

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 15 October 2007 at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Ms J Bunting

COUNCILLORS: J Beattie
M Chambers
M Long
G Robinson
J White

IN ATTENDANCE: Director of Leisure, Director of Finance (until 6.10 p.m.) General Manager Leisure & Marketing, PR & Marketing Manager, Technical Manager, Business Manager, and Assistant Members' Services Officer.

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Councillors Drysdale and Hanvey.

LPB/2007/205: MINUTES OF LEISURE PARK BOARD MEETING

RESOLVED: - Members authorised that the minutes of the Leisure Park Board meeting, held on 17 September 2007, be accepted as a true and accurate record, subject to the following amendments:

- Minute ref: LPB/2007/195 - delete all text leaving the first and last paragraph and the resolution.
- Minute ref: LPB/2007/202 - (resolution) insert at the end of the resolution " that in respect of any additional costs associated with the extension of vending, so as to provide the service to Community services, these costs will be met by Community Services".
- Minute ref: LPB/2007/203 – add to the resolution “with the post to be reviewed subject to the outcome of the economic appraisal”.

LPB/2007/206: FIRST DRAFT OF 08-09 ESTIMATES

The Director of Finance gave a brief overview of the above, and advised that he would be making a number of adjustments. He reported that the estimates would be tabled again for Members' information at the December Board meeting.

Noted.

REPORT FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

LPB/2007/207: TRADING ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2007 – 30 SEPTEMBER 2007

The Business Manager then took Members through the detail of the Trading Accounts to the end of period 6. She advised Members that the Ice Rink Closure which was effective from 17 September had adversely affected the income figures. A business interruption claim was currently being prepared which would be submitted to the Council's insurance company.

The Business Manager advised that a number of accruals had been applied during the current financial period such as the proposed cost of living payment, while this still had yet to be agreed it would have to be back paid to April 2007 and would therefore affect the overall trading position. Other accruals added were outstanding utility bills and the repair bill in relation to the second compressor in the Ice Rink.

The Business Manager informed Members that the invoice for the repairs in relation to the brine leakage in the Ice Rink had been settled during October and would therefore be applied during the October accounting period. This would result in a further overspend on the Fixed Plant budget.

The Business Manager also drew Members' attention to an overspend in Ten Pin Bowling in relation to gas but highlighted corresponding underspends in the Ice Rink in relation to gas and electricity and confirmed that the overall bottom line for the DIIB would not be affected. She also advised that these budget headings and their distribution would be reviewed in the current estimates process.

The weekly sales sheets were then circulated for Members' information, and it was agreed that Members could raise any queries in relation to these at the end of the meeting.

Noted.

REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL MANAGER

LPB/2007/208: REFRIGERATION PLANT

The Technical Manager advised that one of the compressors in the Refrigeration plant had been running very noisy, as a result staff had taken the opportunity, during the shut down of the Ice Rink, to strip the compressor down. He continued that this has revealed internal wear in the compressor, Chilltec the maintenance contractor quoted a figure of £9616.00 for repair of the compressor. He advised that the repair work was currently being carried out, as quickly as possible. He then drew Members' attention to a business case that had been prepared for the repair of this compressor.

The Officer reported that the cost of the repair was allocated to budget code 0206/03000 and this expenditure had taken this code over budget with a figure of approx £25,200.00 committed against a budget of £20,000.00.

RESOLVED: - Members granted retrospective approval for the cost of the repairs to the compressor in the refrigeration plant of £9616.00 and noted the overspend on the budget code 0206/03000.

LPB/2007/209: INSURANCE COMPANY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE ICE BOWL

(Supplementary report from insurance company circulated at the meeting)

The Technical Manager advised that the Council's insurance company had conducted planned inspections of a number of the facilities. An inspection had taken place of the Ice Bowl on 30th July 2007 to evaluate the potential for loss of property and business interruption through fire theft and other perils.

