

**CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE**  
**CULTURE AND SPORT SELECT COMMITTEE**  
**FRIDAY, 24 MARCH, 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.                    Easton, R.  
Beddows, J.                     Meaden, R.G.  
Daly, K.

Also present by invitation: Grocott, M.R. (Culture and Sport Leader)

In attendance: Councillor N. Stanley  
                         Councillor B. Williams

**30.     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.	Vice Chairman of Rugeley Rose Theatre Committee on Rugeley Town Council	Personal

**31.     Various Schemes – Progress Update Report**

Consideration was given to the Joint Report of the Chief Executive and Chairman of the Leisure Strategy Steering Group (Enclosure 3.1 – 3.8 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

Les Trigg, Deputy Chief Executive, stated that the report provided the Select Committee with an update on the progress to date and proposed timetables to implement two proposed major capital projects at Rugeley Leisure Centre and Chase Leisure Centre. The report also advised Members of the current position regarding Cannock Sports Stadium.

With regard to the Chase Leisure Village, Mr. Trigg advised that the design brief was currently being prepared and it was anticipated that the quotation exercise would be completed in order to appoint the feasibility design team during May 2006.

With regard to the Cannock Sports Stadium, he indicated that a significant amount of work was required to be undertaken prior to the sale of the site.

Mr. Trigg reported that the design brief for Rugeley Swimming Pool had been prepared and agreed and the architects were preparing four initial design options. Councillor M. Grocott suggested that the Committee should receive a copy of the four initial design options for Rugeley Swimming Pool at the next meeting.

Mr. Trigg stated that further updates on these projects would be submitted to the Select Committee from time to time.

Arising from consideration of the report, Members expressed concern that there would be no running track in the District in the event of the closure of Cannock Sports Stadium in October 2006. Members considered that it was necessary for a centrally located running track to be provided that was easily accessible for the entire District.

Les Trigg explained that alternative locations for the provision of a running track were being investigated and he confirmed that the Chase Leisure Centre site was not being considered.

With the agreement of the Chairman, the Resources Leader, Councillor N. Stanley, addressed the Committee. He stated that the issues surrounding these projects originated from a report on leisure facilities within the District which had identified a need to raise £6¼ million to keep the current facilities open. The closure of Cannock Sports Stadium and the sale of the land would therefore raise the money to provide new leisure facilities in the District.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the current position and proposed way forward in respect of the various major projects outlined in the report be noted.
- (B) That further updates on the projects at Rugeley Leisure Centre, Chase Leisure Centre and Cannock Sports Stadium be submitted to the Select Committee from time to time.
- (C) That a copy of the four initial design options for Rugeley Swimming Pool be provided for Members at the next meeting of the Select Committee.

### **32. Pay and Display Charging at Cannock Park Car Park**

Consideration was given to the Briefing Report of the Head of Environmental Services (Enclosure 4.1 – 4.2 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

The report outlined the proposal to introduce car parking charges at Cannock Park car park. This would be subject to agreement by the Council, as Trustee of the Cannock Public Recreation and Pleasure Ground Charitable Trust at a meeting on 26 April 2006. The report due to be considered by the Trust would also outline proposals to introduce car parking charges at the Chase Leisure Centre car park.

Arising from the report, Members discussed the park gates and expressed concern that they had been removed some time ago and had not yet been reinstated. Officers were requested to investigate the location of the park gates and report back to a future meeting of the Select Committee.

Members also raised concern regarding the provision of free parking and requested clarification regarding who would be exempt from car parking charges. They were advised that Leisure Centre Members would be exempt from car parking charges at the Leisure Centre car park. However, charges would still apply at the Cannock Park car park. Further concern was expressed that other users of the park, such as users of the tennis courts and golf course, would be required to pay car parking charges.

RESOLVED:

- (A) That the Select Committee note that a report on the proposed introduction of pay and display charges would be presented to a meeting of the Cannock Public Recreation and Pleasure Ground Charitable Trust on 26 April 2006.
- (B) That, should the Council, as Trustee of the Charity, agree the introduction of pay and display charges at both the Chase Leisure Centre and Cannock Park car park, Cabinet be requested to consider including in the budget for 2007/08:-
  - (i) a policy option to readdress the implementation of pay and display charging at the Cannock Park car park in the event that the park gates be located and reinstated;
  - (ii) a further policy option that users of the golf course and tennis courts have the car parking charge deducted from their fee.
- (C) That Officers be requested to investigate the location of the park gates and a further report outlining the position be submitted to a future meeting of the Select Committee.

### **33. Cannock Health Centre at Cardinal Way**

Consideration was given to the Report of the Director of Public Health and Policy (Enclosure 5.1 – 5.2 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

Les Trigg, Deputy Chief Executive, stated that the report provided the Select Committee with an update in relation to the proposed Health Centre Development at Cardinal Way. Members were advised that further progress was subject to United Healthcare Developments Limited and the Primary Care Trust finalising the specification for the building in order to submit a planning application.

Members discussed the proposed siting of the Health Centre at Cardinal Way and considered that the location was not ideal and had concern regarding parking facilities.

With the agreement of the Chairman, Councillor Stanley addressed the Committee and explained that Cabinet, at its meeting on 3 November 2005, had authorised the disposal of the land at Cardinal Way to United Healthcare Developments Limited for the development of a Health Centre. He advised that the Chief Executive of the Primary Care Trust had stated that alternative sites had not been considered due to the proposed merger of the Primary Care Trusts.

The Chairman requested that the Select Committee be kept up to date on the position regarding the proposed Health Centre Development at Cardinal Way.

RESOLVED:

That the current position in relation to the proposed Health Centre Development at Cardinal Way be noted and the Select Committee be provided with an update on the position at a future meeting.

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CHAIRMAN