

**Minutes of a meeting of the Leisure Services Committee held at the Oakwood Centre on Tuesday 2 June 2015 at 8.00 pm**

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**Present:** *Councillors W. Soane (Chairman); T. Barker; B. Franklin; K. Gilder; M. Green; R.Lay; D. Stares; M. Willson*

**Officers present:** *D. Mander, Town Clerk; K. Murray, Service Support Manager; A. Bunn, Leisure Services Manager; L. Matthews, Committee Officer*

**Also present:** *Councillors K. Baker; R. Dolinski*

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor S. Rahmouni.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made by Members.

3. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 MARCH 2015**

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ That the minutes of the Leisure Services Committee meeting of 24 March 2015 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. **BUDGETARY CONTROL**

a) The Town Clerk presented Report No. LS 10/15, the draft 2014/15 year end expenditure and income accounts. Members noted that the income for the year was greater than had been estimated in the budget, with the income from Woodford Park Leisure Centre being 6% higher than anticipated, due to the courses and activities that had been transferred from Bulmershe Leisure Centre. The income from the football pitches was 8% higher than anticipated. Members thanked the Leisure Services Manager and his staff for all their hard work to bring in the extra income.

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ To note Report No. LS 10/15.

b) The Town Clerk presented Report No. LS 11/15.

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ To note Report No. LS 11/15.

5. **WOODFORD PARK LEISURE CENTRE, SPORT AND ACTIVITIES**

The Leisure Services Manager presented Report No. LS 12/15.

Members were asked to approve the August Bank Holiday opening hours for Woodford Park Leisure Centre. It was proposed that the Centre would be open from 9am to 5pm on Monday 31 August.

The Leisure Services Manager informed Members that he had met with representatives of Barnes Fitness, together with the Leader of the Council and the Chairman of the Leisure Services Committee, to discuss the possibility of relaunching the Woodley 10km road race,

which had been cancelled this year. Barnes Fitness had experience of running similar events in the South of England and were keen to be involved. Details of a proposed new route for the race, which would take in the wider Woodley area and avoid some of the potential problem areas on the current route, were distributed at the meeting by the Leisure Services Manager. The details of arrangements for the 2016 10km road race would be included in the Leisure Services Manager's report to the next meeting.

Members were pleased to receive a presentation on the events at Woodley Sports Week and were informed that this year 2660 children took part. The Chairman thanked the Leisure Services Manager and his team for making the week a success.

Members were informed that requests had been received from regular users of the paddling pool at the leisure centre asking the Council to consider banning smoking in the paddling pool area. The method of enforcing the ban and the signage required were discussed.

In addition, Members were pleased to note progress on the 3G pitch project, the installation of a new artificial cricket wicket funded from Section 106 funds and the new courses arranged at Woodford Park Leisure Centre.

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ To note Report No. LS 12/15.
- ◆ To approve the proposed August Bank Holiday opening hours at Woodford Park Leisure Centre.
- ◆ To ban smoking in the paddling pool area at Woodford Park Leisure Centre.

6. **PARKS AND BUILDINGS**

The Service Support Manager presented Report No. LS 13/15.

Members were informed that a ceremony had taken place on Friday 15 May to plant a tree in the Rotary Garden area to the rear of the Oakwood Centre, in memory of Lilly-May Page, who had tragically died one year earlier. The event had been organised by Lilly-May's mother, and was well attended. The Council's Grounds Team would be looking after the tree.

The Service Support Manager reported that an increased effort would be made to raise awareness of the garden competition this year. Flyers would be distributed to local shops and businesses, notice boards and public buildings and the event would be publicised in the press and on the Council's website. It was hoped that this would attract a higher number of entrants than in previous years.

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ To note Report No. LS 13/15.

7. **WOODFORD PARK LEISURE CENTRE DEVELOPMENT**

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ To note that the Strategy and Resources Committee would consider how the Woodford Park Leisure Centre development should proceed following its decision to allocate £5,000 to an earmarked reserve to progress the project.

8. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The Chairman invited the Committee to suggest future items for consideration by the Committee.

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ That the following be included as a future agenda items:
  - An update on the progress of the 3G pitch project.
  - An update on proposals for the Woodley 10km road race.
  - An update on proposals for the development of Woodford Park Leisure Centre.

9. **PUBLICITY AND WEBSITE**

**RESOLVED:**

- ◆ To publicise the following:
  - The success of Woodley Sports Week.
  - School holiday activities.
  - Progress of the 3G pitch project.
  - The relaunch of the Woodley 10km road race – following registration of the event.
  - The planting of the tree in memory of Lilly-May Page to be reported on the website.
  - The achievements of members of Bulmershe Gym Club to be reported following the European Olympics.

The meeting closed at 8:50 pm

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