Two recommendations had been made as a result of the inspection, he drew members' attention to a copy of the report along with the subsequent correspondence associated with the matter. One of the major recommendations was a requirement to provide fire protection in the kitchens, this would take the form of an automatic spray suppression system for the fryers and cookers. He continued that three prices had been obtained, the cheapest of these was £5055.00 for two systems in Alaska kitchen and one in the top kitchen.

The Officer advised that the recommendation for the fire suppression system was a category D which is a recommendation and therefore not a requirement for insurance cover.

Members stated that they felt it would be prudent to await the outcome of the Economic Appraisal of DIIB before making a decision in this respect.

It was therefore

RESOLVED: - Members noted that the recommendation to install fire protection systems in the kitchens at the Ice Bowl, but deferred further consideration until the outcome of the Economic Appraisal of DIIB had been undertaken.

LPB/2007/210: FIELD GATES FOR FIELDS AT REAR OF ICE BOWL

RESOLVED: - Members agreed to defer consideration of this matter until "Staff in Committee", which would take place at the end of the meeting.

LPB/2007/211: HEATING COIL FOR MELTING ICE

The Technical Manager reported that the heating coil for melting the ice had reached the end of its useful life. Staff had investigated the possibility of having the coil repaired, however, when the company had come to do the repair they advised that there was too much damage and the coil would not be

repairable, a second opinion had been sought and they too agreed that the coil could not be fixed.

Subsequently the Technical Manager had obtained prices for purchasing a new coil, the cheapest quotation received was £1985.00 + VAT.

It was unanimously agreed that there was no option but to proceed with the purchase of a new heating coil.

Discussion then ensued with Members requesting that in future Officers provide Members with the names and details of all tenders and quotations received.

It was therefore

RESOLVED: - Members agreed

- (a) that Officers proceed to purchase a new heating coil at a cost of £1985.00 + VAT;
- (b) that in future Officers are to provide Members with the names and details of all tenders and quotations received.

LPB/2007/212: HONORARIUM PAYMENT FOR STAFF

RESOLVED: - Members agreed to defer consideration of this matter until “Staff in Committee”, which would take place at the end of the meeting.

REPORT FROM THE PR AND MARKETING MANAGER

LPB/2007/213: BELFAST GIANTS SPONSORSHIP PROPOSAL

The PR & Marketing Manager drew Members’ attention to appendix 2 of her report, which was a draft sponsorship proposal between DIIB and the Belfast Giants. Members perused the proposal and the PR & Marketing Manager addressed a number of queries from Members. She advised that as part of the proposal it was a requirement that the Belfast Giants would pay by direct debit, 7 equal monthly payments, this arrangement would commence 1 October 2007 and would provide greater payment security protection for DIIB. The Officer added that the new contract also clearly stipulated that there was no method for cancellation of ice time and that every session booked at the beginning of the season advance would be paid for.

Members queried why the Belfast Giants would be getting such a reduction in their fee per session for paying by direct debit, Councillor Long stated that direct debit was now ‘good business practice’ and a reduced rate for agreeing to sign up to this arrangement was not necessary.

The PR & Marketing Manager advised that the rate per hour had also been reduced on the basis that all the Belfast Giants sessions would take place

between 9.00 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. i.e. not during prime ice time and that the company had booked nearly twice as many sessions as in the previous two years.

The Chairman then referred to the use of a corporate box, on one match night per session, she stated that this should only be used to entertain guests who would bring benefit to DIIB and the Council as a whole, stressing that the Board would have full control over this.

The PR & Marketing Manager advised that two x 3 metre TV facing advertising boards had already been erected, however, she confirmed that, if necessary, the costs of these could be met out of the existing advertising budget.

Members requested that PR & Marketing Manager draw up a business case on the Belfast Giants Proposal, clearly detailing the financial benefits and trade offs included in the proposal for the next meeting of the Board.

