

CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Leisure Services Committee meeting held, in committee, in the Council Chamber, Civic & Administrative Offices, Bradford Court, Upper Galwally, Castlereagh, BT8 6RB, on Thursday, 7 October 2010, at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor M Copeland
(in the Chair)

ALDERMEN: Mrs G Rice (from 6.05 p.m.)
J White

COUNCILLORS: Ms J Bunting
Mrs M Chambers (from 6.10 p.m.)
Mrs S Duncan
C Hall (from 6.05 p.m.)
B Hanvey
Miss R Hughes MBE
T Jeffers
M Long
Mrs V McCoy
G Robinson
Ms S Skillen

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

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mrs J Cochrane, Drysdale, Spratt, Tosh, Walker, and Alderman Henderson and Norris.

TABLED : MINUTES OF THE LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 9 SEPTEMBER 2010 (copy previously circulated)

Noted.

MATTERS ARISING

LS/2010/96 : ROBINSON CENTRE – SAUNA AND STEAM ROOM TENDER EVALUATION (Minute ref LS/2010/92 and Council minute 2010/481 refers)

The Director of Leisure informed Members that following the previous meeting, Officers had not been satisfied by the quality of submission received

from some tenders and after consultation with the Procurement Officer, and subsequent approval by Council entered into post tender negotiations with a number of contractors. The outcome of these negotiations would form the basis of a report which would be tabled at the October Council meeting for Member's consideration.

Noted.

LS/2010/97 : ROBINSON CENTRE SWIMMING POOL CHEMICALS – TENDER EVALUATION (Minute ref LS/2010/93 refers)

The Director of Leisure reported that the Change Manager and Council's Procurement Officer would be presenting a report to the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee, to address Members issues regarding bulk purchasing and achieving better economies of scale.

Noted.

LS/2010/98 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

Noted.

**REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF LEISURE SERVICES
(copy previously circulated)**

LS/2010/99 : TRADING ACCOUNTS

The Business Manager took Members through the trading accounts for the period 1 April 2010 to 31 August 2010. She advised that there was still a favourable variance overall in relation to Net Cost across the three Centres compared to the profiled budget to date.

She continued that whilst a favourable variance had been achieved, all three centres had shown an underachievement in income year to date. The closure of the swimming pool for maintenance works at the Robinson Centre had contributed to the £22.5k fall in income compared to the same period the previous year, whilst the Belvoir Centre was showing a decline in the numbers attending coached activities. The Business Manager explained that there was a profile issue with the figures for the artificial pitch at the Lough Moss Centre which should hopefully be resolved during the winter months.

There has been a corresponding reduction in expenditure throughout all the centres, in relation to salaries/wages and utilities which has helped to negate the decline in income.

Noted.

REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

LS/2010/100 : ECONOMIC APPRAISAL - ROBINSON CENTRE

The General Manager advised that KPMG would be presenting their findings from the Economic Appraisal on the Robinson Centre, at a Special Council being convened on Thursday 18 November 2010.

Noted.

LS/2010/101 : LOUGH MOSS - BREATHE RE-LOCATION & RECEPTION

The General Manager referred to the decision taken at the September Leisure Services meeting for works to progress at Lough Moss Leisure Centre, some of which would be undertaken by Breathe Fitness and the remainder by the Council.

It had previously been agreed that all works would be undertaken simultaneously but the General Manager stated that management had since reviewed the situation and now felt that it would be better to progress with the following projects in advance of Breathe commencing their works in order to accommodate the displacement of existing business and to minimise the operational impact:

- Removal of the existing metal handrail to the seating area in front of the kitchen and replacing with a stud wall to create a multi-use room;
- Replacement of the existing double doors and glazed screens to the entrance porch with new automatic sliding doorsets to comply with the current DDA legislation.

Following a query the General Manager confirmed that this would not be a more costly approach. He explained that sub contractors would be required to fit the new doors which was being done at an earlier than anticipated stage of the contract, but not at an additional cost..

It was proposed by Alderman White, seconded by Councillor Hanvey and subsequently agreed

RESOLVED: - That management proceed to obtain quotations for the creation of a multi-use room and replacement of the existing double doors with new automatic sliding doors at the entrance porch. It was further agreed that works could proceed with the agreement of the Chairman and that retrospective approval could be sought at the next meeting of the Committee.

