

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 7th January 2015 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.M.Neale

Mr P. Buckley
Mr.D.Nagy
Mr.G.Watkins

Clerk: Mrs.C.Tobin

Leisure Centre: Mr S. Brew, Leisure Centre Manager
Mr T. Utting, Gym Instructor

District Councillors: Apologies received

Public: None present

LC/01/01/15 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.

Mr.Nagy questioned the Pay as You Go trends throughout the country at any gym and stated that it would be interesting to evaluate these against the trends at the Leisure Centre.

LC/02/01/15 APOLOGIES

There were apologies received and noted from Mr.Francies, having had a recent bereavement within his family.

LC/03/01/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at this point.

LC04/01/15 MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** by all present, that the Leisure Centre Sub-Committee Meeting minutes dated 8th October 2014 having already been agreed by Council, should be taken as a true and correct record of the meeting held.

LC05/01/15 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcome everyone to the meeting wishing them a Happy and

Prosperous New Year.

LC06/01/15 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk stated that the Council office had received no correspondence of note.

Hire Agreement

The Clerk stated that she had responded to solicitors and was awaiting the finalised document.

LC07/01/15 LEISURE CENTRE MANAGER'S REPORT

The Chairman referred Members to the Leisure Centre Manager's Report and asked whether there were any comments or questions Members wished to make?

Premises Licence

The Chairman was delighted to confirm that licences had been issued for both the Leisure Centre and Easteds Barn. The relevant paperwork had been received and displayed.

MUGA

Mr.Cole stated that whilst delighted that the MUGA was being well used by varying groups was concerned about the lack of females using the facility. Mr.Brew stated that at the present time there had been very little interest shown by young females. Mrs.Flores-Moore stated that many young females would play netball and tennis during the spring and summer months and it may be that they would come forward at that time; Mr.Brew agreed. Mr.Nagy said that nationally there was a general apathy amongst young women in being involved in contact sports, however, if you looked at the gymnastics and trampolining on offer at the centre these were predominantly attended by young females.

Memberships

Mr.Nagy said that it was extremely pleasing to see the membership spread throughout the year in that numbers were being maintained. A general discussion took place in relation to Direct Debit Members and Pay as You Go memberships and the changes due to the economic climate prevailing.

Licences

Mrs.Flores-Moore questioned the Leisure Manager on the licences as to why the costs were so high. The Manager responded that the Council had little option other than to pay these as they related to Performing Rights Licences etc. The budget for the year being £1500 the expenditure year to date being £2400.

Youth and Vandalism

It was reported that 21 bays of fencing had been vandalised and that quotations for replacement fencing were being sourced. This matter had again been reported to Sussex Police. A general discussion took place about the type of replacement fencing, and it was agreed that the replacement should be wood.

It was RESOLVED that the Leisure Centre Manager's Reported be NOTED.

LC08/01/15 MAINTENANCE

The Leisure Centre Manager reported that the planned maintenance items for the quarter would be:-

- Replacement light bulb in the Sports Hall
- Repairs to low level fence to the front of the Centre
- Reattachment of a fluorescent fitting in the Lardner Hall

There were also a number of repairs due to vandalism to report, eg., the fence along the pathway to York Close, window to the Centre and MUGA light and guards to be installed on Monday 12th January 2015.

The Leisure Centre Manager said that he would be progressing tenders in relation to the Lardner lighting, replacement windows and CCTV upgrades previously discussed.

Mr.Nagy asked whether the Centre Manager had to take any precautions in the coming days in relation to the Centre and the predicted high winds. The Leisure Centre Manager did not feel that additional measures were required but appropriate checks would be carried out. The Clerk stated that obviously the Council's tree stock whilst checked by a consultant would be at risk dependent on the speed of winds.

Councillors NOTED the Leisure Centre Manager's comments.

LC09/01/15 PERSONAL TRAINING PROPOSAL FOR SOUTHWATER LEISURE CENTRE**

The Clerk referred to the proposals received from three members of staff who wished to progress opportunities to deliver personal training at the Leisure Centre.

The Clerk whilst wishing to congratulate the staff on the revised proposal would add, that the staff were now intending to set up their own separate business to deliver such training and would hire the Council's building. However, there were still concerns relating to lieu time which is mentioned within the document, exclusive use (this cannot be given due to the covenants on the land) and fees for introductions to the gym customers. There would be no direct access to this database and would involve the council contacting customers to see whether they would be interested in personal training pointing to the potential supplier.

At this point in the meeting the Chairman suspended Standing Orders in order to allow further discussions by the proposed client.

A general discussion took place in relation to the proposed terms of the

contract by the proposed client, the Clerk again reiterated her advice to Members in relation to the covenant where exclusive use could not be granted to any group or organisation over the land and buildings.

The Clerk further indicated that the Council could not provide this organisation with personal data of its existing clients, but could forward details of any proposed personal training allowing the Council's clients to make their own arrangements.

Mr.Nagy asked whether the organisation intended to offer such facilities at other gyms in the District. The response was that it was not the general idea and that this would be concentrated around the leisure centre and its customers.

In relation to the way the organisation was to be set up concerns were raised about the way in which the three individuals were operating. It was confirmed that this would be set up as a sole trader. Members provided advice to the representative in that this would not be the Council's preferred option as it would mean that they would have to enter into three separate contracts and indicated that further advice should be sought by the representative and other interested parties from either a solicitor or accountant.

The Chairman thanked the representative for attending and speaking at the meeting.

Standings Orders reinstated.

A short discussion ensued when Members were in principle favourable towards being able to offer personal training within the Centre to its client base. However, were unhappy with the current organisational setup and required this to be formalised and the individuals meet with the Clerk following further investigations which will be required to be met.

It was RESOLVED by Members that whilst in principle they were in favour of providing personal training to its client base, representatives of the organisation should carry out further investigations as to the overall setup of the company/organisation thereafter make an appointment to progress with the Clerk to the Council.

LC10/01/15 HEALTH & SAFETY

The Clerk referred Member's to the Leisure Centre Manager's Report which reported six accidents.

A general discussion took place about incidents emanating from football matches and other activities on the football pitch and how these were reported. The Leisure Centre Manager indicated that within the contracts there were requirements placed on hirers to inform the Centre of any serious accidents for recording purposes. In the main all Club's were required to have first aiders on site during matches and therefore minor cuts/bruises etc were dealt with at the time, with only serious incidents requiring an ambulance or attendance at a hospital were reported and recorded.

Members NOTED the Leisure Centre Manager's Report.

LC11/01/15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be 7.00pm Wednesday 8th April, 2015. This meeting would be followed by the Finance & General Purposes Committee at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 7.40 pm.