

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 Thursday, 16 April 2007, at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Alderman Mrs G Rice

COUNCILLORS: J Beattie
J Bunting (in the Chair)
B Hanvey
M Long
G Robinson
J Spratt
J White

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received on behalf of Aldermen P D Robinson and Mrs I Robinson and Councillor M Henderson

IN ATTENDANCE: General Manager of Leisure & Marketing, Business Manager and Assistant Members' Services Officer

LPB/2007/112 : MINUTES OF LEISURE PARK BOARD MEETING DATED 29 MARCH 2007

RESOLVED: - Members of the Board agreed that the Minutes of the Leisure Park Board meeting held on 29 March 2007 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

MATTERS ARISING

LPB/2007/113 : HOTEL DEVELOPMENT (Minute LPB/2007/78 refers)

The General Manager of Leisure & Marketing advised that the sale was being progressed, with final details currently under discussion.

Noted.

LPB/2007/114 : PRESENTATION RE 50M SWIMMING POOL (Minute LPB/2007/81 refers)

The General Manager of Leisure & Marketing advised that the Stage 2 Submission had been submitted to the Sports Council on Friday, 13 April 2007.

Noted.

REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER LEISURE & MARKETING

LPB/2007/115 : CARAVAN PARK

The General Manager of Leisure & Marketing informed Members that the caravan park opened on 1 April 2007 and would remain open until 30 September 2007.

Noted.

LPB/2007/116 : SUNDAY LIFE

The General Manager of Leisure & Marketing advised that DIIB had been approached by the Sunday Life newspaper regarding a reader's letter about the pricing structure. A response had been drafted by the Acting PR & Marketing Manager, which had been approved by the duty Director. A copy of the article was circulated for Members' interest.

Noted.

LPB/2007/117 : FIRST TRUST ATM

The General Manager of Leisure & Marketing stated that a fault had occurred with the BT lines into the ATM machine, and it was hoped that this would be resolved shortly.

Noted.

LPB/2007/118 : 50M POOL

The General Manager of Leisure & Marketing informed Members that the stage 2 bid for the 50m pool was due to be submitted to the Northern Ireland Sports Council on 13 April 2007, and the Council should know by September 2007 whether it had been successful. He further stated that the Capital Projects Officer was currently tendering for the economic appraisal for the refurbishment/rebuild of the Ice Bowl. This would be available by 31 August 2007. Members would then be presented with all the necessary information relating to both the Ice Bowl and the 50m pool once this was complete. At this stage, Members would be asked to decide which, if either, option they wished to pursue in relation to both projects.

Noted.

LPB/2007/119 : BATTLEFIELD SPORTS LEASE

The General Manager of Leisure & Marketing reported that, in a meeting on 13 April 2007, Tughans Solicitors had suggested that DIIB should take responsibility for building insurance in respect of the Battlefield Sports lease. The draft Lease had been circulated with the Minutes in advance for Members to raise any concerns. It was hoped to be signed off by the Mayor and Chief Executive by 1 May 2007.

Following some discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That DIIB take on responsibility for building insurance in respect of the Battlefield Sports lease.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

LPB/2007/120 : MAYOR'S BOWLING EVENT

The General Manager of Leisure & Marketing stated that additional staff costs would arise in respect of the Mayor's bowling event, due to take place on 19 April 2007.

Following some discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That DIIB contribute £1,000 towards the additional costs that would arise in respect of the Mayor's bowling event on 19 April 2007.

LPB/2007/121 : IRISH SOCCER SIXES NIGHT

The General Manager of Leisure & Marketing outlined details of a request received from Mr Paul Leaman, soccer player for Glentoran Football Club to hold an Irish League Masters Soccer Sixes night in November or December 2007, involving eight teams. The grandstand seating would need to be erected, and Mr Leaman had undertaken to investigate suitable cover for the ice.

Following some discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That approval be granted to hold an Irish League Masters Soccer Sixes night in November or December 2007, subject to successful negotiations of the arrangements.

PRESENTATION

LPB/2007/122 : PRESENTATION BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM SUPERMAC'S

Members welcomed Mr Pat McDonagh, Mr Declan Quinn, Mr David Kerr and Mr Gordon Anderson from Supermac's to the meeting. Mr Quinn then began the presentation by giving an overview of Supermac's:

- Founded almost 30 years ago
- 82 outlets in the Republic of Ireland
- €82 million turnover in 2006
- More than 2,500 employees
- 17 million customers per year

There are various restaurant formats:

- High Street
- Drive Thru
- Relish Café
- Fresh Express

Future plans include the following:

- Open four to seven outlets in Northern Ireland in 2007, creating approximately 200 new jobs
- Local produce from Northern Ireland will be used
- DIIB will be involved in the design of the restaurant's interior
- Supermac's intend to invest £300,000-£400,000 in DIIB
- Invitation extended to Members to visit Supermac's in Limerick and Galway

Members asked a number of questions to ascertain the following:

- Variety of wholesome children's meals
- Work together with DIIB as a team
- Work with local Environmental Health Officers
- 100% beef and fresh chicken is used
- DIIB refurbishment will be carried out during quiet times

Following the presentation, Members entered into discussion regarding the proposal from Supermac's. The General Manager of Leisure & Marketing stated that DIIB might not be in a position to match the funding offered by Supermac's for refurbishment. Furthermore, he raised concerns that DIIB would lose revenue from restaurants once the cinema opened nearby. He suggested that the Council might consider advertising for tenders and invite future presentations from other companies.

Following some discussion, it was

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the General Manager of Leisure & Marketing write to Supermac's, thanking them for their presentation.
- (b) That further, more detailed, discussion regarding the proposal be postponed until the next meeting of the Board.

REPORT FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

LPB/2007/123 : TRADING ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2006 TO 31 MARCH 2007

The Business Manager took Members through the trading accounts for the period 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2007. She reported a year-end provisional trading surplus of £351,000 but emphasised that this figure would reduce due to outstanding year-end adjustments and write-backs. She added that income for the Easter period 2007 had reduced by £10,000 compared to the same period in 2006.

Members congratulated staff at DIIB on their excellent performance.

Councillor Bunting then sought Members' agreement to only prepare the pink sheets every quarter unless there were issues that needed to be addressed. Members agreed that there was no need to provide monthly pink sheets, and it was

RESOLVED: That approval be granted to provide pink sheets every quarter instead of monthly unless issues arose that needed to be addressed.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

LPB/2007/124 : 10-PIN BOWLING IT SYSTEM

The General Manager of Leisure & Marketing advised that the 10-pin bowling IT system had become faulty, which might be expensive to repair. He read out an initial assessment by the IT Manager.

Following some discussion, it was

RESOLVED: That approval be granted for the General Manager of Leisure & Marketing to investigate the cost of a new server and software for the IT system in the 10-pin bowling alleys.

At this point, Members decided to continue the meeting Staff in Committee.

STAFF IN COMMITTEE

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 8.00 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

CHIEF EXECUTIVE