

Minutes of the meeting of the **Leisure Sub-Committee** held on **6 November 2001** when there were present:

Cllr J R F Mason – Chairman

Cllr T G Cutmore

Cllr J E Grey

Cllr D R Helson

Cllr A Hosking

Cllr C C Langlands

Cllr T Livings

Cllr Mrs M S Vince

Cllr D A Weir

Cllr Mrs M J Webster

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs J Helson

OFFICERS PRESENT

R Crofts – Corporate Director (Finance & External Services)

J Bourne – Leisure and Contracts Manager

E McIlwaine – Leisure Clients Officer

A Wyatt – Committee Administrator

125 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 October 2001 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

Minute 123 – Mill Hall Lift

Members noted that the parts needed to repair the lift were on order and that it was envisaged that the works would take one day to complete, however the lift was still in use, albeit limited. It was further noted that Leisure Connection had contributed half the cost of the repair of the lift.

Minute 124 – Digital Cinema

It was noted that the leaflets advertising the film showings at the Mill Hall would be available for distribution to the public on 12 November. A quantity of the leaflets had been sent to members of the cinema club, as well as being made available through reception areas at the District Council and Libraries.

126 LEISURE CONNECTION MANAGEMENT REPORT

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director (Finance & External Services) which provided details of the latest management report from Leisure Connection Plc. Wendy Edwards from Leisure Connection attended the Meeting to answer Members' questions.

During item by item analysis of the report, the following points were raised:

Clements Hall

The issue of recent difficulties with youths arose and it was noted that there had recently been difficulties experienced with a number of youths congregating at Clements Hall and causing a nuisance. It was further noted that there had been some difficulties in deploying CCTV to the area and it was requested that this matter be raised at the forthcoming Community Safety Sub-Committee.

Further to this the Sub-Committee agreed that the Youth Service should be requested to visit the area with their mobile outreach group.

Park School

It was noted that it was the intention of Leisure Connection to promote the other District Council owned leisure facilities in the area during the downtime between the closure of Park Sports Centre and the building of the new facility. It was inevitable however that there would be migration to other facilities as a consequence of the closure.

RECOMMENDED

- (1) That the report be noted.
- (2) That the Essex Youth Service be invited to send their mobile outreach group to Clements Hall Leisure Centre in an attempt to alleviate youth nuisance problems that were currently occurring at Clements Hall.

127 SUMMER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director (Finance & External Services) which apprised Members of this year's summer holiday play schemes. Members congratulated Officers on the success of the previous years scheme and considered that the proposal for the budget increase was to be supported.

It was mooted that this additional sum could be funded from the Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy budget, however, on a show of hands it was

RECOMMENDED

- (1) That the report be noted.
- (2) That a sum of £12,000 be included in the draft estimates for 2002/2003 for swimming and an inflation-related increase for summer day camps. (CD(F&ES))

128 ROCHFORD RESIDENTS LEISURE CARD

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director (Finance & External Services) which provided Members with proposals for how the possible implementation of a residents leisure card could be progressed and what benefits it could provide.

Noting the benefits and operational issues involved in the adoption of such a card, Members were of the opinion that the proposal should be supported and that the following should be included in the discussions with the preferred contractor.

- The sharing of marketing information made available from the card.
- The need to include single applications, couples, families, children etc in any proposed scheme.

RECOMMENDED

That the report be noted and that discussions take place with the preferred contractor on the basis detailed in the report. (CD(F&ES))

129 CASTLE HALL UPDATE REPORT

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director (Finance & External Services) which informed Members of the current situation regarding the bookings at Castle Hall and the potential noise nuisance and customer complaints that had been received. It was noted that there had been no further noise nuisance complaints at the site.

Noting the possible resource implications for potential remedies to noise problems at the site, Members agreed that Officers recommendations were to be supported and it was

RECOMMENDED

That Members note the contents of the report and

- (1) Require Leisure Connection to have a person present on the site for the duration of all disco type events with a report being made back to this Sub-Committee on the resource consequences of such a demand.
- (2) That Leisure Connection be required to ensure that all windows and doors remain closed during a disco type event. The main entrance door may be open only for access (both subject to public safety issues)
- (3) That Officers investigate the cost of installing a noise limiter set at a level which ensures that the music level does not cause a nuisance.
- (4) Investigate the cost of installing an air-conditioning mechanical ventilation triple glazing/double porching facility or not to hire the hall during warm weather for disco type events.
- (5) Defer any decision on event bookings from May 2002 onwards until discussions with the new leisure contractor about future use of this hall taking into account the issues in this report.
- (6) Authorise the review and strengthening of the regulations and conditions of hire. (CD(F&ES))

130 RAYLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL ANGLIA IN BLOOM COMPETION 2002

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director (Finance & External Services) on an invitation from Rayleigh Town Council to provide a representative to join their Rayleigh in Bloom Competition. In endorsing the proposal, Members were divided as to whether the appointment should be a Member or an Officer. It was agreed that the matter should be decided at the Community Services Committee.

RECOMMENDED

That the report be noted and that a representative be put forward for Anglia in Bloom Committee, however, that the exact appointment be made at the next Meeting of Community Services Committee. (CD (F&ES)).

The Meeting closed at 9.00pm

Chairman

Date

