

CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Leisure Park Board held, in committee, in the Board Room at Dundonald International Ice Bowl on Monday 20 June 2005 at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Alderman P D Robinson (In the chair from 6.20 p.m. until 7.55 p.m.)
M Long (In the chair from 6.00 p.m.- 6.20 p.m. and from 7.55 p.m.)

ALDERMEN: I Robinson (from 6.25 p.m. until 7.55 p.m.)
G Rice

COUNCILLORS: J Beattie (from 6.15 p.m.)
J Bunting
D Drysdale (until 8.45 p.m.)
B Hanvey (until 8.35 p.m.)
T Jeffers
G Robinson
J White

IN ATTENDANCE: Director of Finance & Leisure Services, Business Manager, Operations Manager, Economic Development Officer, Technical Manager, Mr Simon Kitchen (for presentation), Councillor A M Beattie from 8.40 p.m., and Assistant Members' Services Officer.

LPB/2005/58: MINUTES OF LEISURE PARK BOARD MEETING DATED 21 MARCH 2005

Councillor Bunting proposed that the Leisure Park Board minutes of 21 March 2005 be accepted as a true record, subject to the following amendment:

Minute Ref LPB/2005/47– Replace Braniel Community Centre with Belvoir Activity Centre.

This proposal was seconded by Councillor White and it was

RESOLVED: - Members authorised that the Minutes of the Leisure Park Board meeting held on 21 March 2005 be accepted as a true and accurate record, subject to the aforementioned amendment.

LPB/2005/59: MINUTES OF LEISURE PARK BOARD MEETING DATED 24 MARCH 2005

Councillor White proposed that the Leisure Park Board minutes of 24 March 2005 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Councillor Drysdale seconded this proposal and it was subsequently

RESOLVED: - Members authorised that the Minutes of the Leisure Park Board meeting held on 24 March 2005 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

LPB/2005/60: MINUTES OF LEISURE PARK BOARD MEETING DATED 19 MAY 2005

Alderman Rice proposed that the Leisure Park Board minutes of 19 May 2005 be accepted as a true record, subject to the following amendment:

Minute Ref: LPB/2005/57 be amended to read:

That Councillor Long be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Leisure Park Board for the 2005/2006 year, not Councillor Drysdale.

This proposal was seconded by Councillor White and it was

RESOLVED: - Members authorised that the Minutes of the Leisure Park Board meeting held on 19 May 2005 be accepted as a true and accurate record, subject to the aforementioned amendment.

MATTERS ARISING

LPB/2005/61: NEW ICE PAD FLOORING – USE OF OLD CARPET

Councillor Bunting sought clarification from Officers as to whether Belvoir Activity Centre had taken some of the old carpet for use in the centre.

The Operations Manager confirmed that she had e-mailed all staff advising that the carpet was available, but indicated that there was a storage problem in many of the centers.

Councillor Bunting stressed that it was important that Belvoir Activity Centre would keep some of this carpet, in light of the fact that ratepayers had previously been charged for the laying of flooring to enable events to take place.

The Director of Finance & Leisure Services advised that he would liaise with staff from the Belvoir Activity Centre in this respect.

Noted.

LPB/2005/62: BUSINESS PLAN/ESTIMATES 2005/2006

The Director of Finance & Leisure Services explained to Members that the Leisure Park Board set out the framework for the future development of the Leisure Park by instigating the formulation of a structured business plan, which would be monitored on an annual basis.

He referred to the current Business Plan, which he felt would especially benefit new Members.

He asked Members to peruse the contents and contact him directly with any questions or queries that they may have.

Noted.

At this stage in proceedings Alderman P D Robinson entered the meeting, and took the chair.

LPB/2005/63: FINANCE

The Business Manager referred to the trading accounts for the period 1 April 2005 – 31 May 2005. He advised that although the budgeted levels of income were not achieved in the first two months the Ice Bowl had been able to keep below the profiled budgeted loss.

