

ETWALL LEISURE CENTRE JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

15th April 2002

PRESENT:-

South Derbyshire District Council Representatives

Labour Group

Councillor Southern (Chair) and Councillors Evens, Rose and Shepherd.

Conservative Group

Councillor Hood (substitute for Councillor Lemmon).

Officers

I. Reid, C. Mason, S. Wright and P. Spencer.

Representative of Governors of Etwall John Port School

F. Briggs.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Councillor Lemmon and Mr. Stackhouse (South Derbyshire District Council), Messrs C. Clemens and M. Crane (Representatives of Governors of Etwall John Port School) and G. Cole (Vice-Chair).

EL/21. **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th January 2002 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

EL/22. **MATTERS ARISING**

Ian Reid reported that closure of the 2001/02 budgets had nearly been completed. This had revealed a small underspend on some budget headings and the Joint Management Committee was asked to consider carrying forward these monies rather than them being returned to the funding partners.

RESOLVED:-

That the budget underspend be carried forward to 2002/03.

EL/23. **USAGE INFORMATION**

A report was submitted which identified public usage of the swimming pool, squash courts and tennis courts for the financial years 1997/98 to date with comparative monthly usage figures. It had been hoped to circulate the end of year income figures, but unfortunately these were not yet completed. The Leisure Centre Manager explained that there had been a recent downturn in public use of the swimming pool, but this was balanced by private pool hire and swimming lessons. It was hoped that the external decoration of the Leisure Centre would increase its usage.

The Centre Manager explained that people had been using the tennis courts without paying the required hire fee. It was proposed to erect a banner to advise users of the hire fees and there were no perceived planning problems or objections from the school to this proposal. The banner was likely to cost approximately £200, but this should be offset by the increased income received.

RESOLVED:-

- (1) That the usage information report be noted.***
- (2) Members noted the proposal to erect a banner facing the tennis courts.***

EL/24. **SHOWER HOT WATER SYSTEM**

It was reported that as part of routine monitoring of hot water systems, a sample taken on Thursday 7th February 2002 proved positive for Legionella. The system was shut down immediately and the problem resolved with minimal disruption. The Joint Management Committee received a report which examined the possible reasons for this positive test and the actions taken to reduce the likelihood of a reoccurrence.

Specialist contractors tested and disinfected the water systems on four occasions each year. Following the positive test, the system was disinfected again and the specialist contractor checked for any irregularities which might have caused the problem. The closure of the Centre over the Christmas period meant that water was left standing in the system. Examination of the water temperature log books revealed there had been abnormally low readings at certain times during the weeks before the test. On 9th February 2002, the contractor returned to the site, cleaned a cold water storage tank and disinfected the system again. Further samples were taken and these were within prescribed limits.

The contractor had made recommendations to minimise the likelihood of future problems. The water storage tank on the school roof was too large for the demands of the Centre and had been replaced with a smaller tank at a cost of £1,980. A thermometer will be fitted on the hot water return pipe adjacent to the calorifier and readings recorded at frequent intervals. Log books will also be provided to record all work undertaken on the systems. The cost of replacing the water tank had been met from the current year's allocation for building improvements and the other costs were minimal.

Members questioned whether reducing the capacity of the water tank could have been achieved at a lesser cost and options were explored. However, to avoid the likelihood of future problems the replacement of the water tank was considered to be a prudent measure. It was noted that the Council's Environmental Health Department was satisfied with the approach taken and had commented that this was not an unusual problem. Mr. Briggs confirmed that problems had been experienced with the boilers through a defective "worm" mechanism which fed the supply of coal to the boiler. He explained the resultant problems with low water temperature and smoke. Actions had been taken to turn off a boiler and re-direct energy from another boiler to maintain the Centre's water temperature. The defective component was only eighteen months old. Mr. Briggs then explained the discussions

with Council Officers, the problems with maintaining the boilers and the difficulties in obtaining spare parts for them.

RESOLVED:-

That the report and the actions taken be noted.

EL/25. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 (AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT [ACCESS TO INFORMATION] ACT 1985)**

RESOLVED:-

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in brackets after each item.

MINUTES

The Exempt Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th January 2002 were received.

MATTERS ARISING

The Committee received an update on the funding being sought through the New Opportunities Fund to provide new facilities for the Etwall Leisure Centre.

PROVISION OF NEW FACILITIES – ETWALL LEISURE CENTRE (Paragraph 7)

The Committee approved a way forward for the provision of new facilities for the Etwall Leisure Centre.

APPLICATION FOR EARLY RETIREMENT (Paragraph 1)

The Committee determined an application for early retirement.

APPLICATION FOR HONORARIUM (Paragraph 1)

The Committee determined an application for an honorarium.

R.W. SOUTHERN

CHAIR