

'Subject to Approval at the Next Working Group Meeting'

ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE WORKING GROUP

31 July 2018 at 6.00 p.m.

Present: - Councillors Hitchins (Chairman), Warren (Vice-Chairman), Ambler, Bicknell, Buckland, Cates, Dingemans and Oliver-Redgate.

10. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Mrs Bence, Brooks, Mrs Daniells, English and Reynolds

11. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declaration of interest was made:-

- Councillor Buckland declared a personal interest in any item on the agenda that might arise in connection with his roles as a member of Littlehampton Town Council and West Sussex County Council.
- Councillor Warren declared a personal interest in any item on the agenda that might arise in connection with his role as a member of Littlehampton Town Council.

12. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5 June 2018 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

13. LITTLEHAMPTON LEISURE CENTRE

The Working Group received a written report and slide presentation from the Principal Landscape Officer which provided a visual update showing the progress of the works to the Littlehampton Leisure Centre.

The following questions were asked:-

- Mention had previously been made about problems about glare from the windows and what was the cause? The officer response was that light came in through the windows and reflected off the pool, which was not an uncommon problem for swimming pools. The preferred option for resolving the issue was to install blinds as it was felt that was the most flexible approach.

‘Subject to Approval at the Next Working Group Meeting’

- Was there going to be a period of closure between the old centre closing and the new one opening? The Principal Landscape Officer advised that it was planned to keep the existing facility operational prior to opening the new centre to ensure that provision would be maintained for the public; there was no planned closure period. A programme for the transition was currently being worked on by the operator, Freedom Leisure. Any closure period, if absolutely necessary for operational reasons, would be kept to an absolute minimum by the leisure contractor.
- A question was asked around demolition of the old centre and clearance of the site for the provision of parking. An assurance was given that the site would be cleared as soon as possible and that Freedom Leisure members would be afforded the same benefits for parking as at present through the issue of permits whilst other members of the public could use the parking through pay and display tickets.
- In response to a further question, Members were advised that bookings for clubs using the pool was an operational matter for Freedom Leisure and the Council would have no input to that.

The Chairman thanked the Principal Landscape Officer for her update and was pleased that the timetable was on track.

The Working Group then noted the report.

#### 14. EMERGENCY PLANNING UPDATE

*(During consideration of this item, Councillor Bicknell declared a prejudicial interest due to his employment with Southern Water and he left the meeting and took no part in any discussion relating to flooding issues.)*

The Working Group received a comprehensive presentation from the Emergency Planning Officer on how the Council would respond to any civil emergency from beginning to end of the process and the role Members could play. He provided an overview of what the Council would do and how the Council would work with other agencies to resolve any emergency situation.

Members thanked the officer for his extremely informative and interesting presentation and then participated in general discussion around a number of issues, including

- flooding;
- role of Councillors in emergency situations and the need for further training;
- access to relevant contact numbers and use of “priority” lines
- warnings and communications in event of a tsunami, although officer advice was given that that had not been identified as a high risk occurrence.

‘Subject to Approval at the Next Working Group Meeting’

The Working Group noted the report.

15. WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19

In turning to the Work Programme, a request was made whether fly tipping and the provision of drinking water fountains could be included for consideration at a future meeting. The Chairman stated that he would discuss the matter with the Group Head of Neighbourhood Services.

(The meeting concluded at 7.35 pm)