The Officer reported that income for the two-month period was affected by two factors, the early Easter in March 05 and the four-week closure of Indinaland for the refurbishment programme. He confirmed that expenditure continued to be strictly monitored and apart from vending each department remained within the budgeted levels.

At this stage in proceedings Alderman Mrs Robinson entered the meeting.

Alderman P D Robinson sought clarification as to whether it was feasible to maintain expenditure at such a reduced level, querying whether additional spend would be required in the long term as a result of these savings. He also asked why income appeared to be below budgeted levels even on the profiled accounts.

The Business Manager advised that significant savings had been made in several areas including electricity at the centre with the introduction of the new combined heat and power system. He again reiterated his comments regarding

the Easter 05 period and the fact that we had experienced a four week closure of Indianaland. The Officer confirmed that he would be monitoring the income levels very closely as the year progresses.

Following detailed consideration it was

RESOLVED: - Members agreed that Officers

- (a) continue to monitor, closely, both income and expenditure on an ongoing basis and report back to the Board accordingly;
- (b) continue to investigate ways of marking the forthcoming 20th Anniversary of the opening of the Ice Bowl, bringing a report to a future meeting of the Board.

REPORT FROM OPERATIONS MANAGER

LPB/2005/64: INDIANALAND UPDATE

The Operations Manager advised that business had increased by 87% from the previous year and that Birthday Party Bookings had also increased by 21 from the same month in 2004.

Staff in all departments worked extremely hard during the refurbishment and Officers would like to commend them on their team efforts.

Members concurred and asked that the Board's thanks also be conveyed to all involved.

Noted.

LPB/2005/65: FOLLOW-UP SITE VISIT

The Operations Manager advised that with the completion of phase 1 and 2 of the Indiana Land refurbishment, the next stage operationally was to develop and implement a "Schools Education Programme" similar to Grandma's in Liverpool, implemented a year ago, which she detailed to Members.

The Officer also referred to Go-Karts on Ice, which she advised Members would hear more about later when Mr Kitchen made his presentation. Officers felt that these would have a huge potential for Dundonald Ice Bowl. Bracknell Ice Arena currently caters for this facility and is generating incomes of a minimum of £300 per hour from the Ice Pad.

The Officer sought permission from the Board for the Operations Manager and Mr Kitchen to follow up on the above two areas of development with site visits to both Liverpool and Bracknell. The cost of this would not exceed £300.

Members agreed that this would be appropriate and the Chairman suggested that if any Members of the Board wished to attend the site visits that they contact the Operations Manager directly.

RESOLVED: - Members agreed that the Operations Manager and Mr Kitchen attend the site visit to Liverpool and Bracknell, along with any Members of the Board wishing to attend, with the date yet to be confirmed.

LPB/2005/66: PIRATES ADVENTURE GOLF – PARTY ROOM

The Operations Manager stated that Officers had been in discussions with the Marketing Manager for the Adventure Golf Development. She reported that facilitating Birthday Parties had been discussed, as a matter of urgency as Pirates did not cater for the parties. Mrs. Hobson had enquired of the opportunity to make use of one of the existing party rooms in the Ice Bowl. An offer had been made that Pirates would decorate the room at their own expense.

The Officer confirmed that the Ice Bowl would get the same income for Catering and Marketing as that charged for our own parties, £6.00 per child. The Party Room requested was the Polar Bear Room, located in the main reception area. The Officer continued that this had proved to be a popular room in the past however, with three new party rooms in Indiana Land, it was not proving to be the main choice of room at present and would not necessarily be kept exclusively for Pirates use.

RESOLVED: - Members agreed that it would be appropriate for Officers to facilitate Birthday Parties for Pirate Adventure Golf in the Polar Bear Room, with income attracting £6.00 per child.

LPB/2005/67: CATERING UPDATE

The Operations Manager advised that the catering manager was currently implementing new opening times for both Lattecino and Alaska and was finalising plans to make Lattecino available Monday to Friday for Corporate Bookings. It was felt that this would encourage larger bookings whilst reducing expenditure in staffing during quieter evenings.

