

Minutes of a Meeting of the Leisure Services Committee held at the Oakwood Centre on Tuesday 22 May 2012 at 8 pm

Present: *Councillors P. Challis (Chairman); L. Hayward; S. Outen; S Rahmouni; W. Soane*

In attendance: *A. Bunn, Leisure Services Manager; D. Mander, Town Clerk; K. Murray, Service Support Manage; E. Whitesmith, N. Rance, Sports Officers Woodford Park Leisure Centre*

1. **MINUTES OF THE LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE – 27 March 2012**

RESOLVED:

- ◆ that the minutes of the Leisure Services Committee of 27 March 2012 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made.

3. **WOODLEY CRICKET CLUB**

The representative from Woodley Cricket Club had sent his apologies for not being able to attend the meeting because of work responsibilities. It was agreed that he be invited to the next meeting of the committee. If that date was inconvenient he could be invited to speak at a Council meeting.

4. **BUDGETARY CONTROL**

In presenting Report No. LS 10/12 the Town Clerk drew Members' attention to the course income figures at Bulmershe Leisure Centre which had been boosted by the popularity of the Swim School. The income from this activity was £6,000 above that in April 2011.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ to note Report No. LS 10/12.

5. **LEISURE CENTRES**

The Leisure Services Manager presented Report No. LS 11/12.

Active Celebration Week 28 May

The Leisure Services Manager reported that arrangements were in place for the Active Celebration week when over 1,600 children would take part in galas, multi skill and dance festivals and the annual Kwik Cricket tournament. He thanked the teams at both leisure centres for their work on the programme.

Members were pleased to note the award of the month to the No Strings Badminton session at Woodford Park Leisure Centre and congratulated the staff involved.

Members noted the success of the first Sid Hopkins football tournament for schools and that the sports staff would be working to attract more schools to the event next year.

Members also noted the success of the first BT Swimathon at Bulmershe Leisure Centre in April, in which 55 people took part and raised money for charity, and the Back to Rounders projects, commissioned by Rounders England which would be delivered this summer.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ to note Report No. LS 11/12.
- ◆ that the summer holiday Racquet Attack promotion run for a fifth year at both leisure centres at a cost of £1 per person.

Healthy Habits Woodley Launch

Sports Officers Ed Whitesmith and Nick Rance outlined plans for the Healthy Habits Woodley programme which would be launched in July. The scheme would join up the activities on offer at both centres and aimed to encourage the town's community to become more active. There would be activities for all age groups and a free member card scheme. The programme will offer a fitness MOT to get people involved in exercises to check their well-being. It will also encourage social interaction and feedback on what participants want. New activities such as Nordic walking, lawn bowls could be included in the programme and a long term aim would be to encourage participants to qualify in coaching some of the activities. Both Sports Officers had attended a GP referral qualification training course and it was hoped that in future years the programme would form part of the referral system in Woodley and that funding may be available from the NHS. The start up costs of the programme were being met from an NHS grant received last year for the work on the Healthy Eating Course at Woodford Park Leisure Centre which had been an NHS pilot and was still running.

The committee very much welcomed the new programme and were very positive about the logo and the planned promotion. The Chairman thanked Ed Whitesmith and Nick Rance for their presentation and their proactive work on the Healthy Habits Woodley programme.

6. **PARKS AND BUILDINGS**

The Service Support Manager presented Report No. LS 12/12.

Members noted the work that had been carried out by the Maintenance Team at Woodford Park Leisure Centre community kitchen and the notice boards along with the planned refurbishment of the play areas. The Service Support Manager confirmed that the old equipment next to Woodford Park Leisure Centre would be dismantled and the area tidied up to provide a walkway from the lake to the leisure centre.

Members were pleased to hear how positive the Tell Us More event with primary school children had been and noted that some of the ideas could be looked at by the Town Council.

It was noted that entries to the Jubilee Garden Competition were low and suggestions of publicising this in the newsletter and by leaflets would be followed up.

On the matter of the present water restrictions the Service Support Manager agreed to find out if any restrictions had been relaxed following last month's rain.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ to note Report No. LS 12/12.

7. **NEW PLAY AREA – WOODFORD PARK LEISURE CENTRE**

The Service Support Manager presented Report No. LS 13/12 which outlined the consultation on the three designs submitted and the feedback received. Funding of £28,000 had been made available from Section 106 developer's contribution. It was clear that Design No. 1 by Proludic was the favourite and with this in mind it was

RESOLVED:

- ◆ to approve Design 1 for the project to extend play for 0-8 year olds at the Woodford Park Leisure Centre play area and that Proludic be commissioned to install the play equipment.

8. **TOURNAMENTS WORKING PARTY**

RESOLVED:

- ◆ to appoint Councillors Challis, Franklin, Gilder, Outen and Soane to the Tournaments Working Party for the 2012/13 municipal year.

9. **WOODLEY UNITED FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT FORUM**

Councillor Outen presented his report of the forum meeting he had attended in April. He expressed his delight in seeing local football clubs working together for the benefit of young people, rather than their clubs. A particular aim of the forum was to encourage the under 16-18 years age group to continue to play and that the clubs were joining together to set up teams representing Woodley.

10. **PUBLICITY AND WEB SITE**

RESOLVED:

- ◆ to publicise the following:
 - Tell Us More Event
 - New play equipment
 - Racquet Attack
 - Garden competition
 - Woodley Football Forum (newsletter)
 - Healthy Habits Woodley

Meeting closed at 9.03 pm

Chairman