

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CULTURE AND SPORT SELECT COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, 11 JULY, 2006 AT 4.00 P.M.
IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK
PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors Bennett, Mrs. D.J. (Chairman)

 Allen, F.W.C. Morgan, C.W.J.
 Easton, R.

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J. Beddows, Mrs. P.Z. Stretton, R.C. Turville and A. Williams)

7. **Minutes**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 June 2006.

With regard to Minute 4, Members discussed the closure of Cannock Sports Stadium. Members considered that Cabinet on 20 July 2006 should be requested to give consideration to a supplementary estimate of £80,000 to keep the facility open until an alternative facility was available.

The Deputy Chief Executive advised that Cabinet on 20 July 2006 would be giving consideration to a report on Cannock Sports Stadium which outlined three options for the future of the site. Option 1 provided for the full closure of the venue and outlined the savings which would result; Option 2 provided for the facility to remain open and outlined the supplementary estimate required; and Option 3 provided for the partial closure of the site to enable Cannock and Stafford Athletics Club and the Chase Football League to use the facility; again the supplementary estimate required was outlined. Members would be determining the preferred option to recommend to Council.

The Deputy Chief Executive stated Option 2 covered the views expressed by the Select Committee and advised that the comments of the Select Committee would be reported verbally to Cabinet on 20 July 2006.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 June, 2006 be approved as a correct record.

- (B) That the views expressed by the Select Committee regarding the closure of Cannock Sports Stadium be reported verbally to Cabinet on 20 July 2006.

8. Cultural Strategy

The Leisure Strategy Manager provided a presentation on the development of a Cultural Strategy for Cannock Chase Council. The presentation outlined the needs and benefits and the process involved in producing a Cultural Strategy. The presentation is attached at Annex A to these Minutes.

9. 2006-07 Capital Programme – Update of Scheme Progress

Consideration was given to the Joint Report of the Chief Executive and Director of Public Health and Policy (Enclosure 5.1 – 5.8 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

Arising from consideration of the report, a number of issues were discussed including:

- Concern that the replacement play area in Sandy Lane was not included in the list of projects. Although S106 money was available there was no formal project and further information was requested.
- Concern that a scheme relating to improvements to the football field in Oxford Green was not included in the list of projects. Funding had been made available, however, extra funding was required and further information was requested.
- Further information was requested on the location of the Cannock Park gates and the position with regard to the replacement gates. It was noted that Audit were investigating the disappearance of the gates.

The difficulty in delivering all the projects given the number of Officers available was noted.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the contents of the 2006-07 Capital Programme update report be noted.
- (B) That information regarding the replacement play area in Sandy Lane be submitted to a future meeting of the Select Committee.
- (C) That information regarding the improvements to the football field in Oxford Green be submitted to a future meeting of the Select Committee.
- (D) That information regarding the position with regard to the replacement gates at Cannock Park be submitted to a future meeting of the Select Committee.

10. Exclusion of Public

RESOLVED:

That the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3, Part I, Schedule 12A, Local Government Act, 1972.

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PART 2

11. New Swimming Pool, Rugeley – Progress Report

Consideration was given to the Not for Publication Report of the Head of Culture and Major Projects (Enclosure 7.1 – 7.6 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

Members were advised that Option 2 of the Feasibility Study for the swimming pool had been approved by Council and SMC Charter Architects had been appointed as the Lead Consultants. The first meeting of the Rugeley Swimming Pool Steering Group had been held on 3 July 2006.

It was explained that it was proposed to arrange a visit to two swimming pools designed by the Lead Consultants on either 7 or 8 August 2006. It was anticipated that approximately 20 people would attend the visit along with Members of the Select Committee. Members present at the meeting agreed to confirm whether they were available on either of the dates proposed. A letter would be forwarded to the remainder of the Members of the Select Committee outlining details of the visit and requesting that they confirm their availability on either of the proposed dates.

Members noted that it may be necessary to schedule an additional meeting of the Select Committee during September 2006 to enable the Lead Consultants to present their final design and costs to Members. Members would be advised of any additional meeting in due course.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the current position relating to the Rugeley Swimming Pool be noted.
- (B) That the current position relating to the Rugeley Swimming Pool Steering Group be noted.
- (C) That the visit to the swimming pools designed by SMC Charter Architects be held on either 7 or 8 August 2006.

CHAIRMAN