

Iver Heath Recreation Charity Status

Cllr Julie Cook will introduce this item and explain what has been learnt to date.

1. Background

- a. Charity Status
 - i. Iver Heath Recreation Charity - The registered charity number is 300286. The charity was set up to administer the Rec in 1962.
 - ii. The Charity Commission (CC) has been able to supply a copy of the conveyancing that they hold on file. This document is attached.
- b. Ownership of Lands
 - i. The IH Rec is owned by the National Playing Fields Association - now called Fields in Trust (FIT). It is listed in their register.

2. Issues to be addressed

- a. Update of Charity documentation
 - i. The Charity Commission only has the Conveyance document on file, and IPC does not hold a copy of documents relating to the establishment of the Charity or the administration of the IH Rec.
 - ii. To change the governance documents, the CC has advised we simply log in the commission portal/ change details / change governance documents. It's all online. The registered email contact is clerk@iverparishcouncil.gov.uk Note that this will be impacted by the email domain change over.
- b. Determination of the charity structure
 - i. Charity structure and articles have recently been debated for the Ivers Community Connect (ICC). This could be used as a model for the IH Rec Charity updates.
 - ii. The IH Rec would need to have officers elected, drawn from the Councillors. As was the approach for ICC

3. Previous years invoices and filings

- a. Professional advice to be sort about previous years invoicing and filings for the IH Rec Charity. Currently filings show 0 income and 0 expenses. However, IPC invoiced and included income and expenditure in the IPC accounts. Should the Charity have in fact invoiced and filed? Any make good or voluntary declarations that need to be made?

4. 21/22 Financial Year Operations

- a. Professional advice to be sort in respect of future trading activities of the Charity e.g. VAT registration, invoicing, service level or other agreement with the Parish Council, filings.

5. Grants

- a. What current grant opportunities is Council aware of to support the running costs and improvements at IH Rec – this item will also be explored at the Open Spaces Committee. To date, one target grant up to £100,000 has been identified.

6. Other Significant items

- a. The Rec will be 100 in 1930. We need to start to plan its birthday and formally collect its history.

Recommendations

1. Pass a resolution to draw up the updated Charity Governance documents, using the same model as ICC.
2. Hold an immediate call for nominations and vote for IH Rec Charity Chair, Secretary and Treasure (this information can then be included in the updated Governance documents lodged with the Commission).
3. Commence immediate action to set up a bank account for the Charity.
4. Clerk to seek immediate professional advice in relation to the issues identified at points 3 and 4.
5. Subject to professional advice, amend the invoicing and financial reporting arrangements
6. Write to those entities that have ongoing rental / use arrangements of IH Rec and advise them of the Charity, its Officers and relationship to IPC.

7. IPC to re-join FIT as a member for a cost of £85 per annum. Membership stopped being paid in 2018.