

Minutes of the meeting of the **Leisure Sub-Committee** held on **9 January 2001** when there were present:

Cllr D M Ford (Chairman)

Cllr T G Cutmore

Cllr K A Gibbs

Cllr J E Grey

Cllr D R Helson

Cllr A Hosking

Cllr C C Langlands

Cllr T Livings

Cllr Mrs M J Webster

Cllr D A Weir

VISITING MEMBER

Cllr P F A Webster

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mrs S J Lemon and J R F Mason

SUBSTITUTE

Cllr R E Vingoe

OFFICERS PRESENT

R Crofts – Corporate Director (Finance & External Services)

A Wyatt – Committee Administrator

89 MEMBERS' INTERESTS WERE RECEIVED AS FOLLOWS:-

Item 6 Councillor P F A Webster declared an interest by virtue of being a user of leisure facilities within the District.

Item 7 Councillors D M Ford and D R Helson declared non pecuniary interests by virtue of membership of Rochford Sports Council; Councillor T Livings declared a non pecuniary interest by virtue of being a Member of Rayleigh Town Council.

90 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 September 2000 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to Councillor T G Cutmore being included on the list of Members giving apologies for that Meeting.

91 LEISURE CONNECTION MANAGEMENT REPORT

The Sub-Committee noted the report of the Corporate Director (Finance & External Services) with regard to the latest Leisure Connection Management Report. Mrs Wendy Edwards from Leisure Connection attended the Meeting to answer Members' questions relating to the report. The following points were clarified during discussion:-

Clements Hall

Members noted the difficulties which had been experienced with the temperature control of both dry side and wet side showers at Clements Hall Leisure Centre, and requested that Officers investigate the cost for complete refurbishment of the shower system with a report being brought back to the next Meeting of the Sub-Committee.

Park School

It was noted that, further to the Sub-Committee's consideration of fire safety issues at this site, Essex County Council had yet to complete all aspects of the fire safety works requested. It was noted that the decoration at Park Sports Centre was in places looking tired, however Members were mindful of the need for only essential repairs to be made to the building given its uncertain future. Members requested that Officers produce a report on the cost of redecorating the squash courts for the next meeting.

Freight House

Members noted that security lighting around the Freight House was subject to continual vandalism and it was requested that Officers investigate the cost of installing fine wire mesh grills over the security lights with the matter being reported back to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

Mill Hall

The Sub-Committee were disappointed to note the reduced hours of the new shoppers creche, this was due to lack of support at certain times of the week.

RECOMMENDED

That a report be prepared for the next meeting of the Sub Committee relating to the above points (CD (FES))

92 FESTIVAL OF SPORT 2001

The Sub-Committee noted the report of the Corporate Director (Finance & External Services) which advised Members of discussions which had taken place between Rayleigh Town Council and Rochford Sports Council in respect of the 2001 Festival of Sport.

93 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

To agree that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining business on the grounds that exempt information as defined in paragraph 9 of Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 would be disclosed.

94 APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTANTS – LEISURE CONTRACT

NOTE: The Chairman admitted this item of urgent business in order to ensure as speedy as possible an appointment of consultants to progress the letting of the new leisure contract.

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director (Finance & External Services) which sought Members agreement to the waiving of Contract Standing Orders and the appointment of PMP Consultants to carry out the work required to let the new leisure contract.

Agreeing Officers recommendation Members considered furthermore that urgency procedures should be used by the Chief Executive in order that no time be lost in the preparation of the leisure contract.

RECOMMENDED

- (1) That PMP be appointed to carry out the works as set out in their letter of 20 December to a maximum sum of £32,272 plus VAT
- (2) That the Corporate Director (Finance & External Services) be given authority to purchase additional consultancy up to a maximum cost of £3,000. (CD(F&ES))
- (3) That urgency procedure be used to expedite this issue. (CEX)

The Meeting closed at 8.50pm

Chairman _____

Date _____