In the interim it was agreed that the Belfast Giants would be permitted to hire the rink at a commercial rate of £150.00 per hour, with a direct debit being set up accordingly.

RESOLVED: - Members of the Board

- (a) requested that the PR & Marketing Manager prepare a detailed Business Case on the Belfast Giants usage of the ice rink, which would clearly quantify the Officer's existing proposals. This should be tabled at the November meeting of the Board;
- (b) agreed that in the interim the Belfast Giants would be permitted to book ice time at the commercial rate of £150.00 per hour, paying by direct debit, until the Board had time to consider the Officer's Business plan at the next meeting.

LPB/2007/214: PROPOSED CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

The PR & Marketing Manager detailed for Members' information the proposed Christmas opening hours. She reported that it was proposed to close the centre on Christmas Day and Boxing Day and to reduce opening hours on additional dates over the Christmas period.

Following a request from the Chairman, the PR & Marketing Manager clearly highlighted all the changes being proposed.

It was subsequently

RESOLVED: - Members approved the 2007 Christmas opening hours for the facility as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| <u>Christmas Eve</u> | 10.00am – 6.00pm |
| Skating Sessions (last entrance) | 5.00pm |
| Ten Pin Bowling (last game) | 5.00pm |
| Indiana Land (last session) | 5.00pm |

Christmas Day Closed

Boxing Day Closed

New Years Eve 10.00am – 6.00pm

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| Skating Sessions (last entrance) | 5.00pm |
| Ten Pin Bowling (last game) | 5.00pm |
| Indiana Land last session | 5.00pm |

New Years Day 2.00pm – 6.00pm

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| Skating Sessions (last entrance) | 5.00pm |
| Ten Pin Bowling (last game) | 5.00pm |
| Indiana Land (last session) | 5.00pm |

Additional School Holiday Period

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Skating Sessions | 10.00am – 1.00pm |
| | 1.30pm – 4.30pm |
| | 5.00pm – 7.00pm |
| | 7.30pm – 10.00pm |
| Ten Pin Bowling | 10.00am – 11.00pm |
| Indiana Land | 10.00am – 10.00pm |

LPB/2007/215: CHRISTMAS ICE SKATING GALA

The PR & Marketing Manager advised that further to a meeting with the clubs and professionals, agreement had been reached to produce a Christmas Skating Gala. She advised that this would include participation from all the clubs and pupils using DIIB (as detailed below and with the exception of Belfast Community Hockey Club, who only had senior players):

- Bangor Ice Skating Club
- Dundonald Figure Skating Club
- N.I. Ice Hockey Club
- Polar Bear Club
- Synchronised Skating Teams
- Ulster Figure Skating Club
- Other pupils not within regular clubs

The Officer reported that the estimated ice time to prepare for the Christmas show was around 24 hours. The Clubs had agreed to give permission for their own ice time to be used for this purpose but would be seeking to obtain a reduction in payment.

She advised that it was proposed that two performances would be held on Saturday 15 December 2007, a matinee at 12 noon and an evening performance at 5.30 p.m. A business plan was then circulated for Members' perusal.

Members considered the business plan, and whilst they were keen for the show to commence they were not in agreement to the proposed 50:50 split with the ice skating professionals.

Discussion ensued following which it was suggested that the PR & Marketing Manager should prepare a further report, which would clearly quantify the benefits of the proposed galas to the skating professionals.

Councillor Robinson asked the PR & Marketing Officer to ascertain whether it would be possible to run a special show for local schools.

RESOLVED: - Members of the Board agreed that the PR & Marketing Manager should prepare a further report on the proposed Christmas Ice Skating Gala and e-mail to all Members of the Board for consideration. Any comments should be forwarded to the Chairman, who would then take the decision in respect of the percentage split for the skating professionals.