LPB/2010/102 : IMPOSITION OF A BAN FROM THE FACILITY

The General Manager reported that following a series of anti-social incidents at the Ice Bowl over a number of years, but culminating on Tuesday 20 July 2010, DOYLE Youth Club had been banned from DIIB. The General Manager recommended that this ban should be extended to all the Council's leisure facilities.

RESOLVED: - Members agreed that the DOYLE Youth Club be banned from all Council leisure facilities, with immediate effect.

Minute LS/2010/103 was referred back to Committee for further consideration at the Council meeting of 28 October 2010.

LS/2010/103 : LINK TO SPORT NI WEBSITE – ACTIVE PLACES

The Director of Leisure referred to the Active Places database on the Sport NI website. She stated that she had recently met with Sport NI to update the information in respect of Castlereagh's leisure facilities. The DLS advised that there was information on the database beyond the remit of Leisure Services and to this end Sport NI had been advised to consult with the relevant Director or officers as necessary.

The Director asked Members to consider whether they would wish to place a link on the Council's web site to the Active Places database on the Sport NI website and highlighted the potential benefits the link could provide for the Council .

Members considered this request and felt that it would not be appropriate to place a link on the website to the Sport NI Active Places database, given the Council's policy not to host external links.

It was proposed by Councillor Robinson, seconded by Councillor Chambers and

RESOLVED: - That the Council would not avail of the opportunity to place a link on the Council's website to the Sport NI Active Places database, given the Council's policy not to host external links.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

LS/2010/104 : CORPORATE RATE MEMBERSHIP

The General Manager asked Members to consider offering corporate rate membership of Breathe Fitness to members of the Golf Club (or if subsequently the Licence Agreement is progressed within the golf club, the corporate rate would apply to annual members of the golf course facility); this would be a fee of £22.00 per month.

RESOLVED: - Members agreed to offer corporate rate membership of Breathe Fitness to members of the Golf Club (or if subsequently the Licence

Agreement is progressed within the golf club, the corporate rate would apply to annual members of the golf course facility); at a rate of £22.00 per month.

LS/2010/105 : ENERGY EFFICIENCY SURVEY

The General Manager advised that he had availed of a free energy efficiency survey on the pool area at the Robinson Centre.

He would table the results when available.

Noted.

LS/2010/106 : BROADBAND LINE AT ROBINSON CENTRE

The General Manager requested that Members consider upgrading the broadband line at the Robinson centre from 0.5 Mb to 2.0 Mb. He stated that if Members were happy with the proposal then the request would be referred to Finance & General Purposes for further consideration.

RESOLVED: - Members of the Committee approved 'the need' to upgrade the broadband connection at the Robinson Centre from 0.5 Mb to 2 Mb and requested that the matter be referred to Finance & General Purposes for consideration and funding.

LS/2010/107 : SAUNAS AT ROBINSON CENTRE

The General Manager reported that currently both the saunas at the Robinson Centre were not working and had been closed to the public. He reminded Members that the replacement of the sauna and steam room facility tender process was to be discussed at the October Council meeting (minute ref LS/2010/92 refers). In the interim repairs were being carried out to try and get at least one of the saunas operational and discounted prices to the spa area had been put in place.

Noted.

LS/2010/108 : ADDITIONAL ITEMS TABLED

Councillor Chambers stated there were many items being tabled under any other business, which were not urgent. She urged Officers to ensure that only urgent items were brought to Members attention under any other business and that all other items be included in the following months report.

Councillor Robinson felt that Officers' reports did not include sufficient information and requested more detailed reports.

The Director of Leisure Services sought guidance from Members as to whether they wished to receive project update reports on a monthly or quarterly basis.

Following consideration, it was

RESOLVED: - Members requested quarterly update reports for the CSDA, C-SAW and Active Communities Projects. An interim report on the Grass Roots Programme was to be tabled at the November Leisure Services meeting.

At this stage in proceedings Councillor Robinson left the meeting.

LS/2010/109 : SALTO

Councillor Hall advised that he felt the rate that SALTO were paying for use of the Belvoir Activity Centre was excessive and queried whether any reduction or assistance could be provided.

Members recommended that they contact the Castlereagh Sports Development Association (CSDA), as it was now considering requests for assistance from group as well as individuals.

Councillor Hall advised that this matter had been discussed at a recent CSDA meeting but the maximum funding available to any one group was £250.00.

Noted.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 6.55 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Adopted by the Council this _____ day of
_____ 2010 with the exception of
Minute Nos. _____

MAYOR