

## CHILTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL

### MINUTES of the Meeting of the COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW COMMITTEE held on 10 JUNE 2014

**PRESENT:** Councillor A K Bacon - Chairman  
" - Vice Chairman

Councillors: M J Cunnane  
S A Patel  
J J Rush  
P N Shepherd  
J F Warder

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Councillors J S Ryman, A J Garth, P M Jones, N Stewert and H A Trevette

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillor I A Darby

#### 53 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

##### RESOLVED:

**That the appointment of Councillor A Bacon as Chairman of the Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year, as noted at Annual Council held on 13 May 2014, be agreed.**

#### 54 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

##### RESOLVED:

**That the appointment of Councillor J Ryman as Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year, as noted at Annual Council held on 13 May 2014, be agreed.**

#### 55 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Community & Environment Overview Committee held on 22 January 2014, copies of which had been previously circulated, were agreed by the Committee and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

#### 56 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 57 28 DAY NOTICE FORWARD PLAN & WORK PROGRAMME

There were no items remaining outstanding on the Work Programme of the Committee

Members reviewed the Forward Plan, to identify potential topics for review. The Committee agreed that there were no further items that they wished to include on the Work Programme at this time.

## **RESOLVED**

- 1. That the Work Programme of the Committee be noted.**
- 2. That no further items from the Forward Plan be added to the Work Programme of the Community and Environment Overview Committee at this time.**

## **58 CHILTERN POOLS LEISURE CENTRE NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

The Principal Leisure and Community Officer presented the report to the Committee which outlined the next steps in relation to commissioning an independent leisure specialist to undertake a needs assessment, detailed in Section 4 of the report.

The Committee were advised of the age and condition of the building along with the existing leisure management contract finishing in 2020, which provided a clear need to review future long term options for the site and specifically the future requirements of leisure provision in Amersham. The report proposed (following a formal tender process) to appoint a specialist independent leisure consultant and the key questions to be incorporated into the needs analysis were outlined in Section 4 of the report.

The next steps proposed that Cabinet release funding of up to £20,000 from the 'Capital Projects Reserves' fund to tender for a specialist leisure consultant to undertake a needs assessment of Chiltern Pools as detailed in Section 4. It was noted that on completion of the assessment a formal presentation was to be made to Members outlining the key finding and key considerations in deciding the best way forward.

In response to the presentation, members suggested that there was a need to strengthen the scope for the consultant to incorporate the context of the District more strongly to ensure that leisure was considered as a wider remit that just the pools but further leisure activities. Members also queried the need for a specialist consultant and whether in-house expertise could be used to undertake the needs assessment.

Officers concluded that the proposed 'Needs Assessment' for Chiltern Pools would provide clear and independent evidence as to the future needs of leisure centre facilities in Amersham as well as offer potential options as to how the construction of such a facility can be funded.

## **RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:**

- i) That, pending amendments for a wider scope to include a wider context of leisure in a holistic approach for the District, the**

**appointment of a specialist leisure consultant to undertake a needs assessment on the future of Chiltern Pools Leisure Centre be approved; and**

- ii) That up to £20,000 be transferred from the provisional capital sum to the approved and committed capital programme.**

## **59 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

### **RESOLVED –**

**That under section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.**

*Note: The relevant paragraph number from Part 1 of Schedule 12A is indicated at the end of the Minute heading.*

## **60 PRESTWOOD LEISURE CENTRE CAR PARK UPGRADE WORKS**

The Committee considered the report which outlined the need for car park upgrade works at the Prestwood Leisure Centre due to ongoing issues in relation to unmade surfaces forming potholes during poor weather conditions and creates dust issues in the summer. It was considered that there was a potential risk to safety for the public due to the poor condition and therefore a need to take appropriate action to minimise risk.

Due to the lease and sub lease arrangement for the car park, the Council had sought a legal opinion on the repair and decoration obligations for the land and buildings at Prestwood Leisure Centre. Members considered the legal advice and also the offer of a contribution from GLL.

Members queried the level of usage of the car park and also the overflow car park area. It was confirmed that both the main and overflow car park were well used.

### **RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:-**

- i) That a capital investment of up to £220K, to resurface the car park at Prestwood Leisure Centre be agreed;**
- ii) That Option C – surfacing and drainage in both car park areas, adding lighting columns and illuminated low level bollards in both the car park areas and introduce new drainage to both car park areas be pursued at an estimated cost of £220K; and**

- iii) That a maintenance programme for the exterior areas (similar to the programme in place for other Council Leisure Centres) be undertaken.

*Paragraph 3 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)*

**The meeting ended at 7.30 pm**