

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CULTURE AND SPORT SELECT COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, 7 JUNE, 2006 AT 4.00 P.M.
IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK
PART 1

PRESENT: Councillors Bennett, Mrs. D.J. (Chairman)
 Williams, A. (Vice-Chairman)

Allen, F.W.C. Morgan, C.W.J.
Beddows, J. Stretton, Mrs. P.Z.
Easton, R.

By invitation: Councillor M.R. Grocott (Culture and Sport Leader)
 Councillor Mrs. P.A. Ansell for Agenda Item 4

(An apology for absence was received from Councillor R.C. Turville).

1 Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restriction on Voting by Members

<u>Member</u>	<u>Nature of Interest</u>	<u>Type</u>
Williams, A.	Member of Rugeley Town Council	Personal
Williams, A.	Daughters attend Hagley Park Sports College	Personal
Williams, A.	Daughter is a member of the Cannock Athletics Club	Personal

2. Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 24 March 2006 and 25 April 2006 be approved as a correct record.

3. Services Provided to the Culture and Sport Select Committee by Head(s) of Service(s)

Karen Bradford, Head of Culture and Major Projects, Mike Edmonds, Head of Commercial Operations and Kevin Lawlor, Acting Head of Environmental Services provided a presentation outlining the services and responsibilities that fall within the remit of the Select Committee. The presentation covered the services provided by Culture and Major Projects, Leisure Operations and Environmental Services along with the key issues for 2006-07. The presentation slides are attached at Annex A to these Minutes.

Members were afforded the opportunity to ask questions. A number of issues were raised including the following:-

- Confirmation that the Leisure Concessions Review had been undertaken and that Cabinet had requested further work on the cost implications
- The need for a forward strategy relating to Playing pitches and an increase in the amount of changing rooms provided
- Clarification of the capital scheme relating to the development of a park area in Meadow Way
- An explanation regarding the purpose of the Children's Fund
- The progression of the Tennis Courts at Ravenhill Park (a response from the Parish Council on the management and future maintenance of the site was currently awaited)

A copy of the presentation would be forwarded to all Members of the Council for information.

4. Development of the Work Programme 2006-07

The Head of Culture and Major Projects circulated a copy of a proposed Work Programme for the Culture and Sport Select Committee for 2006-07.

It was explained that in view of the timescales for the final designs for the Rugeley Swimming Pool, it may be necessary to move the meeting scheduled for 11 October, 2006. Members would be advised of any revised date in due course.

Arising from consideration of the Work Programme, Members discussed the closure of Cannock Sports Stadium. Concern was expressed regarding the provisional date of 30 September, 2006 to close the Stadium and the Select Committee considered that, prior to the closure of the Stadium, an alternative venue should be made available.

Members sought clarification as to whether redundancy notices had been issued to Stadium staff. The Head of Commercial Operations advised that consultation regarding the policy option to close the Stadium had been undertaken with Stadium staff. However, he was not aware that redundancy notices had been issued but would seek clarification from the Head of Organisational Development and advise Members accordingly.

The Deputy Chief Executive explained that Cabinet would be considering the issue of the closure of Cannock Sports Stadium on 20 July, 2006.

RESOLVED:

That the Work Programme of the Select Committee for 2006-07 which included the following issues be agreed:

- Rugeley Swimming Pool
- Playing Pitch Strategy
- Update of Capital Schemes
- Culture Strategy
- Chase Leisure Village Brief
- Leisure Concessions
- Cannock Sports Stadium
- Child Protection Policy

5. Exclusion of Public

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

6. New Swimming Pool, Rugeley – Feasibility Study – Consideration of Design Options

Consideration was given to the Report of the Head of Culture and Major Projects (Enclosure 7.1 – 7.10 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

The Deputy Chief Executive advised Members that confirmation of funding for the project was currently awaited and explained that each of the options exceeded the current resources available. He also advised that the extension to the fitness suite, which featured in certain of the options, could not be justified on purely financial grounds. Cabinet would be considering the recommendations of the Select Committee on 15 June 2006 and it was anticipated that further funding proposals would then be available.

Members considered that Option 2 was the most appropriate as it provided for an extension to the fitness suite in addition to providing a new swimming pool.

Members were reminded that the design options contained within the report were outline design options only. The final design option would be submitted to the Select Committee at a future meeting.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the current position relating to the new Rugeley Swimming Pool be noted.
- (B) That Cabinet be recommended that Option 2 be progressed.

CHAIRMAN