

**MINUTES OF THE GROBY PARISH COUNCIL EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE ESTATES COMMITTEE
HELD ON 20TH FEBRUARY 2024 AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES COMMENCING AT 7 PM**

Members Present: Cllr L Emmerson (Chair) Cllr G Baker Cllr K Griffiths
Cllr C Lincoln Cllr L Trivett

Also, Present: Parish Clerk
Representatives from Groby Juniors Football Club - 2
Members of the Public - 2

EC/091/23-24 **To receive apologies for absence and to record absences**
Apologies were received from Cllr Beck, Cllr Clarke and Cllr York.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept these apologies.

EC/092/23-24 **To receive any disclosure of interests from members to any matter pertaining to the agenda**
There were none.

EC/093/23-24 **Public Participation**
There was none.

The Chair suspended Standing Orders to allow the representatives from the Groby Juniors Football Club and the members of the public to take part in the discussions

EC/094/23-24 **To review the Groby Junior Football Club Permit 2023-2024 and consider the 2024-2025 Permit**
A lengthy discussion ensued regarding Groby Junior Football Clubs use of the Parish-owned parks.

A representative from the Football Club explained to the Committee the current timetable of the training sessions and matches that took place on each park. The ground condition of the parks was discussed along with the necessary renovation work which needed to be carried out in April / May, as required under the Permit conditions.

A member of the public raised concerns that Stamford Park was saturated with football use and that this should be spread out over the other parks.

It was highlighted that Stamford Park had been designed to include drainage to enable it to be used for various sports. Quarry Park playing field was not in a good condition for extensive football use and there was only one usable pitch on Marina Park.

Greater flexibility within the Permit was discussed to allow the Football Club to change the pitches around to even out the wear to the ground and to reflect the frequency and requirements of the Football Club more accurately.

Parking issues were discussed, particularly in relation to Stamford Drive car park. The Football Club explained that they had already introduced measures to try and alleviate the parking issues and were directing all away teams to Sycamore Drive and Marina Park car park whilst also staggering the match kick-off times. Concern was raised that this was not reflected on their website. A car parking monitor was suggested however the Football Club did not feel this was a workable solution and placed too much burden on the Club.

The Chair re-instated Standing Orders

EC/095/23-24 To agree any recommendations to be made to Full Council

It was **AGREED** that changes to the Groby Junior Football Club Permit were required in order to optimise the pitches on the parks to give the Football Club greater flexibility.

Changes to the Groby Junior Football Club Permit conditions were discussed and it was **AGREED to RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** the following amendments to the Conditions of Use detailed in the Permit:

- (i) Clause 4 - REMOVE
- (ii) Clause 9 - Under Section 'Review' - REMOVE second sentence
- (iii) Clause 10 - REMOVE words 'shall ensure' and replace with 'shall endeavour to see that there is'
- (iv) Clause 11 – REMOVE
- (v) Clause 12 – REMOVE all except the first sentence. Cllr Baker abstained.
- (vi) Clause 13 – REMOVE wording 'and for the marking out of the pitch as required'.

The Permit Charge was discussed however an influencing factor was the weekly, rather than fortnightly, grass cutting of Quarry Park which was currently part of the Grass Contractors 3-year contract specification and had been included at the request of the Football Club. Further to the Football Club agreeing that this additional grass cut was not necessary.

it was **AGREED** to contact the contractor to see if they would be willing to accept a contract variation.

It was **AGREED** for the Football Club to provide a more detailed schedule of the number of pitches and their requirements regarding the frequency / days of use / start – end times. Further discussion was deferred to the March Full Council meeting.

EC/096/23-24 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 22nd February 2024 at 2pm

The meeting closed at 8.47 pm

Signed:
Chairman

Date: