



This information is available free of charge in electronic, audio, Braille and large print versions.

For assistance in understanding or reading this document or specific information about these Minutes please call the Committee Section on 01629 761133 or e-mail committee@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

WIRKSWORTH LEISURE CENTRE COMMUNITY GROUP

Minutes of a Meeting held on Wednesday 18 January 2017 in Room E1, English Block, Anthony Gell Community School, Wirksworth DE4 4DX at 6:00pm.

PRESENT

Mr John Thompson - in the Chair

Councillor Jo Wild (DDDC), Councillor Steve Maskrey (Wirksworth Town Council), Mr Malcolm Kelly (Headmaster – Anthony Gell School), Ms Gaye Smedley (Representative – Leisure Centre Users),

Dave Turvey (Active Communities Officer), Claire Mosley (Leisure Management) Sandra Lamb (Honorary Secretary) and Simon Johnson (Democratic & Electoral Services)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mike Ratcliffe and Mr Rod Leach.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **AGREED** - That the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Group held on 27 October 2016 be approved as a correct record.

THE LEISURE SERVICES AND CENTRES REVIEW

Further to the report and prior to the meeting to be held on 25 January 2017 to discuss the Joint Use Agreement, John Thompson and Malcolm Kelly enquired as to whether there had been any progress in the consultation process to find a management company.

Dave Turvey and Sandra Lamb confirmed more information would be made available on the Joint Use Agreement at the private meeting with Malcolm Kelly on 25 January 2017, which would include the attendance of Paul Wilson (Corporate Director) and Ashley Watts (Head of Community Development). To also note that with due process, District Council Members are to be informed and approve the consultation plan at the Special Community & Environment Committee (C&E) to be held on 23 February 2017.

In reference to point b. (Property and Site Management) Malcolm Kelly raised the issue of future access and ground maintenance, citing the repair of the Sports Hall flooring as a concern and how under the Joint Use Agreement this would be accommodated.

Dave Turvey confirmed that no major issues had been raised by any of the sport groups using the hall and as a coincidence an Inspector from Derbyshire County Council had today (18/01/2017) been commissioned to report on the condition of the floor which an update will be issued at the next meeting.

In reference to points c. & d. of the report (Integrated Future Management & Bookings) Councillor Steve Maskrey and Malcolm Kelly raised concerns that the centre would cease to be a community based facility and does not want it to close due to increased running costs or fees and charges.

Sandra Lamb in reference to points c. & d. and in answer to points k., l. & m. (Prices, Marketing and Tendering) reaffirmed that until the tendering process is presented to District Council Members at C&E this has yet to be determined but assured that this would, in all probability, be a two stage restricted tendering process with a pre-qualification questionnaire prior to issuing invitations to tender; the pricing structure would maintain a community element (with fees and charges) at a strategic level. The aim is to build the best specification possible to move forward as a social enterprise whilst maintaining the District Council's (KPI.s) Key Performance Indicators.

It Was **AGREED**

1. That the Reports be noted.
2. That further information on the tendering process is disseminated after approval at the Special C&E Committee on 23/02/2017.

FINANCIAL UPDATE OF WIRKSWORTH LEISURE CENTRE

Dave Turvey gave a brief overview of the budgets for the four Leisure Centres and Sports Development as presented in Item 4 of the agenda noting that these are only calculated for 9 months (01/04/2016 to 31/12/2016) and to also note that this is not the revised budget which is due to be prepared in October 2017.

It was **AGREED** – That the budgets and financial data are noted.

USAGE STATISTICS

Claire Mosley gave a brief overview on the usage statistics highlighting that overall usage of the Main Sports Hall had increased despite a fall in the block bookings from clubs; including an increase in use of the Climbing Wall due to a lower pricing structure. Overall income had fallen across the Leisure Centres due to a fall in Membership.