LPB/2007/216: CHRISTMAS PARTY PACKAGES

The PR & Marketing Manager drew Members' attention to the draft Ice Bowl Christmas party brochure and the Christmas party package rates. She advised that Battlefield Sports did not wish to participate in this brochure, but she hoped that she would be able to increase the size of the leaflet and include details of the Christmas Ice shows, the Christmas opening hours and Ice Bowl Gift Vouchers at no extra cost.

RESOLVED: - Members approved the Christmas party package prices and the production of Christmas promotional literature and signage to support the promotions, as detailed in the PR & Marketing Manager's report.

OPERATIONAL ISSUES FOR DIIB

LPB/2007/217: DAVID LLOYD LEISURE LIMITED- SALE TO LONDON AND REGIONAL HOLDINGS LTD

The Director reminded Members of the matter of the Bank of Scotland wishing to take charge of the property at David Lloyd Leisure Ltd (DLL Ltd), upon the sale to London and Regional Holdings Ltd. She advised that as previously indicated the lease currently stated that DLL Ltd were not entitled to sub let for a period in excess of 25 years, assign or transfer of mortgage or charge the whole or part of the premises without the consent of the council, which consent was not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

At the meeting on the 16th July Members had voiced concern over the manner in which this apparent sale had taken place. The Director reported that having

consulted with the Council's legal advisers she had been advised that this was a share sale, therefore DLL Ltd remained as the tenant under the lease and there had not been a sub letting assignment or transfer of the property. DLL Ltd remained as the tenant under the lease and therefore remained bound by the covenants and conditions contained therein. The Director added that she had clarified that Whitbreads, who held these shares, were quite entitled to sell their shareholding in DLL Ltd.

The Director reported that in order to expedite this matter, the Chairperson of the LPB had been consulted, along with other Members of the Board at the Council meeting on the 26th July.

Councillor White proposed that the Solicitor proceed to draw up the creation of the charge.

This proposal was seconded by Councillor Long, and it was subsequently

RESOLVED : - Members of the Board granted retrospective approval for the Solicitor to proceed with the consent to the creation of the charge.

LPB/2007/218: APPLICATION FOR ASSIGNMENT OF THE LEASE AND SUBLETTING

The Director drew Members attention to correspondence from L&R properties, detailing a request to seek superior landlord consent to assign the long leasehold interest in the property from David Lloyd Leisure Ltd to David Lloyd Leisure Property Holdings Limited. She reported that this correspondence had been received in mid August, L&R wished the letter to be treated as the formal application to assign the lease of the property. She advised that L&R placed a somewhat predetermined timescale on the Council for the turn around of this arrangement and indicated that they intended to effect the assignment of the lease and the sub letting of the property no later than 31 August 2007.

The Director advised that despite several attempts to contact the legal representative of L&R, further requests and ultimately demands were communicated to the Director of Leisure Services. She had made contact with the Council's legal representative on the matter as the most recent communication from L&R indicated their intent to instigate legal action due to the delay in the process. The Director reminded Members that previously the LPB had indicated that any opportunity that became available should be used to try and renegotiate the current restrictions in place for use of the DIIB site and associated land. Hence this referral was made to the legal advisor at that time.

The Director advised that the Council's legal advisor were currently investigating to determine if a relaxation of the restrictions could be instigated, however, they did recognise that the Council could not withhold or unreasonably delay the process.

Members noted the comments made and discussed the possible relaxation to permit a gym facility, however, it was felt that in light of the fact that the

Council were not proceeding with the 50m swimming pool venture having the restrictions relaxed was no longer as important.

RESOLVED: - Members noted the legal situation in respect of the application for the assignment of lease and subletting for David Lloyd Leisure and agreed that the Director would keep them fully apprised following receipt of advice from the legal representatives.

LPB/2007/219: REQUEST REGARDING MEMBERSHIP SCHEME

The Director of Leisure drew Members' attention to correspondence received from a customer requesting the consideration of a membership scheme. She reported that the letter detailed how the frequency of visits to the facility was possibly becoming too expensive, particularly for those who are on a limited income.