She advised that a revised menu had also been designed for Lattecino and a range of new products had been introduced in Alaska. The Officer continued that due to demand from customers for more “Healthy Options”, the Catering Manager was identifying products and necessary equipment for appropriate

display and storage. This would give the catering department the versatility and ability to increase sales by offering a more diverse range of products.

On this basis the Officer requested permission to purchase a refrigerated counter top display unit, at an approximate cost of £2,200.

RESOLVED: - Members of the Board agreed to the purchase of a counter display unit, at an approximate cost of £2,200.00, providing the Council's procurement procedures were adhered to.

LPB/2005/68: STAFFING / REQUESTS FOR FURTHER EDUCATION COURSES

The Operations Manager outlined requests in relation to further education courses and it was

RESOLVED: - Members of the Board authorised

- (a) that Miss Hunsdale, Recreational Assistant be permitted to undertake a BTEC HNC in Business Management (Part Time), for two years, on a day release basis at a cost of £400.00 inclusive of £100.00 BTEC fees;
- (b) Mr. Murphy, Control Clerk, be permitted to undertake a BA in Leisure Management, for one year, on day release basis at no cost to the Council;

LPB/2005/69: INCOME GENERATING IDEAS – EXPECTED HEAT WAVE

The Operations Manager stated that due to the recent weather news of expected good weather for the months of July and August, staff members had been asked to identify alternative income generating facilities during the summer period considering the fact that when the weather is good, the Ice Bowls income levels drop.

The Officer reported that Gaz Inflatable Castles Ltd, based in Leicester had forwarded a brochure, available for the Board's perusal, with inflatables ranging from standard bouncy castles, climbing walls and even an inflatable 5-A-Side football pitch.

She confirmed that these items could be hired at approximately £200 per hour. However, they could also be purchased from £6000 and could be used by not only the Ice Bowl, but could be hired out to the Council's Community Centres, Leisure Centres and even used for major promotional events.

The Officer continued that another area, which was being researched, at present, was an Outdoor Skate park to which there was no other in the Island of Ireland.

Bendcrete, based in the mainland are the biggest supplier of skate parks and come highly recommended by existing Skate park arenas in the mainland. The Officer advised that the area being considered for this would be the area of land adjacent to the Pirates Adventure Golf.

Members welcomed these suggestion by Officers but advised that insurance issues had been raised in the past in respect of skateboard parks.

Alderman Rice advised that she had attended a site visit along with Alderman I Robinson and Councillor White and would be very supportive of this proposal.

The Operations Manager stated that it may be possible to sign a disclaimer prior to using such a facility, and this was being investigated.

Detailed discussion ensued regarding the feasibility of bouncy castles. Following consideration the Chairman suggested that Officers investigate the provision of an "Alternative" outdoor play facility, i.e. a number of bouncy castles and other relevant outdoor play equipment.

Members agreed in principle to this idea, and due to time constraints they felt that the Officer should report back directly to the Chairman of the Board to approve the recommendations before proceeding.

It was therefore

RESOLVED: - Members agreed that Officers investigate the provision of an "Alternative" outdoor play facility, i.e. a number of bouncy castles and other relevant outdoor play equipment as a matter of urgency, and due to time constraints report back directly to the Chairman of the Board to approve the recommendations before proceeding.

LPB/2005/70: PROPOSALS FOR GENERATING ADDITIONAL INCOME

The Operations Manager detailed proposed changes to the timetable for the Ice Rink, which would generate additional income.

The Officer outlined her recommendations. She detailed that it was proposed to increase the current Ice Rink hire charge of £80.00 per hour to £110.00 per hour during peak times and £90.00 during off peak times.

Councillor Long stated that he felt this would be a substantial increase, as ice skating was already a very expensive hobby.

The Operations Manager explained that it was the smaller clubs who were affected more but explained that the professionals did not, infact, pay the clubs for their ice time.

