

ETWALL LEISURE CENTRE JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

14th October 2002

PRESENT:-

South Derbyshire District Council Representatives

Labour Group

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

Conservative Group

Councillor Lemmon.

Officers

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

Representatives of Etwall John Port School

Governors

C. Clemens and M. Crane.

Officers

F. Briggs.

Representatives of Derbyshire County Council

Councillor Routledge.

APOLOGY

An apology for absence from the Meeting was received from Mr. G. Cole (Etwall John Port School).

EL/12. **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th July 2002 were taken as read, approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

EL/13. **REPORTS OF MEMBERS**

On behalf of the Joint Management Committee, the Chair welcomed County Councillor Routledge. Councillor Routledge explained the decision of the Derbyshire County Council to recommence Member representation and it was hoped that the Local Member, Councillor Mrs. Littlejohn would also be appointed to the Joint Management Committee.

EL/14. **JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Further to Minute No. EL/6 of 15th July 2002, the Committee received an update on the co-option of Community Group Representatives. The proposal had been considered by the South Derbyshire District Council at a Meeting of its Community Services Committee on 18th July 2002. It had agreed to the suggested co-option of Community Group Representatives, subject to the

consent of Derbyshire County Council. The County Council had since confirmed that it raised no objection to the co-option of Community Group Representatives.

In accordance with the original 1974 Agreement and as raised earlier in the Meeting, the County Council also wished to resume Member representation on the Joint Management Committee.

Consideration was given to the likely nominations from the Community Group. It was agreed to write seeking nominations and to place the formal co-option item early on the agenda so that those representatives could participate in the next Meeting.

RESOLVED:-

- (1) That nominations be sought from the Etwall Leisure Centre Community Group and that two members be co-opted, on a non-voting basis, at the next Joint Management Committee Meeting.***
- (2) That the appointment of County Councillor Routledge be welcomed and that the Committee notes the likely future appointment of County Councillor Mrs. Littlejohn.***

EL/15. **SWIMMING POOL – PROGRAMME OF USE**

It was reported that at most Leisure Centres, programmes of use evolved through custom and practice, reflecting different pressures on pool times. The main demands had traditionally been casual public swimming, organised swimming lessons, club use, organised activities and private hire. One of the areas that had traditionally been safeguarded was public swimming. In regular management reports to the Committee, Members had been made aware of the decline in public swimming. This was a national trend, attributed in part to competition from other activities and private sector facilities.

There was an unmet demand for swimming lessons and for increased time in the programme for club/private hire use. Appended to the report were details of the current programme of use and the revised programme proposed to reflect the changing demand. Summary level information was also contained within the report.

In considering the proposals, Members voiced concerns at the possible loss of trade through reduced public access to the pool. The Leisure Centre Manager commented on the continual decline in public use of the swimming pool and explained that there was a twelve month waiting list for swimming lessons. He also spoke of the known demand for club use of the pool. With the declining public use of the facilities, it was questioned whether staffing levels could similarly be reduced. An outline was given of the staffing requirements and it might be possible to consider this issue during the budget review process. A Member congratulated the pro-active management approach to recognise this problem and to submit proposals to maximise use of the pool.

RESOLVED:-

That the Joint Management Committee approves the amendments to the swimming pool programme, as submitted.

EL/16. **FINAL ACCOUNT 2001/02**

The Final Accounts for 2001/02 were submitted. The Leisure Centre's final outturn showed a relatively small net underspend of £3,740 and the squash courts had generated additional net income of £1,816. The formal statement of accounts was awaiting audit and would be reported to the Committee when this had been completed.

RESOLVED:-

(1) That the final outturn for 2001/02 be approved.

(2) That the underspend for 2001/02 be carried forward to 2002/03.

EL/17. **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 15th July 2002 were received.

REPORTS OF MEMBERS – FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES (Paragraph 7)

A Member reported on possible future funding opportunities.

ETWALL SWIMMING POOL SHOWER REFURBISHMENT (Paragraph 9)

The Committee considered options for refurbishment of the shower system. A verbal report was also provided on possible opportunities to overcome known problems with the boiler system.

C. CLEMENS

CHAIR