

Swanley Town Council

Civic Centre, St Marys Road, Swanley, Kent, BR8 7BU

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www.swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk

ESTATES AND FACILITIES

MINUTES

Wednesday 17th October 2018

Present: Chair Cllr V Southern, Cllr C Barnes, Cllr P Darrington, Cllr E Komolafe

Also Present: Cllr L Ball, Cllr L Dyball, Cllr T Searles

Officers: CEO - Steve Nash
RFO - Steve Innes
Park Manager - Ryan Hayman
Democratic Services Officer - Barbara Playfoot

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr N Scott, Cllr J Barnes, Cllr R Morris

In the absence of the Chair and Deputy Chair of this committee Cllr Southern was nominated as Chairman to be ratified at full council on the 7th November 2018

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

10569 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

To approve as correct the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 18th July 2018
APPROVED

10570 SEVENOAKS SUNS BASKETBALL FACILITY

To agree the Olympic site for future Sporting facilities – Report A

Cllr Southern asked if any members had any comments or questions regarding the Sevenoaks SUNS Basketball facility report

- Cllr Ball said that in principle the facility would be excellent for Swanley but had concerns in regard to road access and would have to be financially acceptable
- Cllr Darrington commented that the facility would offer a wider range of sports, additional employment and an additional income stream but he also had concerns regarding road access as there was a pinch point in the road before the site. He went on to question whether there would be facilities for disabled/senior citizens and therapy for older age groups.
- The CEO said that there was potential to widen the road using land already owned by STC and he had suggested to Sevenoaks SUNS that they seek funding to conduct a traffic survey. He confirmed that there would be facilities for the older age groups but could not at this stage confirm what the facilities would be.

- Cllr C Barnes agreed that it would be good for all sport but she also was concerned with traffic in Beechenlea Land and the residents.
- Cllr Dyball said with them potential downsizing of White Oak Leisure centre this development would be an asset and did not disagree with the proposed facility. She asked if there would be a form of shuttle bus service or additional bus service.
The CEO said that the bus service could be increased and that other organisations e.g. Help the aged, already provide transport services and could be approached to provide a shuttle bus service
- Cllr Komolafe agreed with the other councillors on all their points and added that it would be a great to have a shuttle bus service to the facility to ease potential transport/traffic problems.
- There were several suggestions from the members in regard to how the traffic/transport problem could be resolved but felt there should be a public consultation.
- Cllr Southern summed up by saying that it was a unanimous view that the potential transport problem would need to be resolved and a public consultation should take place.

Cllr Southern asked if there were any comments or questions from the public in attendance.

- Resident Swanley Lane asked if the land for the proposed site is owned by STC and was the land going to be leased and for how much
The CEO confirmed that STC owned the land and it will be leased to the Sevenoaks SUNS and the suggested sum would be between £20K - £50K and the potential for maybe a profit share scheme. The terms etc. would be detailed in a business plan which would be available once the pre-app had been submitted but there were a lot of factors to be considered by Council officers and councillors before any firm commitments were made.
- Resident from Crescent Gardens said that it will be difficult to take the plan forward without the facts and figures and careful planning should be undertaken. Also, if things went wrong what liabilities would the council taxpayer face?
The CEO again assured the residents that nothing would be agreed until all the plans had been thoroughly investigated
- Resident from Archer Way agreed with the fact that traffic will increase and not only to the venue but through to Swanley village. The existing car park would not accommodate all the cars on a match day (proposed facility capacity of 800 people) so parking could be a problem without extending the car park.

Cllr Southern repeated that there was concern with traffic and transport but could not see any reason why the Sevenoaks SUNS could not apply for the Pre-app and in principle the council were in favour of the development.

RESOLVED – agreed that the Olympic site for future Sporting facilities and await the Pre-app.

10571 PARK MANAGERS REPORT

To comment on the report and ask questions of the Manager –Report B

Cllr Southern asked if the Park manager could run through his report. The Park manager expanded on his report by explaining the finances and the reasons why the

Park had been successful financially, he said that it had been to good weather and new activities.

There are ongoing repairs being made to the splash pool and an inflatable waterslide has been purchased both will be ready for the 2019 season. Now that the Park was in a closed season general work has started which will include repairs to the benches and the landscape.

Cllr Ball said that it was an impressive report and if there were any plans to building a new mini golf area. The Park manager confirmed that is in the planning stage.

Cllr Darrington asked how the new landowner of the woodlands adjacent to the Park were gaining access to the area. The Park manager said at this current time they were coming in via the Park until they make an entrance in from New Barn Road.

Cllr Dyball asked if the inflatable waterslide would be supervised by staff, the Park manager confirmed that it will be manned as it will be a chargeable attraction. Cllr Dyball also asked if the benches in the recreation ground are part of the winter work, the Park manager confirmed that they would be along with Pedham and the Elephant Park.

Cllr C Barnes asked if there was CCTV installed at the Park, the CEO said that he was looking at a new CCTV system which he hopes will deter vandalism as it costs a lot of money to repair the damage.

ACCEPTED: Park Managers Report

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 23rd January 2019

MEETING CLOSED AT 21.20

If you would like further information on any of the agenda items, please contact Mr Steve Nash, on 01322 611663 or snash@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk

(Chair) Cllr N Scott, (Vice Chair) Cllr J Barnes, Cllr C Barnes
Cllr P Darrington, Cllr E Komolafe, Cllr V Southern