Following a short discussion it was

RESOLVED: - Members of the Board requested that Officers prepare a detailed report, outlining the feasibility of introducing a loyalty/membership scheme for those who use the facility on a regular basis and bring it back to a further meeting of the Leisure Park Board.

LPB/2007/220: CORPORATE CATERING

The Director advised that the Corporate Catering Manager's post was still vacant, and as an interim measure the corporate cook had been paid an honorarium to ensure that the corporate catering function continued. This arrangement had been in place since 18 September 2006.

She tabled an overview of the costs associated with running corporate catering in the year 06-07 along with the income generated.

She stated that there was also a vacancy for a 'Cook' within the café and in an attempt to utilise the resource of corporate catering, it was proposed that consideration be given to integrating corporate catering within the catering facility at DIIB. She drew Members' attention to appendix 4 which detailed the overall cost associated with this proposal. The Director further proposed that when the staff member concerned was tied up with corporate catering, that the required resources needed to fulfil the needs of the café would be secured on a casual basis.

Members considered this proposal, however, the Chairman stated that she would be very reluctant to authorise any changes at present whilst the staffing structure was under review.

RESOLVED: - Members agreed that management could proceed to integrate corporate catering within the catering facility at DIIB, on a temporary basis until the staffing review had been completed. With the authority to recruit resources for the café on a temporary basis, if and when required.

LPB/2007/221: STAFF TRAINING

The Director advised Members that a member of catering staff within DIIB had requested permission to complete an NVQ level 3 Chefs Professional Craft course. The course would run for 34 weeks, at a cost of £283.00. It was felt that this would benefit the establishment in terms of the skills that the staff member would bring to it.

She added that a separate request had been received from the corporate cook to attend a basic patisserie course. This course was being held at the Belfast Institute for one year at a cost of £200.00, plus the registration fee.

The Director confirmed that there was sufficient funds in the budget to provide for both of these courses. These were being brought to the LPB as the 'home' committee, as well as Finance & General Purposes. The Officer confirmed that she felt that both these courses would allow the staff concerned to develop further skills, which would add to the flexibility of the catering operation at DIIB.

RESOLVED: Members of the Board granted approval for the attendance

- (a) of a member of catering staff at DIIB, to complete an NVQ level 3 Chefs Professional Craft course at a cost of £283.00 for a period of 34 weeks;
- (b) of the corporate cook to complete the basic patisserie course, at the Belfast Institute at a cost of £200.00, plus the registration fee.

LPB/2007/222: UPDATE ON DRINKS LICENCE

The Director updated Members that this matter had now been resolved, and the Council was now the named licensee. This would negate the need to apply for a Protection Order in the event of a named individual leaving post, and subsequent to this, a new licensee being appointed

Noted.

LPB/2007/223: THE WORKING TIME (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS (NI) 2007 – INCREASE IN ANNUAL LAVE ENTITLEMENT FOR RELIEF WORKERS

The Director advised Members that with effect from 1 October 2007, the minimum number of days annual leave for relief workers would increase from 20 days to 24 days. This would have no effect on permanent staff, however, relief workers annual leave was currently capped at 20 days pro rata per annum. Therefore, in line with this legislative requirement, the capped ceiling was being raised to 24 days. This would result in an additional cost to the council, where shifts of those staff concerned would need to be covered and this cost could not be absorbed. In addition to this, she advised that with effect from April 2009 the ceiling would be raised to 28 days.

The Director advised that human resources were currently costing the impact of these additional days and a report would be tabled to the Board when available, although it was thought that this would cost approximately £8000.00 per annum. The Director assured Members that every effort would be made to absorb the loss.

Noted.

LPB/2007/224: COMMUNICATION FROM THE UNION REGARDING REQUEST FOR BACK PAYMENT IN LIEU OF ANNUAL LEAVE

Following discussion it was

RESOLVED: - Members agreed to defer this item until 'Staff in Committee' at the end of the meeting.