One example given was the poor performance of gymnastics club membership recruitment due to being unable to retain or appoint qualified gymnastics coaches; even after a recruitment drive with a Corporate Leadership Team endorsed enhanced rate of £17 per hour pay which is above the national Local Authority £11 per hour average. The effect of this is the current waiting list (90 applications) for qualified tutoring for gym memberships and gym usage has not changed.

It was **AGREED**

1. That the increased usage statistics be welcomed.
2. That the issue of Gym Membership recruitment be noted.

TRANSFER OF GYM EQUIPMENT

Dave Turvey informed the group that Ashbourne Leisure Centre and the Arc are due to have all their gym equipment renewed by 'Technogym' and the existing service maintained equipment from Arc will be moved to Wirksworth Leisure Centre to replace the existing gym stock. All of the equipment is of the 'Technogym' brand that has been under a service maintained contract for the last 5 years.

In response to Councillor Steve Maskrey's query on future service maintenance of the equipment, Dave Turvey confirmed that future maintenance would be in house or an extension to the service contract would be sought from 'Technogym' the equipment supplier; it was worthy to also note the quality of the equipment being transferred was of such a high standard it could conceivably be considered new.

It was **AGREED**

1. That the transfer of the gym equipment be noted.
2. That the investment into the Leisure Centre be welcomed.

Councillor Jo Wild Left the meeting at **18:49**.

INVESTMENT

Dave Turvey reported that of the £100,000 investment originally listed in the Capital Programme in 2014 for general maintenance and cosmetic repair, £65,000 has been listed for the supply of a new boiler/heating system and sundry general maintenance.

Sandra Lamb in response to Councillor Steve Maskrey's query on an independent review being taken of the condition of the Leisure Centre, stated that condition surveys are always independently commissioned (from Derbyshire County Council most recently) as the District Council does not retain the staff qualified to produce such a report.

It was **AGREED**

1. That this situation be noted
2. That the outcome of the survey be reported at a later date.

ANTHONY GELL SCHOOL UPDATE

A written update report was received from Malcolm Kelly whom informed the group he was happy with the current progress and communication with the District Council. Malcolm Kelly also reported he is due to hold a meeting with Dorcas Bunton (DDDC Chief Executive) on 20 January 2017 and again on 25 January 2017 to include Ashley Watts (Head of Community Development) and Paul Wilson (Corporate Director) to discuss the Joint Use Agreement and the 'spirit' of objectives and aims in seeing through the transfer of management to the future company awarded the contract.

It was **AGREED**

1. That the report be noted.
2. That future cooperation in the process is welcomed.

REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION

John Thompson as a preamble to his report on a review of the Constitution as listed in the agenda accepted that any future developments would be subject to the tendering process and the plan being accepted by District Council Members at the Special C&E meeting to be held on 23 February 2017. In light of this the Chairman posed two questions for consideration:

1. Assuming, as John Thompson would wish it to do, the Wirksworth Leisure Centre Community Group (WLCCG) will continue and how would it relate to the new company awarded the management contract?
2. What would be the outcome of the WLCCG's contribution to the creation of the tendered specification?

Sandra Lamb informed John Thompson that any outcome was too early to answer in the current process but the group would be kept fully informed.

It was **AGREED** – The recommendation to amend the Constitution be accepted in principle and referred to Council at the appropriate time.

EXTRA AGENDA ITEM – LEISURE SERVICES FEES AND CHARGES

The Fees and Charges (as listed for approval in Appendix 11 of Item 10 of the agenda for the Governance & Resources Committee to be held on 19 January 2017) were presented by Dave Turvey who reported that with the exception of a freeze on Membership prices all other fees and charges were subject to a 3% increase this financial year 2017/18.

It was **AGREED** – That the Fees and Charges for 2017/18 be noted.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

It was **AGREED** - That the date of the next meeting would be circulated when the tendering process has commenced; no date is currently set in the meetings calendar but may be called as the Constitution allows.

Meeting closed at **19:07**.