

Runnymede Borough CouncilLEISURE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE16 March 2006 at 7.30 p.m.

Members of the Committee present: Councillors R.K. Habgood (Chairman) A. Alderson, Ms. D.V. Clarke, Mrs C.E. Gant, Mrs S.E. Jacobs, C. Knight, A.M. Moore, C.J. Norman and Mrs J. Norman.

Members of the Committee absent: Councillor C.J. Ruane.

Councillors Mrs F.M. Angell, P.A. Greenwood and G.B. Woodger also attended.

637. NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Group mentioned below had notified the Chief Executive Officer of its wish that the changes listed below be made to the membership of the Committee. The changes were for a fixed period ending on the day after the meeting and thereafter the Councillors removed would be reappointed.

Group requesting Change	Remove from Membership	Appoint Instead
Conservative	Councillor M.J. Brown	Councillor Ms. D.V. Clarke
Conservative	Councillor Mrs C.Y. Jones	Councillor Mrs J. Norman

The Chief Executive Officer had given effect to these wishes in accordance with Section 16(2) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

638. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 19 January 2006, were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

639. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor C.J. Ruane.

640. DESIGNATED PUBLIC PLACES ORDER

The Committee considered a report which set out the case to implement a Designated Public Places Order (DPPO) in the Chertsey Area. Officers explained that the Order gave Surrey Police additional powers to deal with drinking in public related to disorder and was not a total ban on drinking.

The procedure for making the Order was set by statute and involved specific consultation with local licensees, none of whom had raised any objections to the proposal. If approved, the Council would have to advertise its intention to implement the DPPO and, if any objections were received the matter would have to be brought back to the Committee for consideration. If no objections were received Officers anticipated that the Order could be in place by May 2006.

The areas to be covered by the Section 13 Order were:-

All highways, pavements, footpaths and adjoining open space to the following listed roads and areas: St Ann's Hill, Abbeyfields including Orchard Road & Orchard Day Centre, Gogmore Farm Park, Gogmore Farm Close, Guildford Street including the Sainsbury Centre, car park and 2 loading areas, Guildford Road up to the junction with the Knoll roundabout, including the Railway Station & adjoining Car Park, Fox Lane, Galsworthy Road, Heriot Road, Alwyns Lane, Alwyns Close, Willats Close, Grove Road, Masonic Hall Road, Eastworth Road From Bell Corner up to junction with Free Prae Road, London Street, Melbury Close, Riversdell Close, Pycroft Road,

Windsor Street, Twynersh Avenue, Curfew Bell Road, Abbots Way, Gogmore Lane, Foundry Court, Church Walk, Willow Walk, Burley Orchard, Longbourne Way, Cowley Avenue, Styventon Place, South Grove, Staines Road (A320) from Twynersh Roundabout to junction with St Ann's Road, Fernlands Close and all footpaths and areas along The River Bourne from Staines Road to Free Prae Road.

The Committee was informed that the DPPO was a re-active alcohol related Order; thus other areas in which Members suspected anti-social behaviour occurred or which suffered from different types of anti-social behaviour could not be covered by the Order unless reported and registered as such.

Members welcomed the proposals which it was hoped would address concerns that had been raised with them directly about anti-social behaviour but they were concerned that displacement might occur into the adjoining roads not covered by the Order. Therefore, Members requested that because the Order, once implemented, was indefinite, it be reviewed after a period of 12 months.

Members agreed that Joint Action Group, the body which met regularly to discuss strategies to reduce crime and disorder in Runnymede, should be integral to the review.

It was suggested that the signs, which had to be displayed in the designated areas, should be discreet but re-assuring so that one of the Safer Runnymede Partnership's objectives – to reduce the fear of crime – would be achieved. Officers agreed to circulate a copy of the proposed signage to Members of the Committee for comment.

RESOLVED that –

- i) subject to all necessary statutory requirements being met, a Designated Public Places Order be made under Section 13 of the Criminal Justice Police Act 2001, in respect of the public places in Chertsey, as identified above, to combat alcohol related disorder;**
- ii) the above mentioned Order be reviewed after a period of 12 months and a report brought back to this Committee for consideration; and**
- iii) a copy of the proposed signage be circulated for comments to Members of this Committee**

641. REVIEW OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCES SERVICE

The Chairman informed the Committee that he had received a number of representations on this item from Ward Members which warranted attention. Therefore, the item was deferred for detailed consultation between Officers and Ward Members in respect of alternative strategies, options and provision.