Members considered the Officer's recommendation and it was agreed to increase the ice rink hire charges to £90.00 per hour from 1 September 2005, with a subsequent increase to £100.00 per hour effective from 1 January 2006.

Councillor Long expressed his opposition to this increase.

Members also suggested that the Council's Grants Officer liaise with the Clubs in attempt to secure any funding which may be available.

Following detailed consideration of the Officer's recommendations, as outlined in her report, it was

RESOLVED: - Members agreed the following amendments to the Ice Rink timetable:

- (a) the creation of an Ice Hockey Summer League, to generate additional income and assist in the promotion and development of the sport;
- (b) reduce public sessions by 30 minutes per session Sunday – Wednesday from 1st October 2005, to provide additional ice time for ice hockey, with no reduction in income from the sessions;
- (c) to increase the ice rink hire charges to £90.00 per hour from 1 September 2005, with a subsequent increase to £100.00 per hour effective from 1 January 2006, with the Council's Grants Officer liaising with the Clubs in an attempt to secure funding;
- (d) reduce time available to professional skaters by 1 hour – Wednesdays 5.00 pm – 6.00 pm, which represented dead time allocated to the professionals but not adequately used;
- (e) renew contract with Belfast Giants subject to a guarantee of two days per week, increase charge from £100.00 per hour to £110.00 per hour.

LPB/2005/71: DEVELOPMENT PLAN

JOB DESCRIPTION FOR ICE BOWL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (copy circulated at meeting)

The Operations Manager advised that it was imperative that the Ice Bowl would continue to be developed into a major sporting centre and leisure centre.

She stated that it was proposed that an Ice Rink Development Officer would be recruited, on a two-year fixed contract basis, the role would be to carry out a number of functions as a means of continuing this development. She continued

that these duties were, at present, being carried out on a casual ad-hoc basis, but it was hoped that this post could be formalised within the full staffing infrastructure.

Members referred to the job description, which was circulated at the meeting, and also to the key targets, which would be set for this Officer to achieve.

Alderman P D Robinson queried why the Sports Council for Northern Ireland could not fund this position as a large part of the role involved the promotion of ice hockey and skating clubs.

The Operations Manager advised that the role would not solely focus on sports development issues but would also involve operational matters for e.g. promoting a programme of special events and skate sharpening service to achieve additional income.

Following consideration it was

RESOLVED: - Members agreed that the Council's Grant Officer be instructed to liaise with the Sports Council for Northern Ireland, to ascertain the possibility of obtaining funding towards the proposed post of Ice Rink Development Officer and report to the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

LPB/2005/72: STRATEGY WEEKEND

Alderman P D Robinson outlined the benefit and usefulness of the previous strategy weekend, which was held at the Ross Park Hotel.

He asked Officers to investigate the organisation of another strategy weekend as he felt this could prove to be beneficial, in particular, to new Members of the Board.

RESOLVED: - Members agreed that Officers liaise with the Chairman of the Board, in respect of organising a Strategy Briefing Weekend over the summer months, to enable Members of the Board and Officers to review the current position with regard to the Leisure Park and consider future proposals for the entire complex.

At this stage in proceedings Aldermen P D and Mrs I Robinson left the meeting.

Councillor Long took the Chair.

LPB/2005/73: PRESENTATION BY MR SIMON KITCHEN

Members welcomed Mr Kitchen to the meeting.

Mr Kitchen provided Members with an update on Ice Hockey and Skating Clubs. This included details in respect of Current Clubs, the new Association, Team Ireland (World Championships 2008), Belfast Giants, the NI Open (May 2006) and possible grants/funding available.

He also provided Members with suggestions as to how the Ice Rink usage could be promoted during the school term and outlined special events that could be held on the rink, possible suggestions include ice karting and concerts/exhibitions.

Reference was also to the possible meltdown of the ice, which was proposed during July/August 2006, and suggested alternative options for the rink during this time for e.g. Inline Skating.

Members welcomed Mr Kitchen's suggestions but sought clarification in respect of the Ice Hockey Club's proposed sports swap with Edendork GAA.

