

Minutes of a Meeting of the Leisure Services Committee held at the Oakwood Centre on Tuesday 19 January 2010 at 8 pm

Present: *Councillors R. Duncan (Chairman); J. Cheng; A. Clifford; N. Cox; K. Gilder; L. Higgs; D. Mill; S. Rahmouni; W. Soane; D. Thair*

Also present: Councillor K. Haines

20. **MINUTES OF THE LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE – 3 NOVEMBER 2009**

RESOLVED:

- ◆ that the minutes of the Leisure Services Committee of 3 November 2009 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

21. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor W. Soane	Agenda item 7 Charges 2010/11	Prejudicial Interest Chairman of Carnival Committee which hires some facilities.
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22. **BUDGETARY CONTROL**

RESOLVED:

- ◆ to note Report No. LS 1/10.

23. **WOODFORD PARK AND BULMERSHE LEISURE CENTRES**

The Leisure Services Manager presented Report No. LS 2/10.

Free swimming

In response to a question on the free swimming provision which started at the beginning of the year the Leisure Services Manager confirmed the arrangements for funding which had been calculated on a projection of the previous year's usage figures.

Swim for £1 promotion

Members discussed the proposal to extend the promotion to 31 March 2010. During the discussion the Leisure Services Manager agreed to provide information on casual swimming usage at forthcoming meetings. He also explained that he hoped extending the promotion would attract paying customers who didn't qualify for free swimming to use the pool, particularly parents of children under 8 who had to be accompanied by an adult. Members were concerned that although extending the promotion beyond the Christmas period would give a better idea of take up, once the promotion ended full charge paying customers may not return. Later in the meeting it was suggested and agreed that the Leisure Services Manager consider whether a different promotion after March may help retain these customers and report to the next meeting.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ to extend the Swim for £1 promotion at Bulmershe Leisure Centre to 31 March 2010.
- ◆ to note the contents of the report.

Staff changes

It was noted that the Sports Facility Manager at Bulmershe Leisure Centre was leaving. Members agreed to record their thanks to Andy Turnbull for his work at the centre. The Leisure Services Manager outlined the plans for his replacement and the arrangements that would be made to support and train the new manager.

24. **PARKS AND BUILDINGS**

The Service Support Manager presented Report No. LS 3/10.

Bulmershe Leisure Centre

In response to a question regarding repairs to the roof at the centre the Town Clerk confirmed the lease terms in respect of the Council's liability for a 'fair proportion' of costs in respect of repairs carried out by Wokingham Borough Council on its areas of responsibility.

Coronation Hall

The Service Support Manager confirmed that all the required arrangements would be in place for the removal of asbestos during the re-roofing of Coronation Hall and that public use of the hall would not take place during this stage of the works.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ to note the contents of the report.

25. **CHARGES**

At this point in the meeting Councillor K. Gilder declared a prejudicial interest in this item as a hirer of the Council's facilities.

Both Councillor Gilder and Councillor Soane left the meeting during the discussion and decision on this item.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ to recommend that the 2010/11 charges as presented be approved.

26. **REVISED BUDGET ESTIMATES 2009/10**

The Town Clerk presented Report No. LS 4/10.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ to note the contents of the report.
- ◆ to recommend that the Revised Budget Estimates for 2009/10 as presented be approved.

27. **BUDGET ESTIMATES 2010/11**

The Town Clerk presented Report No. LS 5/10.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ to note the contents of the report.
- ◆ to recommend that the Budget Estimates for 2010/11 as presented be approved.

28. **PUBLICITY AND WEB SITE**

RESOLVED:

- ◆ to publicise the following:
 - Extension of Swim for £1 promotion
 - Eat for Health Course

- Decoration of changing rooms at Bulmershe Leisure Centre
- Coronation Hall plans for re-roofing
- Vandalism and costs

Under this item it was also agreed that a listing for Council facilities in the Little Green Book be investigated.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted in relation to commercially sensitive matters it is advisable that the public and press are temporarily excluded and they are asked to withdraw.

29. **PLAY BUILDER CONSULTATION**

The Service Support Manager presented Report No. LS 6/10. It was noted by the committee that the costs of the new play area would be met by Playbuilder and Section 106 funding alone. No Council funds would be used towards this new provision.

The Service Support Manager explained that the proposed scheme would go to the Playbuilder Project Board for approval and at this stage the final allocation from Playbuilder should be known. The equipment items would be selected on popularity, variety and accessibility and in accordance with Playbuilder criteria. It was agreed that Members be circulated with information on the equipment items to be included in the final design.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ to approve Monster Play Systems as the equipment suppliers and installer for the Playbuilder project, subject to final selection of equipment items and the project cost being within budget.
- ◆ to publicise the play area once the scheme had received approval.

Meeting closed at 9.25 pm

Chairman