
Meeting	Decision Session - Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture & Tourism
Date	15 July 2013
Present	Councillor Crisp (Cabinet Member)
In Attendance	Councillor Barton

1. **Declarations of Interest**

The Cabinet Member was asked to declare any personal, prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests other than her registered interests that she might have had in the business on the agenda.

No declarations were made.

2. **Minutes**

Resolved: That the minutes of the Decision Session held on 27 February 2013 be signed and approved by the Cabinet Member as a correct record.

3. **Public Participation**

It was reported that there had been two registrations to speak under the Council's Public Participation Scheme. Both registrations spoke under Agenda Item 5 (Future Direction and Vision for York's Parks and Gardens).

Councillor Barton felt that the overall vision of the report was commendable but that the delivery of the services outlined in the report relied too much on volunteers and that money for ward activities had been reduced, which had helped to support volunteering. He added that ward funding was particularly useful in rural wards. He requested that the Cabinet Member delayed making a decision on the report and that she ask Cabinet to reinstate ward funding.

John Harris, a member of Scarcroft Green Committee and manager of the Scarcroft Green Bowling and Croquet Club, spoke about the proposed changes for Bowling in the city. He felt that the new green rental charge of £2,000 was too steep given that membership fees for clubs had increased which had reduced the number of players. He commented that the Scarcroft Green Club had offered an exploratory discussion with the Council but had not received a response. He felt that the introduction of rental charges, if approved, should be staged.

4. Lease of Land to York Racecourse

The Cabinet Member received a report which asked her to approve a lease of additional land to York Racecourse by one third of an acre.

Resolved: The extension of the lease of the Racecourse by one third of an acre in order to incorporate the proposed works and improvements under Planning Consent 13/00090/FUL, after due consideration of the objections and comments received be approved.

Reason: So that the proposed investment by the Racecourse in its facilities at York may proceed in order to retain the status of the facility and to and improve public and equine safety.

5. Vision for Parks

In response to queries raised under Public Participation, Officers responded that dialogue had taken place with bowlers in the city including at a special meeting held in conjunction with the Sport and Active Leisure Team on 25 June.

The Cabinet Member noted all the comments she had received in relation to bowling in the city. She added that the decision to charge a green rental fee from April 2014 had not been an easy decision to make; however she added that the saving had been approved at Budget Council and it was not within her remit to reverse the saving. She noted that the Council would still be providing a subsidy for facilities for bowls clubs when the new charge is introduced.

- Resolved: (i) That the refreshed vision for York's Parks and Gardens in light of the changing resources available to the Council to operate and maintain these key assets be approved and that emphasis be placed on Communities being supported through this.
- (ii) That a report be considered by the Cabinet Member in two years time to show how well the vision has progressed and achievements related to this.

Reason: To deliver excellent parks and gardens.

Councillor S Crisp, Cabinet Member
[The meeting started at 4.05 pm and finished at 4.35 pm].