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The Minutes of the RECREATION COMMITTEE
held on
MONDAY 24th August 2026 at 7.30pm
at the Willingdon Community Hub Library, Coppice Avenue, Willingdon.

Present: Cllrs Ryan Weedon (RW) (Chair), Ben Clennell (BC), Ian Nisbet (IN), Christine Payne MBE (CP), Daniel Shing (DS)

In Attendance: Suzy Standen-Payne – Parish Clerk (SSP), 2 x members of the public from Willingdon Cricket Club.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Action</u> <u>By</u>
<u>08.01</u>	Apologies, Councillors not present and notification of substitutes. Apologies were received from John Pritchett BEM These were NOTED and ACCEPTED . Ruth Sheppard did not attend	
<u>08.02</u>	To accept the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18th May 2026 RESOLVED: To accept the minutes from the meeting held on Monday 18 th May 2026 as a true and accurate record, and these were signed Cllr Ryan Weedon (Chair).	
<u>08.03</u>	Declaration of interests: To receive notice of declarations of personal and prejudicial interests in respect of items on this agenda. Cllr Ryan Weedon declared a non-pecuniary interest as a member of both the Willingdon and Jevington Cricket Clubs. Cllr Ben Clennell declared an interest in Jevington Cricket Club (as an occasional player). Cllr Daniel Shing declared an interest as a Wealden District Councillor and abstained from commenting. All members declared an interest as trustees of Huggett's Lane Recreation Ground.	

<u>08.04</u>	Public question time – to deal with any questions from members of the public relating to items on this agenda. Two members of the public from Willingdon Cricket Club attended to speak on agenda item 08.05 and 08.07. The Chair Cllr Ryan Weedon and Members AGREED to bring item 08.07 forward for discussion after item 08.05 to allow the public to speak on both agenda items 08.05 and 08.07.	
<u>08.05</u>	Cricket and Football Clubs. Willingdon Cricket Club: Cllr Weedon raised concerns regarding the condition of the pavilion after football use. It was agreed to follow this up with the football club and remind hirers of their cleaning responsibilities under the licence terms. Jevington Cricket Club: Members noted that few games had been played this year and that the grass cuts paid for by the Council had not yet been used but will be used next year. Willingdon Football Club: Members noted that new licences had been issued to football clubs using Huggett's Lane. ACTION: Suzy to follow up with the football club and remind hirers of cleaning responsibilities.	SSP
<u>08.06</u>	Update on Meadowburne Sports Facilities and Items for Consideration. Members noted the update, including ongoing handover delays, outstanding service connections, interim use of Huggett's Lane by football clubs, and access/gate arrangements. It was noted that the Council's solicitor had written regarding the delays and that a response was awaited. It was agreed that a formal written request be made to the developer regarding the gates and height restriction barrier. Members considered the formal name of the new facility and agreed that a road-based name would be in line with other recreation grounds owned by the Council. RESOLVED: Members AGREED to the new facility be formally named Larter Lane Sports and Recreation Ground. Members considered the proposed charges for football clubs, including licence arrangements, storage, pitch maintenance and cleaning responsibilities. It was agreed that users must leave the facility clean, with no muddy boots in the community areas, and that clear signage be provided. Members NOTED that, once licences are issued for use of Larter Lane Sports and Recreation Ground, the existing licences for Huggett's Lane would no longer apply to those clubs. RESOLVED: Members agreed that Eastbourne United Juniors and Youth teams be charged £35 per session. RESOLVED: Members agreed that a £30 cleaning deposit be taken at the first booking or when issuing a licence, to be retained if additional cleaning is required.	

	RESOLVED: Members agreed to defer consideration of senior football club charges until after discussions with Willingdon Athletic Football Club. Members received an update on the new website booking and payment system. RESOLVED: Members agreed to delegate authority to the Parish Office to apply discounts, block bookings and other practical booking arrangements. Members considered additional parking at Larter Lane Sports and Recreation Ground and it was AGREED that no decision be made at this stage, pending checks on planning, layout, a contractor site visit, further quotations and EV charging options. ACTION: Suzy to check the planning position, seek further details/quotes, and explore EV charging options. ACTION: Suzy to make a formal written request to the developer regarding the gates and height restriction barrier.	SSP SSP
<u>08.07</u>	Huggett's Lane Recreation Ground. The Chair, Cllr Ryan Weedon, brought this item forward after item 08.05 to allow representatives of Willingdon Cricket Club to speak. Members noted the report and received an update on the bench and hedge management near the cricket area. Two representatives from Willingdon Cricket Club addressed Members regarding replacement cricket nets, water storage and repairs to the sight screens. Members discussed the proposals and agreed that the Club should submit a grant application, including confirmed costs and details of any club contribution or work carried out by the Club. RESOLVED: Members agreed to support the grant application for replacement cricket nets under Option 2, at a cost of £690 excluding VAT. An additional £360 excluding VAT would apply for PVC sleeves to be sewn into the top and bottom of the netting. ACTIONS: • Suzy to send the grant application form to Willingdon Cricket Club. • Willingdon Cricket Club to research the water storage proposal and provide costs/details for consideration. • Willingdon Cricket Club to provide costs/details for sight screen repairs, including any work carried out by the club that they can offer. • Cllr Ryan Weedon to email details of ECB grants to Willingdon Cricket Club	SSP RW
<u>08.08</u>	Tott Yew Recreation Ground. Members NOTED the update, including the urgent swing repair costs, and that repair/replacement options were being sought for the basketball equipment. Members considered the report on play park inspections and maintenance.	

	RESOLVED: Members AGREED to proceed with the quote from a RoSPA-trained contractor, to carry out weekly inspections and maintenance.	SSP
<u>08.09</u>	Jevington Recreation Ground. Cllr Ryan Weedon declared an interest in Jevington Cricket Club. Cllr Daniel Shing abstained from commenting. Members noted that Jevington Recreation Ground may be eligible for Wealden District Council's Sports Infrastructure Fund as part of Wealden's Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy (PPOSS). Members agreed that Jevington Cricket Club should lead on any proposal, with the Council providing reasonable support as landowner. ACTION: Cllr Ryan Weedon to email Suzy to provide information and to arrange a meeting with Jevington Cricket Club.	RW
<u>08.10</u>	Income & Expenditure. i) Income and expenditure to date Members NOTED the income and expenditure circulated.	
<u>08.11</u>	Risk management – to consider the effects (if any) arising from items on the agenda. Cllr Daniel Shing warned of the importance of keeping legal matters in confidential or closed matters.	
<u>08.12</u>	Any urgent items – for noting or referral to next agenda for Council or the appropriate committee. No urgent matters.	
<u>08.13</u>	Confirmed the date of the next meeting for Monday 9th November 2026.	

The meeting closed at 21:38

Signed: _____ Date: _____