

ETWALL LEISURE CENTRE JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: SPECIAL

16th May 2017

PRESENT:-

Representatives of South Derbyshire District Council

Conservative Group

Councillor Mrs A Plenderleith (Vice-Chairman) and Councillor A Billings

Labour Group

Councillor D Shepherd

Officers

S Batchelor – Director of Community and Planning Services

C Tyler - Democratic Services Officer

Representatives of Etwall John Port School

Governing Body

C Sainsbury

Officer

G Golding

Representatives of Active Nation

J Dobson

EL/66 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee was informed that no apologies for absence had been received.

EL/67 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Committee was informed that no declarations of interest had been received.

EL/68 **ETWALL LEISURE CENTRE COMMUNITY USE REVIEW**

The Director of Community and Planning Services presented the report to Committee.

Members enquired as to the current usage and availability of the sports hall and swimming facilities. The Head Teacher clarified that, where feasible, the school is as flexible as possible to cater for mutual school and community usage and that there was no change in the curriculum requirements for the ensuing school year.

The Director confirmed that Derbyshire County Council pay £8,000 per annum to secure the pool's availability for infant swimming sessions. The Centre Manager stated that there were no suitable gaps in this usage that could be utilised to

facilitate additional community use and that the County Council determine the timetable for the primary schools, reviewed annually in June-July. It was acknowledged that occasionally sessions are cancelled at short notice due to sickness or other commitments.

Options to increase the swimming provision were outlined by the Director, but due to the space limitations and higher than anticipated building costs, this could not be addressed in the near future. However, assurance was given that the financial position is subject to ongoing review, in particular when determining the use of Section 106 contributions from local developments.

The Vice-Chairman commented on the frustrations expressed relating to sports facility availability and acknowledged that whilst some early (7-8.50am) and later (5.30-6.30 or 6-10pm) sessions had been suggested, these were not ideal, but accepted the need to avoid school hours due to the curriculum requirements.

Councillor Billings enquired into the availability of the sports hall and the opportunity for any future re-modelling. The Director explained that although the future building options had been considered, there were currently only one set of changing rooms, preventing dual usage on practicality and safeguarding grounds, and that the hall was often in use after school for Sports Partnership competitions.

Councillor Shepherd surmised the position in that in accordance with the Joint Management Committee Constitution the school held the veto on the facility usage. The Head Teacher emphasised that whilst the school has an overriding need to cater for its children and satisfy the curriculum requirements, it already demonstrates flexibility in terms of community usage. The Vice-Chairman sought reassurance on behalf of the community that the school regularly review usage and to discuss community usage where opportunities occur. The Head Teacher undertook to do so as part of their review process.

RESOLVED:-

Members considered the request for increased community use during School allocated time. It was noted that whilst no opportunities were currently available to increase community usage, the matter would be subject to ongoing review.

The meeting terminated at 5:25pm.

COUNCILLOR MRS A PLENDERLEITH

VICE-CHAIRMAN