642. RIVER THAMES AND CHERTSEY BOURNE FRAGS AND COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUPS – UPDATE

(Ref: Minutes of Leisure and Environment Committee, June 2005, page 66, para. 101)

Members received for information an update on the Groups which were set up in response to flooding in the Borough in 2002/03.

Members of the Committee that had not been intimately involved with the issue were informed that the Groups were consolidated following consultation with the respective memberships resulting in the formation of the Thames Flood Forum and the Chertsey Bourne Flood Forum.

During 2005 and early 2006 the Groups received updates on remedial and preventative work in respect of the Thames and the River Bourne from the Environment Agency and had made representations to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister on a consultation document concerning Planning Policy Statement 25: 'Development and Flood Risk'.

Members were disappointed that the Chertsey Bourne Flood Strategy had been put on hold due to rule changes brought in by DEFRA and pending the outcome of a consultant's report on the Lower Thames Flood Strategy to be considered by the next meeting of the Chertsey Flood Forum in August 2006 which would be attended by Officers from the Engineering Department who also gave the Groups administrative support.

The Committee re-affirmed the Council's objective to promote flood alleviation schemes and looked forward to receiving further progress reports in due course.

643. EGHAM LEISURE CENTRE TRADING ACCOUNT

(Ref: Minutes of Leisure and Environment Committee, January 2006, page 744, para. 505)

The Committee noted the latest performance figures for Egham Leisure Centre which showed a net deficit of £384,854 as at 31 January 2006. Gym membership had fallen slightly to 1,021, some 179 members short of the 1,200 target set at the start of the year.

Officers acknowledged that the Centre was struggling to meet its income targets and was reliant on the fitness suite memberships, pending the improvement works, which were scheduled for completion by the end of June 2006.

Officers confirmed that they would be targeting new companies that moved into the area in order to promote the Centre.

The Committee anticipated an improvement in the third quarter of 2006/07. It was noted that the overall net deficit of the DSO included a "Contract" Payment to the Client Budget of £209,667.

644. CABRERA TRUST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 9 January 2006 as attached at Appendix 'A' were received and noted.

645. RUNNYMEDE ARTS DEVELOPMENT STEERING GROUP – MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Steering Group held on 7 February 2006 as attached at Appendix 'B' were received and noted.

646. ABBEY FIT JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 21 February 2006 as attached at Appendix 'C' were received and noted.

Members were advised that the Chairman of Abbey Fit Joint Management Committee would, in future, attend meetings of the Abbey Fit Project Group. The Committee also noted that marketing of the new improved facilities would be vital to its success.

647. EGHAM LEISURE CENTRE – 5-A-SIDE- FOOTBALL PITCHES – EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

(Ref: Minutes of Leisure and Environment Committee, November 2005, page 593, para 382, Corporate Management Committee, December 2005, page 629, para. 407 and Council, December 2005, page 663, para. 442)

By resolution of the Committee, the press and public were excluded from the meeting during the consideration of this matter under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the discussion would be likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information of the description specified in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to Part 1 of the Act.

Members were provided with a list of 20 contractors that had submitted expressions of interest in supplying six 5-a-side football pitches at Egham Leisure Centre.

Officers provided the Committee with examples of successful works that the seven preferred companies had undertaken.

The Committee was satisfied that thorough checks had been made in respect of financial strength, satisfactory references, track history for the provision of 3rd Generation pitches and agreed that the first seven on the list who had met the criteria be invited to tender for the contract.

Members noted that subject to planning permission being granted work could commence on site in May/June 2006 in order to meet the proposed opening date in late October which would also tie in with the refurbishment and upgrading of the changing rooms.

Officers were pleased to be informed that funding through the Association for the Improvement of Runnymede (AIR) might be available for the works.

RESOLVED that –

tenders for the installation of six 5-a-side football pitches at Egham Leisure Centre be invited from the seven contractors who have expressed an interest in tendering, have supplied details and have been ranked highest, when assessed against the set criteria.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 8.05 p.m.)