

DRAFT MINUTES PENDING CONFIRMATION AT THE NEXT MEETING

BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE RECREATION GROUND, BATH

Thursday, 29th November, 2012

Present: Councillor David Dixon in the Chair
Councillors Simon Allen and Tim Ball

Also attending: Councillors Manda Rigby and Brian Webber

21 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Administrator drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure

22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence

23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none

24 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

There was none

25 QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

The Chair referred to notice of Questions given by Councillor Brian Webber which, together with the answers, had been circulated at the meeting. (The document is attached as *Appendix 1* to these Minutes). A number of speakers had given notice to make statements and they proceeded to do so. (Copies of statements, where provided, are included on the Minute Book). He informed the meeting that notice of a Question had been given by Jon Harrop, Bath Lacrosse Club, and this and the reply had been included on the Questions and Statements document which had also been circulated. (The Question and Statement document is attached as *Appendix 2* to these Minutes).

26 DRAFT SCHEME FOR THE RECREATION GROUND

The Board considered the report of the Lead Advisor to the Recreation Ground Trust informing that the Charity Commission had issued a draft Scheme which would alter the trusts of the Recreation Ground charity and which, if confirmed, would enable the trustees to resolve the breaches of the existing trusts arising from the lease to Bath Rugby Club and the Leisure Centre being on Trust land.

The Lead Advisor to the Recreation Ground Trust introduced his report and stated that the draft Scheme by the Charity Commission was an “enabling” scheme and provided a framework for the Trust to go forward. It would resolve the current

problems with the objectives of the Trust and existing land uses. The timetable was determined by the Charity Commission and the Scheme would be published tomorrow and give one month in which representations can be made to the Charity Commission. He emphasised that this was not a new consultation and not a planning application or a property transaction but would deal with the uses of the land and constitution.

The Recreation Trust Project Adviser gave a power point presentation which covered the issues of the Objects of the Trust, Conflicts with the Objects, Strategic Review Options, Increases due to Lambridge and the Main Features of the Scheme. The draft Scheme had been slightly amended since the despatch of the Agenda papers and a revised version had been circulated. He stated that representations would need to be sent to the Charity Commission (details of how to do this were in the Report) but Officers and Members were available to assist with enquiries and explanations. Copies of the leaflet "The Future for the Rec", together with plans showing the existing land use of the Recreation Ground and an indicative reconfiguration of the Ground showing activities and opportunity for additional activities, were available for members of the public to take away; further copies could be made available on request.

The Chair stated that he was willing on this occasion to take questions from the floor. The members of the public asked their questions about the use of Lambridge Training Ground (land swap), the draft Scheme, the Leisure Centre and the Rugby Club to which Officers responded. Councillor Manda Rigby also asked various questions to which the Chair responded. Councillor Dave Laming requested that, as Ward Member for Lambridge, he be included in any matters involving the Training Ground.

The Chair reiterated some of the main points of the draft Scheme. Councillor Tim Ball stated that this was a draft Scheme by the Charity Commission which would give enabling powers to a reconstituted Trust. Therefore, if confirmed, this could be the last meeting of the Trust as currently set up. He supported the proposals of the Charity Commission and therefore moved approval of the Recommendations as set out in paragraph 2.1 (i) – (iv) of the report. The motion was seconded by Councillor Simon Allen and on being put to the vote was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED to

- (1) Note the provisions of the draft Scheme;
- (2) Note and endorse the response to the draft Scheme sent by the Chair of the Trustees;
- (3) Note and endorse the Communications Plan to support the publication of the Scheme; and
- (4) Note and endorse the text of the explanatory leaflet to be made available during the period of the publication of the Scheme.

27 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Chair stated that the date of the next meeting would not be decided at this time pending the decision of the Charity Commission on the proposed new arrangements for the Trust Board.

The meeting ended at 7.35 pm

Chair(person)

Date Confirmed and Signed

Prepared by Democratic Services