

**PURSUANT TO NOTICE AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF ACKWORTH PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2009 COMMENCING AT 7.15 PM AT ACKWORTH PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNITY CENTRE, BELL LANE, ACKWORTH.**

**Present:** Cllr A Garbutt, in the Chair

Cllrs: S Balfour, R Barnsley, Mrs P Garbutt, Mrs S Hollyhead, D Johnson, W Storey, S Tonkinson

Mr K Twiss – Wakefield MDC Sports and Culture

Mr H E Bradford – member of the public

**Representing Ackworth Juniors** - Mr P L Wilkinson, Mr A Coupland, Mr N Bird, Mr C Bennett and Mr P Gibson

**Representing Ackworth Jaguars ARLFC** – Mr S Reeve and Mr K Sayles

**Ackworth Community Development Group** – Mr A Edwards and Mr S Reid

## **1. Apologies**

C 1.1 Apologies were accepted from Cllrs R Hirst and K Wilson for reasons recorded in the attendance book.

## **2. Declarations of Interest**

C2.1 There were no interest declared.

## **3. To suspend standing orders for a set time to allow Ackworth Community Development Group to address the Council.**

C3.1 The Chairman proposed to suspend standing orders for 30 minutes to allow representation to be made to the Council. All Councillors agreed.

## **4. A request was received from Ackworth Community Development Group to address the Council on the fees and charges set for the use of playing fields and changing rooms for the 2009/10 season.**

C4.1 The Chairman asked the Clerk to give an update on the current situation.

- Ackworth United had applied and paid for the full seasons use of the football pitch on Carr Bridge field. They had already played a match and were please with the way the system worked; they turn up, play the match and leave.
- Ackworth Juniors u 14's had applied and paid for the use of Brackenhill playing field for 6 training sessions and 1 friendly match on Carr Bridge field.
- Ackworth Juniors had applied for use of the fields for 6 teams – u 10's and u 16's at Carr Bridge field, u 11's and u 14's at Brackenhill, u 11's and u 12's at Low Ackworth.
- Ackworth Allstars – u 7's had booked 1 training session and season hire at Brackenhill.
- A Caretaker/cleaner/grounds man had been appointed.

C4.2 Mr Edwards was the spokesperson. Prior to the commencement of the meeting he distributed copies of the presentation he was about to make – copy is appendix 1 to the minutes.

C4.3 The Chairman asked anyone else present if they wished to speak. Several people did so.

Mr Twiss said that he was concerned that football matches were taking place without toilet facilities. Wakefield MDC charges one price for junior teams to use the pitch and toilet facilities. He also said that there is grant money available for teams to apply for. Mr Sayles representing Ackworth Jaguars said that they had been invited by Hemsworth Rugby Union and Featherstone ARFC to use their facilities but they did not wish to leave Ackworth. Representatives from Ackworth Juniors spoke about their financial difficulties – they had recently paid for a new strip, which cost £400, they have on going costs for use of training facilities in Hemsworth.

C4.4 The Chairman invited Cllr Balfour to give an explanation on the position of the Parish Council.

The Parish Council has the power to provide and maintain sports facilities. The condition of the changing rooms and the complaints received about them and the amount of litter, which is left following matches have all been a concern. Due to the economic climate the Parish Council set a 0% precept for this financial year. It was decided to look at employing a caretaker/cleaner/groundsman therefore charges were to be implemented. Groups were informed of this in April 2009. Nothing was heard from any of the groups regarding charges. We are sorry that it has got to this position.

The Parish Council does want to provide better services. In the longer term we are very hopeful of getting new changing facilities on Carr Bridge field.

## **5. Council to consider a resolution to be placed on the agenda for the Parish Council meeting to be held on 14 September 2009**

C5.1 The Chairman proposed that all junior teams play free of charge providing the organizers of the teams do not collect subs from the children. Cllr Barnsley seconded the proposal. Voting took place. All Councillors voted in favour of this proposal being put forward to the next Parish Council meeting.

The Chairman asked that three members of the Council put their names to a letter for a special resolution to be included so that the previous minute number 18.1 dated 11 May 2009 could be re-sinded. This would be included on the agenda for the Parish Council meeting to be held on 14 September 2009 to allow the proposal to be discussed.

The Chairman confirmed that the charges for the senior football and rugby team would remain the same.

The paper copy of the presentation by Mr Edwards would be discussed at the next Playing Fields and Changing Room Committee, which will be held on Monday 28 September 2009 at 3 pm.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.05 pm.