LPB/2007/225: STATUTORY DUTY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Director advised Members of the new statutory duty for sustainable development, which required public bodies to comply with the new Sustainable Development Strategy. She reported that sustainable development offered a unifying and coordinated framework which would ensure the effective and efficient delivery of council services and provide a mechanism to integrate a number of other council strategies such as economic development, community planning, the power of well being, air quality etc.

The Director continued that that the Council did already contribute to the issue of sustainable development through policies and practices already implemented, however, there was now a reinforced need to comply with this statutory requirement. She reported that she was advising Members of this development, as it would directly impact on the Leisure Services Directorate. Not only would it affect the way they currently operate, but also all future services would be required to comply with the requirements of this new legislation.

Noted.

LPB/2007/226: COMPLAINT

The Director of Leisure drew Members' attention to correspondence received from a ratepayer regarding locker provision at DIIB and the subsequent replies from the General Manager and Chief Executive.

Members noted the comments made.

Noted.

LPB/2007/227: STAFF TRAINING

The Director advised Members that a request had been received from one of the Plant Engineers, seeking permission to attend a plumbing course at the South Eastern Regional College (Ards campus), at a cost of £375.00. The course would take place two days a week, during term time.

The Director advised that she felt that this course would be beneficial to the post holder in his role. However, due to the current high sickness levels in the section and following consideration Officers felt that it would not be feasible to facilitate this request at present, as in doing so the operational needs of the facility could be affected.

It was therefore

RESOLVED: - Members of the Board agreed to defer the request from the Plant Engineer to attend a plumbing course until later in the year, when it could be reviewed once the staffing compliment had increased within the section.

LPB/2007/228: CHOC-O-BLOC

The Director of Leisure reminded Members that Choc-O-Bloc had delivered a presentation to the Board in December 2006, with a view to leasing Lattecinos. Supermac were also interested in Lattecinos, however the Board had deferred a decision on this proposal until the outcome of the Economic Appraisal was known. She advised that Choc-O-Bloc were still very interested in getting a foothold in the premises, even before Christmas, and may consider a smaller room. They had recently opened a branch in the Odessey. The Officer stated that the Polar Bear room (1/2 the size of Lattecinos) at reception was used heavily at weekends for parties but not during the week. Officers felt that it may be possible to relocate parties from the Polar Bear room to other party rooms in the Centre.

The Director continued that it was felt that Choc-O-Bloc's business would compliment the facilities existing business, especially given that their customers would have to wait for approximately one hour after making their chocolate pieces before collecting them. During this time, it would be possible to attract spin off trade in the other areas of the facility.

The Officer did recognise that the opportunity costs of giving up the Polar Bear room were difficult to quantify. Whilst party income could decrease there was the potential for a guaranteed income stream (rent and rates) throughout the week, along with the added bonus of offering customers a new activity at the facility.

RESOLVED: - Members of the Board recommended that the Officers:

- (a) Engage with Choc-O-Bloc to ascertain their interest in the Polar Bear room;

- (b) Ascertain current market value for the premises;
- (c) Ascertain costs to convert the raised area in the Alaska café into a small party room.

LPB/2007/229: HOTEL SITE.

Please note that at the meeting of the Leisure Park Board held on 19 November 2007 the minutes were agreed subject to the deletion of the above minute number (LPB/2007/229).

LPB/2007/230: COMMONWEALTH TEN PIN BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2008

The Director advised Members that she had received correspondence from the NI Ten Pin Bowling Federation (NITPBF) seeking permission to host the Commonwealth Ten Pin Bowling Federation Championships 2008, on the week commencing either 17 or 24 November 2008. She continued that Belfast City Council had agreed to sponsor the accommodation, transport and banqueting costs. The NITPBF would require 20 lanes running from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm for the entire week. The two previous events were held in Cyprus (2004) and Australia (2006) with 20 countries competing. Officers advised that DIIB was already hosting the Triple Crown in August 2008 and the rate of £2.20 per game had been agreed, it was suggested that this rate may also be appropriate for the NITPBF.

