



FAREHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

CIVIC OFFICES CIVIC WAY FAREHAM HAMPSHIRE

Minutes of the Leisure Overview Panel

*Minutes of a meeting held on 12 November 2003
at the Civic Offices, Fareham*

PRESENT:

Councillor T G Knight
(Chairman)

Councillor J V Bryant
(Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: Mrs J M Eastman, Mrs R A Godrich (deputising for Mrs M E Ellerton), J S Forrest, Mrs M R Nadolski and R H Price

Also Present Councillors: Mrs C L A Hockley (Executive Member for Leisure), L Keeble (Executive Member for Health and Environment), H W L Pritchard and S D T Woodward (Executive Leader)

1. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mrs M E Ellerton.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Leisure Overview Panel held on 17 September 2003 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.
([le-030917-m](#)).

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made an announcement on the following matters:-

- (i) On behalf of the Panel the Chairman welcomed Mark Bowler who had recently joined the Council as Head of Strategy for Leisure and Environment.
- (ii) Reference was made to the following events which the Chairman had recently attended on behalf of the Panel :-

- 18 September 2003 – Thank You reception held by the Mayor for Participants in Hampshire Youth Games
 - 21 September 2003 – attended meeting of Fareham Community Action Group
 - 21 October 2003 – attended presentation evening at Ferneham Hall in respect of “Fareham in Bloom 2003”.
- (iii) Officers were thanked for having arranged for members of the Panel to tour the facilities for young people within the Borough on 16 October 2003.
- (iv) Referring to Minute 7 of 17 September 2003, it was noted that the detailed information requested from Genesis Youth Centre had now been received and circulated to Panel members.
- (v) The Panel congratulated employees of Ferneham Hall who had won first place in the commercial float class at Titchfield Carnival and also welcomed the support given by officers to 2nd Stubbington guides who had won a first prize place in the “Youth and Schools Class”

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with Standing Orders and the Council’s Code of Conduct, Councillor Ms M R Nadolski declared a personal interest in item 6 - Allotment Road Recreation Ground, Sarisbury – Lease of Grounds - (former member of the Warsash club committee and husband a former sponsor).

5. DEPUTATIONS

The Panel received deputations in respect of the following matter:-

| NAME | SUBJECT | MINUTE NO |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Mr S Roberts | Allotment Road Recreation Ground, Sarisbury – Lease of Grounds | 6 |
| Mr J Line | Allotment Road Recreation Ground, Sarisbury – Lease of Grounds | 6 |

6. ALLOTMENT ROAD RECREATION GROUND, SARISBURY – LEASE OF GROUNDS

The Panel considered a report by the Director of Leisure and Environment regarding progress in the development of a partnership agreement with Sarisbury Athletic Cricket Club for the management and maintenance of the Allotment Road Recreation Ground (copy of report [le-031112-r05-cre](#) circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

Member's attention was drawn to the deputations referred to in Minute 5 above and the points that had been raised by the deputees, both for and against the proposal.

At the request of the Chairman, the deputees' Mr Roberts and Mr Lines were joined respectively by Mr Oliphant and Mr Evans, to answer questions put to them by Panel members. During the course of debate the Panel were advised that irrespective of a lease agreement being approved, the Recreation Ground would remain as Public Open Space and that a Community Use Agreement would form part of the leasing arrangements with the Cricket Club. Whilst it was noted that the results of the consultation exercise had shown a majority in support of the proposed lease agreement, the Panel acknowledged the strong concerns held by some local residents. It was generally felt that there was a need for further consultation to take place between all interested parties to help resolve the differences between the club and local residents and that once this had taken place the matter could be considered again at a future Panel meeting.

It was AGREED that:-

- (i) the Executive be requested to defer their decision on this matter for a few months so that discussions can take place between the Club, officers, residents and Ward Councillors and details of the conditions relating to the lease could be set out for the Club; and
- (ii) that a further report on this matter be brought to the Leisure Overview Panel at its meeting on 3 March 2004.

(Voting 3 for; 2 against; 2 abstentions)

7. ADJOURNEMENT OF MEETING

The Chairman announced that the meeting be adjourned at 7.40 pm and resumed at 7.45 pm.

It was AGREED that the meeting be adjourned

8. MOTION TO COUNCIL – ANIMALS GIVEN AS PRIZES

The Panel considered the following motion submitted to the Council on 25 September 2003 by Councillor S D T Woodard which had been referred to the Panel for consideration.

“Fareham Borough Council is totally opposed to live animals such as birds, fish or reptiles being given as prizes at funfairs and other such events as it believes the ownership of a pet should be carefully thought through and should not occur merely because someone has won it as a prize. Such actions undermine efforts to promote responsible pet ownership and in some cases may actively encourage animal cruelty.

Fareham Borough Council will therefore include a condition on any hire agreement for the use of Council land that prohibits live animals such as birds, fish or reptiles being given as prizes”.

Councillor Woodward addressed the Panel on the reasons for the submission of the motion. Following discussion it was AGREED that the Executive be informed that the Panel supports the motion. (Voting: unanimous)

9. PRESENTATION – TENNIS COURTS

The Panel received a presentation from Charlie Read, Partnership and Development Officer, which gave an overview of tennis courts within the Borough. He identified the eight areas where tennis courts were located and referred to the variety of management arrangements and the main management issues which needed to be taken into account:-

- management arrangements (licences/leases/other)
- fee level
- quality of facilities (courts/accommodation)
- club usage
- casual usage
- vandalism
- approaches taken by neighbouring authorities

It was noted that a detailed report on the Management of Tennis Courts would be considered at the Panel's meeting scheduled for 14 January 2004.

10. ARTIFICIAL TURF PITCHES

The Panel received a presentation on Artificial Turf Pitches (ATPs) from Charlie Read, Partnership and Development Officer and also considered a report by the Director of Leisure and Environment which reviewed progress on investigations into the provision of an Artificial Turf Pitch (copy of report [le-0311120-r01-cre](#) circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes). Reference was made to the various reports and studies which had considered all weather sports facilities/artificial surfaces in previous years and the sites which had been identified as possible suitable locations. Some of the possible sites were Park Lane (Fareham Leisure Centre site), Cams Alders Recreation Ground, Seafield Park and appropriate school/college sites. Mr Read explained that current trends when considering the provision of an ATP were:-

- careful choice of location
- selection of dual use sites - to ensure on-site management and daytime use
- funding - encourage partnership funding/self financing
- part of a Playing Pitch Strategy

It was noted that work being undertaken to produce a Local Planning Development Framework will require a Playing Pitch Strategy to assess the requirements for the Council's outdoor sports provision. It was expected that the Strategy would be produced during the next three months.

It was AGREED that further consideration on the provision of an Artificial Turf Pitch be deferred pending the completion of the Playing Pitch Strategy, the details of which would be reported to the Leisure Overview Panel in due course.

11.OVERVIEW PANEL WORK PROGRAMME – 2003/2004

The Panel reviewed its work Programme for 2003/2004 (copy of report [le-031112-r03-jke](#) circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

It was AGREED:-

- (i) that following completion of the consultation process, an item on Hammond Hall would be included in the current Work Programme on a date to be agreed between the Chairman and the Director of Leisure and Environment;
- (ii) that a further report on the proposed lease of Allotment Road Recreation Ground by Sarisbury Athletic Cricket Club (see minute 6 above) be added to the Work Programme for the meeting on 3 March 2004; and
- (iii) that subject to the above, the Panel's Work Programme for 2003/2004, as set out in the report, be endorsed.

*(The meeting started at 6.00 pm
and ended at 7.40 pm)*