Amenities Committee

DATE: 22 October 2025 ITEM 9

Wingfield Recreation Ground and Pavilion

1. Purpose of the report

To consider a report from the Clerk covering the following:
a) Running costs
b) Repairs and dragons' teeth costs
c) CCTV quotation
d) Consideration of a basketball court (correspondence received)
e) Complaint received regarding Highcliffe Hawks (correspondence received)

2. Recommendation

To:
1. Note the running costs for the Recreation Ground and Pavilion.
2. Consider approval of repair and dragons' teeth expenditure.
3. Consider the CCTV quotation and determine next steps.
4. Decide whether to progress feasibility work on a basketball court.
5. Note the complaint received regarding Highcliffe Hawks and consider a response.

3. Background

The Recreation Ground and Pavilion continue to serve as key community facilities, used by sports clubs and local residents. Maintenance and operational issues have arisen requiring Council consideration.

4. Main Issues

a) Running Costs

The estimated annual running costs for Wingfield Recreation Ground and Pavilion for the financial year 2025/2026 are summarised below and based on invoices to date:

Category	Annual Cost (£)	Notes
Utilities (electricity, water, etc.) & Cleaning	5,676	Based on supplier invoices
Maintenance and storage	5,116	ad hoc maintenance & container
Grounds maintenance (grass cutting, line marking, etc.)	7,230	Carried out by BCP Council
Other (CCTV, waste collection, etc.)	1,560	

Total estimated annual running cost: £19,582
Total income 2024/2025: £3,971

b) Repairs and Dragons Teeth Costs

Recent repairs required due to vandalism include repairs to existing dragons' teeth and installation along the perimeter (to protect the field) has been quoted at:
Contractor A £768.92 + VAT
Contractor B £1,368 + VAT
Members are asked to note the costs and resolve to appoint Contractor A

c) CCTV Quotation
Following ongoing concerns about antisocial behaviour and vandalism, a quotation has been sought for additional CCTV installation, from the Council's existing contract provider, covering key areas around the field, Pavilion and car park.

Supplier	Quotation (£)	Details
SDL Security	2,280 +VAT	two 5MP cameras with infra-red range of up to 70m Plus upgrade to 16 NVR Network and 10TB hard disk

Recommendation: Council to consider whether to approve the quotations or defer pending budget confirmation.

d) Consideration of Basketball Court
Correspondence has been received a local resident requesting the installation of a **basketball court** at Wingfield Recreation Ground.
Points for consideration:
- Space availability
- Estimated cost range (£20,000–£80,000) depending on full or half court specification
- Potential sources of funding (CIL, grant applications, youth sport funding)
- Consultation with nearby residents and recreation users

Recommendation: Members to consider whether to explore the feasibility further or seek design/costing quotations.

e) Complaint Regarding Highcliffe Hawks
A written complaint has been received from a resident of Roeshot Crescent regarding the level of use of Wingfield Recreation Ground by Highcliffe Hawks Football Club.
The resident reports that:
- The number of matches and training sessions has increased significantly, with activity now taking place across most of the field throughout Sundays and several weekdays.
- Following organised sessions, local youths often continue to use the goals, sometimes accompanied by loud music.
- Parents and coaches are parking along Roeshot Crescent, reportedly causing obstruction, blocking driveways, and creating access issues for emergency vehicles.
- On a recent tournament day, the road was congested with parked vehicles and pedestrians, and the complainant reports being temporarily prevented from accessing their own road by spectators.
- There are ongoing concerns about litter, noise, and antisocial behaviour associated with the high level of use.
- The resident also states that no notice was given to local households about the tournament.

The Clerk has acknowledged the complaint and agreed to bring the complaint to the attention of the Council. Council is asked to note the complaint, and to consider whether any further steps are required (for example, liaison with the club regarding fixture scheduling, parking management, or community engagement).

5. Implications

Equalities

Wingfield Recreation Ground and Pavilion provide open and inclusive access for all members of the community. Any new developments, such as a potential basketball court, will be designed to ensure accessibility and equality of opportunity. Liaison with sports clubs and residents aims to balance community use fairly across user groups.

Environment

The site is maintained with consideration for its surrounding residential area and green space. Future works, including the installation of dragons' teeth or CCTV, will seek to minimise environmental impact. Opportunities to use sustainable materials and energy-efficient systems have been explored.

Crime and Disorder

The proposed CCTV installation aims to deter vandalism, antisocial behaviour, and misuse of the facilities. Continued monitoring and engagement with users such as Highcliffe Hawks will support responsible use and help reduce potential for nuisance activity.

Financial

The current estimated annual running cost is £19,582, with income of £3,971 for 2024/2025.
Additional expenditure includes:

- Repairs and dragons' teeth installation (£768.92 + VAT if Contractor A approved)
- Proposed CCTV upgrade (£2,280 + VAT)

Any expenditure will be met from the agreed budget or reserves, with grant funding options to be explored for future facility improvements such as a basketball court.

Resources

Officer time will be required for coordination of works, communication with contractors, and liaison with user groups. Administrative support may be needed for future consultations or funding applications.

Legal

All works and procurements will comply with the Council's Financial Regulations and Standing Orders. CCTV use will adhere to data protection and privacy legislation. Any new facility (e.g., basketball court) may require planning consent and risk assessment prior to installation.

Risk Management

The proposed measures — CCTV installation and dragons' teeth repairs — mitigate risks of vandalism, antisocial behaviour, and unauthorised parking.
Continued dialogue with Highcliffe Hawks and local residents will help manage reputational and community-relations risks. Regular maintenance reduces liability and ensures facilities remain safe and fit for purpose.

6. Conclusion

The Recreation Ground and Pavilion remain vital community assets, providing facilities for sport, recreation, and social activity. The Council is asked to consider the outlined expenditure for essential maintenance, repairs, and CCTV improvements, which aim to protect and sustain the site's use.

There is also an opportunity to explore new recreational provision, such as a basketball court, subject to feasibility and community support.
The recent complaint from a Roeshot Crescent resident highlights the importance of balancing community access with the needs of nearby residents. Continued engagement with Highcliffe Hawks and other user groups will help ensure responsible and coordinated use of the grounds.

Members are therefore asked to:

- Note the estimated running costs for 2025/26 against income for 2024/2025.
- Approve the appointment of Contractor A for the dragons' teeth repairs.
- Consider the proposed CCTV quotation from SDL Security.
- Decide whether to investigate the basketball court proposal further.
- Note and discuss the complaint regarding Highcliffe Hawks, and agree on any further liaison or management measures required.