

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Leisure Services Committee held at the Oakwood Centre on Tuesday 6 September 2011 at 8 pm**

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**Present:** *Councillors K. Gilder (Chairman); T. Barker; J. Cheng; A. Downes; L. Hayward; S. Outen; S. Rahmouni; M. Willson*

**In attendance:** *A. Bunn, Leisure Services Manager; D. Mander, Town Clerk; K. Murray, Service Support Manager*

10. **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies received.

11. **MINUTES OF THE LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE – 7 JUNE 2011**

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ that the minutes of the Leisure Services Committee of 7 June 2011 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

12. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made.

13. **BUDGETARY CONTROL**

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ to note Report No. LS 14/11.

14. **LEISURE CENTRES**

The Leisure Services Manager began his report to the committee with a slide presentation of the Active Celebration weekend held on 17-19 June and in doing so also thanked his staff team and the School Sports Partnership for their work in planning and delivering the weekend.

Plans were underway for next year's Active Celebration weekend which would include a dance festival, multi skills events and swimming galas.

**Sport England – Inspired Facilities fund**

Members noted the opportunity of funding from Sport England and, after discussion

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ that the Leisure Services Manager investigate further the possibility of making an application to the Inspired Facilities fund for part funding for a 3G pitch and report back at the next meeting.

**Bulmershe Leisure Centre**

Members were pleased to note the additional funding secured to run the BME Women's Aqua Fit session up to March 2012, the successful pool lifeguard course at the centre and the use of the centre as a benchmark to promote the Football Just Play programme nationally.

**Summer Holiday Offer**

The Leisure Services Manager tabled usage figures for the Racquet Attack £1 per player summer holiday promotion at the centres for the last five years. These included this summer during which 105 courts had been booked and used under the promotion. This was slightly under last year's figure of 111 courts but the summer

had seen a wider programme of other activities at the centre, effectively reducing the availability of the promotion compared with 2010.

### **Woodford Park Leisure Centre**

#### **Car parking Saturday morning Development League**

Members welcomed the arrangements being made to reduce the number of cars and impact on neighbours on Saturday mornings when the Development League used the pitches.

#### **Summer Playscheme**

The Leisure Services Manager reported that numbers were slightly down on last year's playscheme and that the introduction of extended hours from 4.00 to 5.30 pm had not seen much uptake. As a result these extra hours would not be offered in future.

#### **Sid Hopkins Football Tournament**

The Leisure Services Manager tabled a report of the tournament held the previous Sunday. Eleven teams took part, a lower number than in the past, and all participants received a medal presented by the Chairman of the committee. Included in the report was a proposal that the Sid Hopkins Tournament become a Woodley schools based tournament in future and that a separate tournament be organised with open entry rather than being restricted to Woodley based teams. After some discussion it was

#### **RESOLVED:**

- ◆ that the Tournaments Working Party consider the Leisure Services Manager's proposals for changes to the football tournament arrangements and report back to the committee.
- ◆ to note contents of the Report No. 15/11.

### 15. **PARKS AND BUILDINGS**

The Service Support Manager presented Report No. LS 16/11.

In response to a question on recent vandalism at Woodford Park Leisure Centre the Service Support Manager reported that the CCTV at the centre was to be upgraded and cameras added to cover around the back of the leisure centre.

#### **Pool cover**

Members were pleased to note that the pool cover was to be installed before the end of the month and the Town Clerk confirmed that fuel use would be monitored in order to estimate the savings achieved.

#### **Rotary nature garden**

Members noted the Rotary Club of Loddon Vale's plans to refurbish the garden which included filling in the pond and planting out this area in an attractive way as well as adding more flowers and shrubs around the garden. Soil from the construction of the skate spot, now underway, would be used to fill in the former pond.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- ◆ to approve the proposals from the Rotary Club of Loddon Vale for the refurbishment of the nature garden.

#### **Skate spot**

The Service Support Manager reported on progress and that it was hoped that the construction would be completed by 12 September, weather permitting. Once finished the concrete structure would need a week of curing before opening for use. During this period the ground staff would be working on the banked areas at the

sides of the skate spot. The fencing would also remain in place during this period and notices explaining the need to allow a period for curing will be displayed around the site. Youth organisations and the police have agreed to work with the Council to ensure that young people understand why the skate spot can't be opened immediately. Once the construction is complete an official opening ceremony will be arranged.

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ to note Report No. LS 16/11.

16. **PUBLICITY AND WEB SITE**

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ to publicise the following:
  - Skate Spot
  - Active Celebration Weekend 2011 and plans for 2012
  - Rotary garden, once completed

Meeting closed at 9.05 pm

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Chairman