

ETWALL LEISURE CENTRE JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

12th January 2015

PRESENT:-

Representatives of South Derbyshire District Council

Conservative Group

Councillor J. Lemmon (Vice - Chair)

Labour Group

Councillor D. Shepherd

Officers

S. Batchelor (Director of Community & Planning Services), K. Stackhouse (Director of Finance & Corporate Services), A. Edwards (Senior Legal Officer) and T. C. Lindgren (Democratic Services Officer)

Representatives of Etwall John Port School

Governors

P. Downs and C. Harrison

Representatives of Active Nation

D. Johns (Contract Manager) and S. Smith (Deputy Contracts Manager)

EL/16 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor M. Bale. In Mr Whyman's absence the meeting was chaired by the Vice Chair, Councillor J. Lemmon.

EL/17 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Committee was informed that no declarations of interest from its members had been received for this meeting.

EL/18 **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 27th October 2014 were noted. It was requested that the presentation by Active Nation be recorded.

The Council's Director of Finance and Corporate Services introduced the report, which detailed the Leisure Centre's financial position for the current financial year 2014/15 against the approved budget, together with the proposed estimates of income and expenditure for 2015/16.

Projected spending was expected to increase in 2014/15 and 2015/16 compared to the original budget for 2014/15. This is less than the overall expenditure in 2013/14 due to a planned reduction in the contractor payment. The main reasons for the increase compared to the original budget were continued pressures on general repairs and maintenance, together with increased utility costs. It was proposed to increase the budget from £12k to just over £27k. The budget continued to propose setting aside contributions to a Sinking Fund and future decommissioning costs. The current amount in the Sinking Fund is approximately £100k, although the Committee had previously agreed to earmark this towards developing the facility.

The costs had been reduced and, after allowing for the County Council contribution, the contributions required from the funding partners, the District Council and the School, was estimated to be £128,116 rather than the actual cost of £134,063 in 2013/14. The Council's Director of Community & Planning Services highlighted at the meeting in September 2014 that it had been agreed to reduce the management and contract fees for running the site.

The Council's Director of Finance and Corporate Services pointed out the importance of being clear which pot the money comes from with regards to the 'Sinking Fund'. A suggestion was made of an annual transfer of £10k due to the building and its contents getting older.

RESOLVED:-

That the projected out-turn for 2014/15 and proposed estimates of income and expenditure for 2015/16 be approved.

EL/20 **PERFORMANCE REPORT - ACTIVE NATION**

S. Smith (Deputy Contracts Manager) gave a presentation on behalf of Active Nation about the operation and performance of the centre since the last meeting of the Committee. The key point to emerge was that there were a lot of 'good news stories' such as:

- Hilton Harriers FC Xmas Competition 2015 – A.N. sponsored (HH raised approx. £1,000)
- Derbyshire & Badminton England Events – feedback excellent
- New junior badminton club established
- Swimathon 2015 planned (17th – 19th April)
- Swim Scheme hits 1100 (93% capacity!)
- Holiday Scheme – Oct ½ term & Christmas
- Active Nation – 7 days (total 158 participations)
- SoccerStars – 9 days (total circa 280 participations)
- School Sport Partnership Events Hosted
- Deventio Excel, County Badminton Squads

- Café re-opened - Oct 2014. Vending run through Active Nation.
- QUEST assessment – 29th & 30th January 2015
- New Legend operational system on site implemented December 2014
- Football Development Plan signed off by FA
- Cycling – replacing spin bikes
- GP referral – revamped and re-launched
- Sports Development Plan
- Coach Education and Development Programme

The centre had been very well used over this period both in terms of increased visits by local people and hosting high profile events, such as Derbyshire & Badminton England Events. However, this growing success, it was explained, had raised capacity related issues both in terms of extra wear and tear to the building and facilities. A new campaign through January to March 2015 – had been launched called '*Join us in our fight against inactivity*, and so far 110 x 3 day passes had been driven through the website and 75 new memberships sold for gym & exercise since 2nd January 2015.

A discovery weekend took place during 10th and 11th January 2015 to try and encourage new users into the site, with 70 participants in two of the classes, 200 new users and 178 new leads, annual membership had grown with an additional 44 users.

There had been some work undertaken such as Swimming Pool Plant Improvements, Air Handling Replacement Board, Boiler Ignition and Pumps. ISO 14001 status had been achieved in conjunction with SDDC guidelines and the increased local use of Social Media – Facebook, Twitter and the Website.

At the last meeting, there were a request to feedback comments from users of the facilities, there had been a lot of positives such as (see appendix for full list of comments):-

- GP referral – revamped and re-launched
- The changing facilities were very clean and tidy and a pleasant temperature to change.
- To let you know that Saturday's badminton tournament went really well. Despite the freezing weather on the day we ran 142 matches the staff were great and everyone appreciated the café being open until 3pm so a very big thank you for your support with this event.
- Like - friendly, helpful staff

The anticipation was that participation would increase from 207,559 (April 2013 – November 2014) to 239,334 participations (April 2014 – November 2015).

It was reported that there had been a plant failure and that parts are no longer available, so there is a need to enhance and future proof the maintenance of the site.

Members of the Committee discussed the information contained in the presentation and thanked those involved in running the centre for their efforts.

The Chairman asked for the date of the next meeting of 13th April 2015 to be adjusted; a new date of 20th April 2015 was agreed.

The meeting terminated at 5.35pm

COUNCILLOR J. LEMMON

Vice-Chairman