Mr Kitchen confirmed that this was being organised by the Hockey Club and Members from both organisations were very keen to participate, he added that it was hoped that that this would encourage participation in ice hockey.

Councillor Bunting proposed that the details pertaining to the Sports Swap be tabled at Council for information purposes.

Councillor G Robinson seconded this proposal.

Several Members stated that they felt it was irrelevant to table this information at Council as the Hockey Club were organising this exchange not Officers.

Following discussion a vote was taken

With 5 voting for the proposal, 2 against and 2 abstaining it was

At this stage in proceedings Councillor Hanvey left the meeting.

RESOLVED: - Members agreed

- (a) that Officers table information pertaining to the proposed sports swap at the June 2005 Council meeting for Members' information;
- (b) Officers arrange for a site visit to Eddie Irvine Go Karting in Bangor, with a trial of Ice go karting also being arranged at the Ice Rink to establish if the go karts would damage the ice;

At this stage in proceedings Mr Kitchen and Councillor Drysdale left the meeting.

LPB/2005/74: MARKETING UPDATE

The Operations Manager provided Members with a brief resume of the advertising, promotions and direct mail campaigns planned over the summer months.

Noted.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER'S REPORT

LPB/2005/75: HOTEL DEVELOPMENT

The Economic Development Manager advised that Planning permission was still outstanding in respect of the proposed hotel site and that an operator had not yet been secured for the development in question.

Noted.

LPB/2005/76: CINEMA

The Economic Development Manager advised that the Council's solicitor had confirmed that planning permission on the cinema site was imminent.

Resolved: - Members granted retrospective approval to grant a three-month extension to the 15 June 2005 long-stop date, to allow negotiations with Omniplex to be effectively finalised.

LPB/2005/77: MINIATURE GOLF COMPLEX - SALE OF ADDITIONAL LANDS

The Economic Development Manager advised that as previously reported Mr Hobson had approached the Council seeking an additional area of land, so that he could amend the original design of his entrance gates to comply with Health and Safety legislation.

She continued that the additional area increased the size of his site to 1.09 acres and Mr. Hobson had agreed to purchase the additional 0.01 acre at a cost of £3,000 plus VAT.

The Officer reported that the additional sale could be facilitated through the completion of a one-page legal contract amending the scale of land contained within the original sale documentation.

RESOLVED:- Members of the Board agreed that the Council should proceed with the sale of 0.01 acres of land to Mr. Hobson at a cost of £3,000 plus VAT.

LPB/2005/78: MINIATURE GOLF COMPLEX - SUPPORTING SERVICES BT LINE

RESOLVED: - Members of the Board granted retrospective approval to sign the lease between Castlereagh Borough Council and British Telecom, to facilitate the supply of a phone line to Mr. Hobson's site.

LPB/2005/79: MINIATURE GOLF COMPLEX - PHOENIX GAS WAYLEAVE

The Economic Development Manager advised Members that Phoenix Gas had contacted Mr. Hobson's solicitor in April 2005, highlighting the existence of a Phoenix Gas wayleave across the site recently purchased by Mr. Hobson.

She stated that the Council, on replying to pre-contract enquiries raised by Mr Hobson's solicitor, had stated that it was not aware of any easements affecting the site. The Officer continued that should such an easement exist, the Council would have misrepresented the position and could therefore be liable to meet the costs (approximately £8,000) of re-routing the pipeline.

The Officer added that on a positive note, neither Castlereagh Borough Council nor Phoenix Gas had been able to produce evidence of this Wayleave, without which the Council could not be asked to meet the above-mentioned costs.

Noted.

LPB/2005/80: MINIATURE GOLF COMPLEX - ELECTRICITY SUB-STATION

The Economic Development Manager advised Members that Mr. Hobson had approached the Council seeking to locate an electricity sub-station outside the boundaries of his site.

Negotiations with NIE and Council Officers highlighted that the most appropriate location for this sub-station would be to the far corner of the miniature golf complex, to the immediate right of the underpass and adjacent to the pumping station access.

