

Minutes of a Meeting of Mid Sussex District Council Charity Trustees held on 27th February 2013 from 6.45 pm to 6.59 pm.

Present: Councillors:

Jonathan Ash-Edwards	Bruce Forbes	Gary Marsh*
Simon Banham	Richard Goddard	Peter Martin
Stephen Barnett	Susan Hatton	Edward Matthews
Andrew Barrett-Miles	Ginny Heard	Simon McMenemy
Richard Bates	Christopher Hersey	Pru Moore
Edward Belsey	Margaret Hersey	John O'Brien
Margaret Belsey	Catrin Ingham	Peter Reed
Liz Bennett	Anne Jones	Robert Salisbury
Katy Bourne	Denis Jones	Susan Seward
Heidi Brunsdon*	Graham Knight	Ian Simpson
Jack Callaghan*	Jim Knight	Christopher Snowling
Cherry Catharine	Jacqui Landriani	Dick Sweatman*
Phillip Coote	Andrew Lea	Mandy Thomas-Atkin
Mims Davies*	Mike Livesey	Colin Trumble
John de Mierre	Andrew MacNaughton	Neville Walker*
David Dorking	Bob Mainstone	Garry Wall
Kathleen Dumbovic	Natalie March	Norman Webster
Tim Farmer	Gordon Marples	Emily White

*Absent

22. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 19th December 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

24. RICHARD WORSLEY RECREATION GROUND CHARITABLE TRUST, CUCKFIELD, WEST SUSSEX CHARITY NUMBER 206789 PROPOSED LEASE DISPOSALS

Tom Clark, Solicitor to the Council introduced the report and asked the Trustees to consider a request from Cuckfield Lawn Tennis Club who wish to take a lease of the three tennis courts at the Park and a new lease of the land adjacent on which the Club's pavilion is situated, at a revised rent.

Councillor Salisbury, as ward Member, expressed concern about how the land would be used and pointed out that there had been no formal public consultation on the proposal. He added that the Charity Trustees had a duty to the public at large rather than a select group. He also questioned the proposed 28 year lease and reminded Members that the Charity Trustees already have a maintenance programme for the tennis courts and that no alternative had been proposed by the Club. He then proposed that the first recommendation to note the contents of the report and the Independent Surveyor's report should stand, and that the second recommendation be substituted by the following:

"It is not the wish of the Charity Trustees to continue with this proposal at this time because we do not believe it properly reflects the benefit and right of access to the public at large as required by the Charity Commissioners."

This was seconded by Councillor Anne Jones.

Responding to another Member's question, the Solicitor to the Council confirmed that if the proposal was supported the statutory process would be followed which would involve contact with the Charity Commission.

As there were no further questions, the Chairman took Members to the motion, which was agreed.

RESOLVED

That:

- (1) the contents of the report and the Independent Surveyor's report be noted; and
- (2) it is not the wish of the Charity Trustees to continue with the proposal at this time because they do not believe it properly reflects the benefit and right of access to the public at large as required by the Charity Commissioners.

Chairman.