RESOLVED:** that

- (i) The report submitted was not deemed accurate by the Trustee.
- (ii) The Clerk feedback to the report author the inaccuracies identified.
- (iii) The Clerk submit the report to Mortons solicitors and seek advice on admissibility in court proceedings.

**HRG  
13/14/28**

**Mortons Solicitors**

Members noted the correspondence previously circulated. The Clerk advised that the letter did not address all of the matters raised at the time with Mortons, but assured Members that they were discussed. The Clerk further added that the Trustee had not been invoiced for recent work in light of the Trustees concerns

**RESOLVED:** that the information be NOTED.