

## SOUTHWATER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Leisure Management Sub-Committee (being a sub-committee of the Finance and General Purposes Committee) meeting held on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2016 commencing at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber, Beeson House, Southwater.

**Present Were:** Mrs P. Flores-Moore (Chair)

Mr L. Apted  
Mr G. Cole  
Mr N. Whitear

Mr P. Buckley  
Mr G. Watkins

**Clerk:** Mrs J. Nagy

**Leisure Centre:** Mr S. Brew, Leisure Centre Manager

**District Councillors:** Apologies received

**Public:** None

### **LC11/07/16 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chairman advised those present of the housekeeping rules in terms of fire and health and safety. The Chairman asked that Members of Council ensure that any mobile phone was either turned off or alternatively put on silent mode. The Chairman indicated the safety precautions in the event of a fire or alarm being sounded. Should any member of Council wish to leave the meeting at any time to take an emergency call, they should do so through the Chair.

As there were no members of the public present, Standing Orders not raised.

### **LC12/07/16 APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies, all members being present.

### **LC12/07/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest at this point.

### **LC13/07/16 MINUTES**

It was **RESOLVED** by all present, that the Leisure Centre Sub-Committee Meeting minutes dated Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> April 2016 having already been agreed by Council, should be taken as a true and correct record of the meeting held.

### **LC14/07/16 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman had no announcements.

### **LC15/07/16 CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no further correspondence to report.

Mr Brew, the Leisure Centre Manager invited questions from Councillors on his Report.

Mr Buckley noted that Refuse Collection was currently 87% of the budget, when we are only half way through the year. Mr Brew said that the budget was incorrect, and should have been £1500 instead of £900.

Mr Brew reported that activities involving Castlewood Primary School went well.

There is a Dementia Group operating all day in the café on Wednesdays and people are starting to book up tennis coaching.

The overflow car park is being closed at night during summer months, although it seems that motor bikes are still accessing the area.

Mr Buckley said that the bikes cannot be stopped. Mr Brew said it would be preferable if Southwater had its own PSCO to monitor such incidents of anti-social behaviour.

The tender documents for the gym equipment have now gone out and are on the website. Mr Watkins asked when the current lease expires; Mr Brew replied that this was December. It may be worth considering extending the lease on the current equipment to allow for the new equipment to be launched in the New Year.

Mrs Flores-Moore noted that the gym usage was down, but membership was up. Mr Brew reported that a new weights only gym had opened in Blatchford Way in Horsham which appealed to young men, so some members had been lost.

Mrs Flores-Moore said that Mr Brew was investigating extending the gym in the adjacent toilet area to have a separate weights area. Some female customers found the "grunts" of weights users off-putting. Mr Whitear said that he could understand this, and supported the proposal. Mrs Flores-Moore reminded councillors that a gym member had broken a large mirror whilst using the weights, as the bar had bounced back up.

Mr Brew said that the Horsham gym had much bigger weights, up to 45 or 50kg. Southwater attracts local members through its convenient location. However, he was pleased that not many Southwater members had left to join the weights gym.

Mr Watkins said that the gym members might not want to use a separate area for weights, and that they should be consulted. Mr Whitear suggested emailing out a survey. Mr Brew said that some members had either not given email addresses or had given incorrect ones, so that this was not possible. It was better to ask the users in situ. He does not want to raise their expectations.

**It was agreed that this proposal be progressed, although it was recognised that this would not be until after the new equipment had been installed due to time constraints.**

Mrs Flores-Moore asked why the DD income was up when gym footfall was down. She suggested that some DD members joined to have free classes rather than use the gym. Mr Brew said that this indeed was the case.

## **LC17/07/16 NEW GYM EQUIPMENT**

Mr Brew reported that the staff had visited Charterhouse School to look at the latest Precor equipment. The staff were familiar with TechnoGym equipment.

Mr Watkins said that if the equipment would be supplied from Europe or elsewhere, Brexit may have affected or will affect exchange rates, and this should be taken in to account.

Mr Whitear asked if TechnoGym was chosen, would the App be included. Mr Brew said that when the equipment was last replaced, the App would be an extra £9000 so was not cost effective. This may have changed in the intervening period, and he will make enquiries accordingly, as all the suppliers have an App facility.

The Deputy Clerk said that due to an ongoing court case, the Council may have to retain a particular piece of gym equipment.

### **Members noted this requirement.**

Mr Brew said that last time the lease expired, the Council had sold some items back second hand.

Mr Watkins said that the terms of the lease would need to be checked to ensure that there is no penalty for overrunning the expiry date.

Mr Whitear offered to review the lease documents; the Deputy Clerk will arrange for copies to be sent to him.

Mr Watkins asked if the Council was liable for costs of returning the equipment. Mr Brew replied that this would need to be checked; last time TechnoGym did not charge for return, as they had won the new contract.

Mr Brew advised that the Trickster bike was broken. The manufacturer was no longer trading, so the bike had been withdrawn from use. It was owned by the Council; and would not be replaced.

## **LC18/07/16 MAINTENANCE**

Mr Brew reported that the conifers had been replaced around the bowls container, as this was a condition of planning consent. Mr Buckley noted that one has died.

Mr Brew reported that the football pitch has been renovated and the grass area around the MUGA has been re-seeded.

### **Members noted this information.**

## **LC19/07/16 HEALTH & SAFETY**

Mr Brew drew Councillors' attention to his report on accidents and other Health & Safety issues.

### **Members noted this information.**

**LC20/07/16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting will be 7.00pm Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2016. This meeting would be followed by the Finance & General Purposes Committee at 7.30 pm.

**The meeting closed at 7.25 pm.**