

**Minutes of Ackworth Parish Council Playing Field and Changing Rooms Committee  
held on Monday 28 September 2009 at the Parish Council Community Centre  
commencing at 3 pm**

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

Cllrs R Barnsley and D Johnson

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He said that it had been a tense time regarding the introduction of fees for the sports teams, with items in the press, the extra ordinary meeting and Cllr Evans resignation from this committee. He had received comments from several Councillors who were not happy. It was unfortunate that Cllr Evans felt de barred from attending the Extra Ordinary Meeting following the Labour groups pre meeting. If this Extra Ordinary meeting had not been held then further discussions would have taken place at the Playing Fields and Changing Rooms Committee meeting.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Storey and Cllr Tonkinson for reasons recorded in the attendance book.

**2. Minutes of the meeting held on 27 July 2009**

2.1 Cllr Johnson proposed that the minutes were a true record. The Chairman duly signed them.

**3. Matters Arising**

3.1 Litterbin – now installed and subsequently broken off its post – reported to Wakefield MDC for repair

3.2 Water leak at Brackenhill – work still to be carried out

3.3 Low Ackworth fencing – has now been erected

3.4 The notices for Carr Bridge and Low Ackworth have been received and put up.

3.5 The electrical test and the installation of emergency lighting has been carried out. The company who carried out the work require a letter saying its acceptable not to install emergency lighting on the outside. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the company and to check regulations if they are required then it was agreed that they would be installed if they are not required then a letter can go to the electricians to this effect.

**4. To discuss the presentation document received at the Extra Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 2 September 2009 from Ackworth Community Development Group, Ackworth Junior Football Club and Ackworth Jaguars ARLFC**

4.1 The document was discussed page by page the following comments were made:

Page 3 – AJFC Outlay for Pitches last season – *no evidence was given as to how the figures were arrived at.*

Page 4 – Ackworth Parish Council Charges – item 4 - re frequency of grass cutting- *The frequency for cutting a park area would be less. There would be no requirements for re seeding, spiking and rolling of the sports pitches.* Item 5 re toilets – *The Parish Council have no control over toilet facilities at Brackenhill and Low Ackworth.*

Page 5 – Other facilities in the area – Hemsworth Sports Centre – *Were part of Wakefield MDC but is now the responsibility of Hemsworth College they agreed to keep prices low to ensure the local community can use the facilities on offer. They currently have 4 junior football teams from Hemsworth Terriers who each pay £170 and senior teams who pay £315 per team.*

Page 6 – Group Proposal to APC – *Noted – proposed use not appropriate for the fields. The possibility of providing storage space would be considered in the future.*

Page 7 – How we come to this figure – *Noted – the figures provided have no substance when we are given to understand that each child is charged £5.50 to train and play each week for at least 40 weeks each year.*

Page 8 – What we expect – *Extra work carried to provide the facilities for the teams. Some additional work has been carried out early this season.*

Page 9 – We would like to work with not against the council – *The Parish Council more that welcome working with all sports teams to raise money not only for their yearly commitments but to raise funds for facilities at Carr Bridge field.*

Page 10 – Short-term solution for sports in the community – *The Parish Council acknowledges the sports groups' intention to contribute towards the running costs of the facilities.*

## **5. To discuss a letter received from Ackworth Junior Football Club following the Extra Ordinary Parish Council Meeting.**

5.1 An e-mail had also been received today following the Council's letter to Ackworth Juniors and Ackworth Allstars re the free use of the facilities providing the clubs don't charge for training.

5.2 It was agreed that Low Ackworth Youth Centre and Brackenhill Community Centre would be asked to consider allowing the teams and their supporters to use their toilets on training and match days.

5.3 It was further agreed that a letter would be sent to Ackworth Juniors stating that: In respect of charging for training purposes, its believed the Council referred to its own facilities enabling as many children to engage in sport as possible, including the ones that may not attract a position within a team; also to spare the burden of families with 2 or 3 children finding it difficult to meet the cost of their children attending training sessions.

## **6. To receive an up date on the number of team's using/applying to use the facilities for the 2009/10 season**

6.1 The Clerk reported that the following teams were using the facilities:

### **Carr Bridge field & Changing Rooms – Football pitch:**

Ackworth United AFC – paid £385  
Ackworth Juniors – u 16's – not paid

### **Rugby pitch:**

Ackworth Juniors – u 10's – not paid  
Ackworth Jaguars ARLFC – form received 28 Sept – no payment  
Received.

**Low Ackworth** – Ackworth Juniors – u 12's – not paid  
Ackworth Juniors – u 11's – not paid

**Brackenhill** - Ackworth Juniors – u 11's – not paid  
Ackworth Juniors – u 14's – not paid  
Ackworth Allstars – u 7's – matches on Saturday mornings – agreed to pay

6.2 Ackworth Juniors u 14's have been paying on an adhoc basis. The coach Mr Hassall has currently paid a total of £220 for training sessions and one match. He states he doesn't charge his players to train - I have asked him to confirm this in writing.

6.3 The Clerk reported that she had put a deadline of Wednesday 1 pm for teams to notify the office of any matches or changes to matches to be played the following weekend – unless they have already provided us with a fixture list.

6.4 Ackworth Jaguars ARLFC application to play on Carr Bridge field – it was noted that this application had been received today with the fee payable box crossed through. It was agreed to send a letter to the Secretary, Mr G Roberts, Mr Ken McCluskey as alternative contact and the Secretary of the Pennine Rugby League. Informing them that until they indicate how the fees are to be paid the application cannot be accepted.

## **7. To Discuss the Fees received for use of the Changing Rooms and Playing Fields**

7.1 The Chairman proposed that a recommendation is put to the Parish Council that any fees collected for the use of the facilities will be ring fenced along with monies already put aside to provide improved facilities in the future. All Councillors agreed this.

## **8. To give an update on the proposed application for grant funding**

8.1 The Chairman proposed that a funding application be submitted for a bowling green on Carr Bridge playing field. All Councillors agreed this.

8.2 The Clerk gave a brief report on a meeting she had with three young men and one of their mums to discuss building a skate park in the village. She had spoken to Terry Cutler Youth Officer who had said that a skate park is very expensive in the region of £100K and by the time its built the youths concerned would most probably have out grown it. He said that there have been problems with other skate parks in the area some of which are disused. He suggested that he looks for funding to take the kids concerned out of the village to visit skate parks. He would also find out if there were any unused skate ramps in the district, which could be relocated to Ackworth.

They're being no further business the meeting closed at 4.45 pm.