Given the site's low commercial value, Mr Hobson was offered the lease of the site subject to:

- The provision of a concrete base on the site and construction of a wall separating the site and pumping station from view (at Mr. Hobson's expense); plus
- An agreement to meet any costs incurred in the re-routing of the Phoenix Gas pipeline should this be required at a later stage.

The Economic Development Manager reported that Mr Hobson had not yet agreed to these conditions and was currently investigating other methods by which to bring power to the site.

Noted.

LPB/2005/81: WAYLEAVE AGREEMENT – CONSARC DESIGN

The Economic Development Manager advised Members that further correspondence had been received from Consarc Design whose clients intended to construct 27 apartments at Hanwood House, 125 Old Dundonald Road, Tullycarnet. She continued that as previously reported, the clients were having difficulty in finding an acceptable alternative for disposing of drainage from their site and wished to determine if it would be possible to secure a Wayleave Agreement across Council land, and permission to connect into the storm and foul drainage system which runs up to the access road to the David Lloyd Centre.

The Economic Development Manager advised that she had sought advice from both Tughans and Dorans on this matter and she referred Members to their responses.

Members expressed concern that in agreeing to this request they may compromise the proposed hotel development.

Following discussion, Councillor Beattie proposed that the Officer be authorised to progress to have the site valued with negotiations being initiated, on the proviso that the developers would meet all costs associated with these investigations.

Alderman Rice seconded this proposal.

It was therefore

RESOLVED: - Members of the Board authorised the Economic Development Manager to progress to have the site valued with negotiations being initiated in respect of the associated legal agreement, with all cost of these investigations being met by the Developer Consarc Design.

LPB/2005/82: SEWERAGE DIFFICULTIES

The Economic Development Manager advised that Officers at Dundonald International Ice Bowl were experiencing repeated difficulties with the sewerage pumping station at the Leisure Park Site. She explained that blue sand and chemicals were regularly being introduced into the system, damaging basic equipment and requiring increased maintenance and more regular desludging.

The Officer stated that whilst there was no specific obligation on the part of David Lloyd Leisure to contribute towards the maintenance of the services, there was a tenant's covenant which states that it must

“not knowingly discharge anything into the pipes which will or may reasonably foreseeably be corrosive or harmful or which may reasonably foreseeably cause any obstruction or deposit therein”.

The Officer stated that she had copied the maintenance reports and associated correspondence to the Council's solicitor to enable him to ensure that David Lloyd Leisure stop the discharge immediately or pay the maintenance costs for the work involved in clearing the pipes.

Noted.

LPB/2005/83: RETROSPECTIVE APPROVALS

Members of the Board granted retrospective approval for the following invoices:

- (a) Tughans Solicitors - Miniature Golf Complex £8,500 plus VAT & outlays (£226.05);
- (b) KCMS - Detailed Legal Drawings £ 1,000.70 plus VAT;
- (c) B T W Sheills - BT Advertising £ 609.70.

LPB/2005/84: PROPOSED DRIVING RANGE

The Economic Development Manager advised that the Council had been approached by a developer interested in investigating the potential of establishing a driving range and shop within the Leisure Park.

RESOLVED: - Members agreed to invite representatives from G M Construction to the September 2005 meeting of the Board, to discuss the potential of developing a driving range and shop within the Dundonald Leisure Park.

LPB/2005/85: ROUNDABOUT

The Economic Development Manager advised that the roundabout and the main road at the entrance to the facility had not yet been adopted by Roads Service.

She stated that she was looking into having this transferred immediately, however, there were some snagging issues which needed to be addressed by Dornans.

The Officer added that due to this delay it would now be a requirement that the roundabout and main road would need to be brought up to the 2005 standard before the transfer could take place, and stated that there would be subsequent costs associated with this.

