

## 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 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2013 commencing at 7.00 p.m., in the Council Chamber, Beeson House, Southwater.

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

Mr L. Apted

Mr P. Buckley

Mr.G.Cole

Mr.G.Watkins

Mrs.J.Williamson

**Clerk:** Mrs.C.Tobin

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

**District Councillors:** Apologies received

**Public:** One

### **LC11/07/13 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. Mrs. Flores-Moore 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.

At this point in the meeting it was **RESOLVED** that standing orders be suspended to allow for public participation.

Mr.Cole said that he wished to congratulate the leisure centre manager on the condition of the football ground, which in his mind was in the best condition he had seen for at least ten years. Mr.Brew thanked Mr.Cole for his comments.

**Standing orders reinstated.**

### **LC12/07/13 APOLOGIES**

There were apologies received and noted from Dr Cash.

### **LC13/07/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest at this point.

### **LC14/07/13 MINUTES**

It was **RESOLVED** by all present, that the Leisure Centre Sub-Committee Meeting minutes dated 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2013 having already been agreed by Council, should be taken as a true and correct record of the

**meeting held.**

**LC15/07/13 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman has no announcements.

**LC16/07/13 CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk indicated that a number of letters and complaints had been received both in relation to the gym and the leisure centre. All of these complaints had been dealt with by the Clerk and the Leisure Centre Manager.

Mrs.Flores-Moore asked what the general complaints were about and the Clerk and Leisure Centre Manager indicated that one had been in relation to the WiFi provided at the leisure centre for clients; on one particular day this had been down. The second letter was in relation to a potential conflict between clients and provision within the Centre.

Members felt that should approaches be made to the Council then the Clerk should not be refusing such bookings. The Clerk stated that in this particular case there had been no such conflict but she would always act in the best interest of the Council in terms of income.

**LC17/07/13 LEISURE CENTRE MANAGER'S REPORT**

The Clerk referred Members to the Manager's report dated July 2013 as circulated prior to the meeting and asked whether Members had any questions they wished to raise.

Mrs.Flores-Moore said that she would like to raise a number of questions, mainly in relation to the fact that the Direct Debit customers were down. Steve Brew indicated that whilst this was the case there was general fluctuation throughout the year in the customer base. The actual numbers were 10 down on the previous year, however the Pay as You Go attendance was up.

Mrs.Flores-Moore also questioned an accident within the Lardner Hall and a shared of glass. The Leisure Centre Manager said, that this could not be explained, as the hall had been cleaned prior to use by the Assistant Leisure Centre Manager.

Leisure Survey

The Clerk reported that to date out of a total of 42 persons had responded to the leisure survey; this survey producing some interesting results. For example most of the 42 respondents (78%) had lived in the village for more than 10 years yet 85% of these had not joined the gym. The Clerk and Leisure Centre Manager would be working on a local marketing campaign in an attempt to target this as yet untapped market.

A brief discussions took place on the results to date, the Clerk was instructed to continue with the Survey until the end of September and produce the results for consideration at that time. The Clerk and Leisure Centre Manager having taken note of some of the comments would be working to address issues.

The Leisure Centre Manager stated that he had put up posters regarding bad language in the gym this not being acceptable; he felt that the point had been made and addressed. Members agreed that bad language was not acceptable.

A discussion took place in relation to the provision of Personal Training and GP referrals with the Leisure Centre Manager expressing concern about the time involved in providing these and also the remuneration of staff in relation to additional duties not included within their existing contracts. The Clerk reminded Members that there was no leverage in the salaries budget to allow for any change. Following a brief discussion by all members on the pros and cons of delivery such products/services that the Council would not provide either Personal Training nor a GP referral scheme.

Graham Watkins questions the liability aspect of providing such a service, Mr.Brew explained that this was not a cardiac course, and dealt with only a limited range of disabilities and that the staff involved would have to hold the appropriate certification.

**Members noted the Leisure Centre Manager's Report.**

**It was RESOLVED by all present that the Council through the Leisure Centre would not be providing in future either Personal Training nor a GP referral scheme.**

**LC18/07/13 MAINTENANCE**

Mr.Brew advised members that the Probation Team were currently carrying out repairs to the fencing alongside the Bowls Green, the cost the council being minimal of approximately £150.

It was felt that this agenda item had been covered in the Manager's Report.

**Members noted the Report and Leisure Centre Manager's comments.**

**LC19/07/13 HEALTH & SAFETY**

The Clerk indicated that there was only one claim outstanding in relation to a reported incident in the gym. A briefing on this incident was given to new members of the Sub-Committee, the Clerk stating that this matter was currently with the Council's insurers.

The Clerk was aware of another accident which occurred on the footpath between the Centre and Lintot Square. No further communication has been received in respect of this potential claim to date.

**Members noted the comments made.**

**LC20/07/13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting will be 7.00 p.m., **Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> October 2013**

**The meeting closed at 7.25pm.**