Members stated that they did not feel that £2.20 per game would be sufficient to cover the costs associated with hosting this event. They asked Officers to liaise with the organisers to establish their exact requirements and to review the price per game accordingly, seeking the approval of the Chairman prior to this fee being confirmed with the NITPBF.

RESOLVED: - Members of the Board agreed 'in principle' to host the Commonwealth Ten Pin Bowling Championships 2008, subject to a suitable price per game being agreed by the Chairman to cover the costs associated with hosting the event.

LPB/2007/231: 10 PIN BOWLING IT SYSTEM (supplementary report circulated at the meeting)

Members of the Board perused the supplementary report circulated at the meeting, which included the Council's IT Consultants recommendations in respect of the 10 Pin Bowling IT system. The General Manager advised that the IT system continued to give major problems and this was affecting customer satisfaction and service levels. Members then referred to the report, which in essence advised that an upgrade of the Bowling IT system was essential in order for DIIB to remain competitive.

Members stated that this was unfortunate timing, given that the economic appraisal for the rebuild/redevelopment of the facility was just about to commence.

Officers agreed but drew Members' attention to the Consultants report, which clearly stated that once the upgrade was complete, the front-end equipment would be fully transferable to any new building and would not be a wasted investment.

Following consideration it was

RESOLVED: - Members of the Board authorised Officers to task Qubica AMF with supplying, delivering and installing an upgrade to the present 10 Pin Bowling IT system at a cost of £17,293.00 + VAT.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

LPB/2007/232: ROUNDABOUT – SPONSOR

The Director advised that Turkington Construction had agreed to sponsor the roundabout at the entrance to the facility.

Noted.

LPB/2007/233: ECONOMIC APPRAISAL

The Director advised that she had been in contact with the representative from FGS McClure Watters, who had been appointed to undertake the economic appraisal of the facility. She advised that they were keen to commence and wished to meet with the Members of the Board who would be stakeholders in the overall project.

RESOLVED: - Members of the Board requested that a special meeting be convened as soon as possible, to enable FGS McClure Watters to meet the Members of the Leisure Park Board.

LPB/2007/234: SOCCER SIXES (TESTIMONIAL PAUL LEAMAN)

Members were briefed that the Soccer Sixes Event (Paul Leaman Testimonial) had been pushed back until 28th January 2008. The organizers also hoped to secure a deal with SKY.

Noted.

LPB/2007/235: GRANDSTAND SEATING

The General Manager advised that as directed at a previous meeting of the Board, he had meet with Mr Paul Millar of the Hanwood Trust, in respect of setting up a small social economy business.

He continued that in order to establish the sustainability and viability of the proposed business they were planning to advertise for casual posts to gauge interest.

Members expressed some concern that the approval of the Board was not being sought prior to commencing with this proposal. The General Manager assured Members that this was merely to establish whether such a venture would actually be viable.

Councillor Robinson stated that he would be supportive of the proposal as this would be creating new jobs in the local community.

Councillor Bunting agreed but reiterated that the Board must be kept fully apprised of all progress made.

Councillor Chambers stated that she felt that too many issues were being raised verbally throughout the meeting. She stated that she had not been a members of the Board for several years and due to the number of developments made felt it was necessary that Members were given time to consider the issues in a written report, prior to the meeting taking place.

RESOLVED: - Members of the Board requested that the General Manager prepare a report for the November meeting of the Board, which would fully appraise Members of the progress made in respect of the Grandstand Seating.

At this stage in proceedings the PR & Marketing Manager, Business Manager and Assistant Members' Services Officer left the meeting.

'STAFF IN COMMITTEE'

The Human Resources Manager entered the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 9.15 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

CHIEF EXECUTIVE