RESOLVED: - Members requested that the Economic Development Manager contact Doran Consulting

- (a) to progress the snagging works associated with the main road and roundabout at the entrance to the Leisure Park;
- (b) to ascertain if they would meet the costs associated with bringing the roundabout and road up to the 2005 standard, being that the works should have been completed at the time of construction by Dorans.

TECHNICAL MANAGER'S REPORT

LPB/2005/86: PUMPING STATION

The Technical Manager again referred to the technical difficulties being experienced at the pumping station as a result of discharge into the system from David Lloyd.

He reported that to overcome this problem it was being proposed to fit ultrasonic floats which do not require cable connections, and requested authority to proceed with the purchase of these having obtained a quotation.

Councillor White proposed that the ultrasonic floats be purchased.

Councillor G Robinson seconded this proposal and it was therefore

RESOLVED: - Members agreed that the Technical Manager be authorised to proceed with the purchase of ultrasonic floats at a cost of £969.00 + VAT from the Council's service contractor.

LPB/2005/87: COMBINED HEAT AND POWER

The Technical Manager advised that this unit was now in service and generating electricity and heat for the centre, exact savings would be known until after a year in operation.

Noted.

LPB/2005/88: MAIN ICE RINK LIGHTING

The Technical Manager referred to the current problems and faults being experienced with the main lighting over the Ice Rink. He reported that there was reduced illumination in the rink, which had now reached the stage where 30% of the lighting was affected. The Officer reported that due to the numbers of public using the ice he was concerned about health & safety due to the darkness being experienced in some areas of the rink and sought permission to proceed with the expenditure, as detailed in his report.

The Officer confirmed that this was in the budget.

RESOLVED: - Members of the Board authorised expenditure of £6280.50 + VAT for the repairs to proceed to the main ice rink lighting.

LPB/2005/89: RINK TOILETS REFURBISHMENT

The Technical Manager drew Members' attention to the tenders returned in respect of the above works. The Officer advised that the lowest tender was still significantly more than the sum allocated within the present budget, this was due to the condition of the toilets and the need for disabled provision within the Ice Rink.

The Technical Manager provided Members with a detailed overview of the tenders received and drew Members' attention to the contents and recommendation within his report.

The Director of Finance & Leisure Services advised that there was a central budget to improve Council facilities to meet the new disability legislations, he agreed to investigate whether some of these funds could be made available to assist with this project.

Following discussion, Councillor White proposed that the tender received from Aquaforce Ltd be accepted.

Councillor Bunting seconded this proposal.

RESOLVED: - Members agreed

- (a) to award the tender to Aquaforce Ltd., at a tendered price of £46,301.00 + VAT for the refurbishment works to the ice rink toilets;
- (b) that the Director of Finance & Leisure Services investigate whether money could be made available from the Council's central budget, to assist in the costs involved in meeting the requirement of the new disability legislation.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

LPB/2005/90: INVOICE FROM KING & GOWDY SOLICITORS

The Business Manager referred Members to the outstanding invoice in respect of the Restaurant Licence Application for the Ice Bowl.

Members expressed concern at the expenses associated with obtaining the above licence, and asked the Director of Finance & Leisure Services to liaise with the Director of Administration and Community Services in respect of the legal fees being charged to establish if these could be reduced.

RESOLVED: - Members requested that the Business Manager seek an abatement on the invoice but in the event that this should not be successful agreed payment of £5606.25 to King & Gowdy Solicitors to cover legal fees for the Restaurant Licence Application at the Ice Bowl.

LPB/2005/91: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED RE: DUNDONALD ICE BOWL FEES

The Operations Manager referred Members to correspondence received from a parent of a figure skater seeking help with regard to the charges at the facility.

RESOLVED: - Members authorised the Operations Manager to contact the individual regarding the aforementioned correspondence, updating her on the current situation in respect of ice rink charges as agreed earlier in the meeting.

At this stage in proceedings the Business Manager, Operations Manager, Technical Manager and Assistant Members' Services Officer left the meeting.

STAFF IN COMMITTEE

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 10.05 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

CHIEF EXECUTIVE