

ETWALL LEISURE CENTRE JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

6 July 2022

PRESENT:-

Representatives of South Derbyshire District Council

Labour Group

Councillor D Shepherd

Conservative Group

Councillor D Muller (Vice-Chair)

Independent Group

Councillor A MacPherson

Officers

K Stackhouse - Strategic Director (Corporate Resources)

Laura Winter – Active Communities and Health Officer

Donna Foster – Democratic Services Officer

Representatives of John Port Spencer Academy

Governing Body

Marie Walker-Endsor - School Governor

Danny Parker – School Governor (Chair)

Representatives of Active Nation

Terry Simms

EL/01 **APPOINTMEN OF THE CHAIR**

Nominations for the position of Chair were requested.

RESOLVED:-

That Danny Parker (School Governor) be appointed Chair for the period ending July 2023.

EL/02 **APPOINTMENT OF THE VICE-CHAIR**

Nominations for the position of Vice-Chair were requested.

RESOLVED:-

That Cllr Muller be appointed Vice-Chair for the period ending July 2023.

EL/03 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee was informed that no apologies were received.

EL/04 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

EL/05 **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 10**

In Accordance with Council Procedure Rule No 10 Mr Price raised the following question:

Now that Active Nation is beginning to listen to its customers regarding timetabling, patronage is rapidly returning to pre-pandemic levels, and is likely to grow much more, given the population growth in the area, adding pressure on the facilities and the swimming timetable in particular. In 2009, the current Centre had to forego its planned teaching pool because the funding package couldn't provide it, so will the JMC now work with the local community to ensure that swimming and wider leisure provision in Etwall is improved to meet these ever-growing demands, and if it is willing to work with us, how can we work together to achieve our goals?

The Active Nation Representative informed the Committee that space made it challenging and complex to cater for all members of the community and noted time constraints that included catering for John Port Spencer Academy until 16:00hrs.

Mr Price raised a supplementary question regarding adding to facilities in the long term.

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) advised that a review of the Local Plan would consider the growth in housing provision and what leisure facilities would be required in the future and encouraged the involvement of residents regarding the review.

Members endorsed the importance of residents being involved with the review of the Local Plan and leisure facilities.

EL/06 **FINAL ACCOUNTS 2021-22**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) presented the report to the Committee noting that the outturn was in line with the January estimate and that there were smaller spends on repairs and maintenance and utility costs.

Members raised concerns regarding the increases in energy costs and sought clarity regarding the Asset Replacement reserves.

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The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) informed the Committee that utility costs were mainly borne by the Contractor (Active Nation) and that they would keep the costs under review following the increases.

It was also clarified that the Asset Replacement reserve was the responsibility of the Joint Management Committee who should decide what it included and how it was utilised. It was also confirmed that the new Head of Cultural and Community Services appointed by the Council, would be reviewing this and an updated planned maintenance programme would be reported to a future Committee.

RESOLVED:

The Committee approved the Final Accounts for 2021/22.

EL/07 **SERVICE IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

The Active Nation Representative presented the report to the Committee outlining the recommendations following Audits carried out over the past 12 months and explained how best practices for leisure services would be considered. It was noted that following a covid recovery assessment in June last year the service was deemed as good and received a number of recommendations for improvement. The Active Nation Representative informed the Committee that future reports would only include information relating to Etwall Leisure Centre.

RESOLVED:

The Committee considered and approved the Service Improvement Plan as per Appendix 1 of the report.

EL/08 **ACTIVE NATION PERFORMANCE REPORT**

The Active Nation Representative presented the update to the Committee and outlined the financial position and noted that following Covid the centre had seen a steady increase of customers and as of May 2022 was operating at 85%. The Active Nation Representative highlighted the improvement of the Squash Courts' following the refurbishment of the changing and toilet facilities and the appointment of a new Duty Manager. The Committee was informed that the historical drainage issues had been inspected and that a number of blockages had been identified and that work carried out to resolve the issues was expected to be completed by the end of July.

Members raised concerns regarding the shortage of swimming teachers and queried the level of pay. The Active Nation Representative confirmed that it was hoped that the level of pay would be increased to £14 per hour, which was in line with competitors

RESOLVED:

The Active National Performance Report was received and noted.

EL/09 **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 paragraph of Part I of the Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in the header to each report on the Agenda.

The meeting terminated at 17:55hours

D PARKER (SCHOOL GOVERNOR)

CHAIR