

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SPORTS FIELD COMMITTEE
OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE PAVILION,
LUTON ROAD SPORTS FIELD
ON 28th APRIL 2025 COMMENCING AT 7.37pm**

Present: Councillors J Selley (Chair), W Rudd, A Tebb

In attendance: S Cowie (Assistant Clerk), Councillors G Gardner & K Qureshi & 1 representative of Barton Rovers Youth FC

Minutes: S Cowie

24/544 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – were received from Councillors J Paxton, A Vale and J Mikkelsen.

24/545 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Members were reminded of the procedures, there were no declarations of interest made.

24/546 MATTERS ARISING – none.

24/547 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPORTS FIELD COMMITTEE HELD ON 27th JANUARY 2025

There were no queries. Councillor Selley **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of the committee meeting held on 27th January 2025, **SECONDED** by Councillor Tebb and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. The minutes were approved.

24/548 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE THE COST FOR THE ANNUAL TEST OF THE LIGHTNING PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Councillor Selley **PROPOSED** approval of the cost of £160.00 + VAT for Lightning Protection Services to carry out the annual test. Councillor Rudd **SECONDED** the proposal, and it was **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

24/549 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE THE COST FOR THE ANNUAL BOILER SERVICE

The quotation had not been received and will be discussed once available.

24/550 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE THE COST TO REPLACE BROKEN SECTION OF SPEED HUMP ON THE ACCESS ROAD

The quotation was not available at the time of the meeting.

24/551 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE RESEEDING PROGRAMME AND AGREE COSTS

The final matches of the season will be played week ending 18th May and the reseeding programme will begin week commencing 19th May. The availability of the machinery is unknown as the hire company have relocated out of the area. Should the equipment not be available, full seeding will not be possible. Barton Rovers FC will chase this up and once hire and materials costs are known the order will be placed.

Members consider the request to take soil samples of the pitches. Barton Rovers FC have offered use of their equipment and once the sample has been analysed the findings will be used to secure funding.

Councillor Tebb **PROPOSED** the approval of the cost of £25.00 + postage + VAT to submit soil samples. Councillor Selley **SECONDED** the proposal, and it was **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

24/552 TO REVIEW THE PITCH REQUIREMENT FOR THE 2025/26 SEASON AND AGREE ACTIONS AND AGREE ANY COSTS

The representative from Barton Rovers Youth FC advised that changes to the age group and pitch sizes are being proposed for the 2026/27 season. The full details are not yet available and will be shared with the Assistant Clerk.

The representative asked for flexibility with the split kick off times on Saturday/Sundays which is currently 4 matches early and 4 matches with a late kick off. Everyone agreed with the proposal, which will be reviewed ongoing.

The predicted youth teams for next season were reviewed. For the 2025/26 season there will be an increase in demand for adult pitches particularly on Saturday mornings.

Members reviewed the current pitch layout and the proposal to swap a junior and adult pitch. Following discussion, and consultation with the Barton Rovers Youth FC representative, Councillor Selley **PROPOSED** the approval of change in pitches and the cost of £320 + VAT to purchase new goal sockets as necessary. Councillor Rudd **SECONDED** the proposal, and it was **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

Councillor Qureshi arrived at 8.04pm

24/553 TO CONSIDER THE 3G PROJECT AND AGREE THE NEXT STEP

Following on from the 3G meeting with MP Blake Stephenson and the partners, Taylor Wimpey have yet to submit their planning application for Reserved Matters. Members agreed that no further action can take place until the next stage of the planning permission has been granted. Discussions regarding release of the S106 money from Central Bedfordshire Council will be pursued at the appropriate time. In the meantime, the committee are exploring the possibility of installing secure fencing to the site due to the ongoing issues of dog fouling on the pitches.

24/554 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE OR FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA – for information only

A request has been received to hire youth pitches on Sunday mornings for a new football club. More information on the proposal has been requested so that the committee can consider the request fully.

Barton-le-Clay Bowls Club requested permission to display a banner at the entrance to the Luton Road site, as previous years. Councillor Selley **PROPOSED** the approval of the request, **SECONDED** by Councillor Tebb and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

It was noted that the Ramsey Manor Football Tournament is being held at Barton Rovers FC on Saturday 17th May and Barton Rovers Youth FC are holding their presentation in the evening.

There was no further business, and the meeting closed at 8.20pm