

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 October, 2015 commencing at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber, Beeson House, Southwater.

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

Mr P. Buckley
Mr.A.Green
Mr.N.Whitear

Mr G. Cole
Mr.G.Watkins

Clerk: Mrs.C.Tobin

Leisure Centre: Mr S. Brew, Leisure Centre Manager

District Councillors: Apologies received

Public: 1

LC33/10/15 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.

There were no comments made at this point.

LC34/10/15 APOLOGIES

There were apologies received and noted from Mr.Apted.

LC35/10/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at this point.

LC36/10/15 MINUTES

It was RESOLVED by all present, that the Leisure Centre Sub-Committee Meeting minutes dated 8th July, 2015 having already been agreed by Council, should be taken as a true and correct record of the meeting held.

LC37/10/15 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman had no announcements.

LC38/10/15 CORRESPONDENCE

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

note.

Easteds Barn

A complaint was received from a hirer, and whilst a refund was provided to the customer for their inconvenience, the client requested a full refund of their client's fees. This was refused on the basis of the contract signed by the Client; the Clerk intends to take no further action on this basis.

LC39/10/15 LEISURE CENTRE MANAGER'S REPORT

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

The Chairman indicated that she was delighted to see the formats had changed in relation to the graphs, pointing out a further slight correction.

Mr.Brew, Leisure Centre Manager introduced the Assistant Leisure Centre Manager, Tim Kidd to Members of Council and informed members of a new member of staff who had been employed as a Sports Instructor/Coach. Members were delighted that Mr.Brew now had a full compliment of staff on board.

It was reported that whilst unfortunately the Council had lost the services of the trampoline coach, in future Tim would be taking new courses in January following the completion of trampoline training. The Assistant Manager would also be attending an Urban Rebounding training course, and it is intended that such sessions will then be offered as classes to both direct debit membership but also others should there be a demand.

Direct debit membership was up and down, and it was hoped that with the Centre's ability to offer more classes that further membership will come forward. Advertising and marketing of these will be important. Mr.Whitear stated that he was a member of a gym elsewhere and asked how much the membership of the Leisure Centre was. The Manager indicated that an adult membership was £31.50 per month and that this included classes. Senior citizen charges were £24.50 per month.

The Leisure Centre had hall space during off peak times, but at peak times and evenings it was fully booked. In discussions, another class was proposed and it was felt that if it were possible to put this on a Thursday morning may be the optimum time. Mr.Watkins indicated that his wife and daughter had attended the class and he would get the details and forward them on to the Manager.

The Leisure Centre Manager indicated that the Clerk and himself were working on the budget to be discussed by Council in the near future, but that he was optimistic that targets set this year would be achieved.

LC40/10/15 MUGA

The Leisure Centre Manager indicated that the MUGA was being widely used by young people and had been during the summer months. From September the evening sessions between 5pm-9pm were fully booked for football by various clubs.

Whilst the Centre now had tennis nets and the first game still to take place, it was hoped that this could be offered more from Spring onwards.

Mrs.Flores-Moore asked whether it was suitable for netball. Mr.Brew explained that the court had been marked for basketball, five a side football and tennis only.

Mr.Brew stated that it was hoped to run a five a side football league during 2016.

LC41/10/15 MAINTENANCE

Church Lane Premises

The Clerk reported that the electrical check on the Church Lane property had been issued as had instructions to Crickmay to proceed with a potential letting for a pre-school/nursery this being the Council's preference looking to the future needs of the community.

Members NOTED the information provided.

LC42/10/15 HEALTH & SAFETY

Five minor reports had been recorded at the Leisure Centre. The Chairman stated that it was pleased to note. The Clerk stated that advice had been given to a member of staff about handling of lime for the football field, in that the appropriate protection clothing and footwear should be worn.

The Clerk reported a serious incident at the Leisure Centre which had been reported to Sussex Police, who were now investigating and taking any necessary action. Threats had been made to an individual staff and in relation to the leisure centre as an asset.

Members NOTED the schedule provided in the report.

LC43/10/15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be 7.00pm Wednesday 6th January 2016. This meeting would be followed by the Finance & General Purposes Committee at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed 7.20 pm.