

**Minutes of a Meeting of Leisure & Cultural Committee**  
**Held in the King Edward VII Meeting Room, Ascot Racecourse, SL5 7JX**  
**On Tuesday 14 November 2023 commencing at 7.15pm**

Members present: Councillors Lydia Davison-West (Chairman), C Richardson (Vice-Chairman), B Hilton, C Revilla, D Sanders, A Sharpe and R Tavoletti.

In attendance: Mrs H Goodwin, Clerk to the Parish Council.

**8609 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllrs J Gripton, C Roberts and M Turton, and were accepted by the committee.

**8610 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The chairman asked to receive any Declarations of Interest in accordance with the adopted Code of Conduct. None were received.

**8611 MINUTES**

The minutes of the Leisure & Cultural Committee Meeting held on 26 September were approved as a correct record and signed as such. Highlighted were: a meeting has been arranged for tomorrow to discuss Public Rights of Way with representatives of RBWM; the Cycling & Walking Working Group met to present to borough councillors on the 20mph project and Cllr J Sharpe attended; the report will now go to the borough.

**8612 SITE UPDATE**

Councillors reported as follows:

- South Ascot – Cllr L Davison West – the playground remains in a poor state of repair.
- Cemetery – Cllr A Sharpe – nothing outstanding to report.
- Victory Field – Cllr C Roberts was not present; Cllr D Sanders reported that there was no change but the play equipment would benefit from cleaning.
- Cheapside – Cllr D Sanders – nothing outstanding to report.
- Blythewood – Cllr C Revilla – the snail and swing are still awaiting replacement.
- Allotments – Cllr B Hilton – the hedges have been cut back.

The Clerk updated the committee as follows:

- South Ascot – we are still awaiting a draft lease and cannot undertake any work until that has been received; some remedial work has been done to the football pitch which is in a poor condition.
- Victory Field – we are still in discussions with the company contracted to refit the disabled toilet, to firm up on details. The Train in the toddler play area has been removed as it was reported to be in a very poor state of repair.

**8613 2024/25 BUDGET**

- a. The fees currently charged were discussed and it was agreed that they would remain the same in 2024/25; resolved by a show of hands of 6 votes to 1.
- b. The project ideas proposed for 2024/25 were:
  - i. Formulation of a Green Space Strategy – at an expected cost of £12,000 – agreed unanimously by show of hands.

- ii. Parish Map & Signage – it was suggested the proposed cost was insufficient and agreed that the project should be included in the budget at £20,000; agreed unanimously by show of hands.
- iii. Christmas lights on Ascot High Street in 2024 – all three aspects of the Christmas lights (purchasing new lights and timers and funding the maintenance and installation) – at an expected total cost of £16,000 – were agreed unanimously by show of hands.
- iv. Children's Theatre – it was discussed whether this should be part of the Party in the Park or a separate date and agreed to keep it separate. This was agreed unanimously by show of hands at an expected cost of £4,000.
- v. Dr Bike Session - it was clarified that this is not intended to include the provision of materials, but to show how to repair and maintain bikes. This was then agreed by show of hands at 6 votes to 1, at an expected total cost of £600.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

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Cllr L Davison West, Chairman