

PRESENT: Councillors: Dunn, McArdle, Wilson
Officer: Sarah May

APOLOGIES: Councillor Grayshon, Keith Hewitt, Tom O'Donovan

ACTION

1. Introductions and Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Grayshon, Keith Hewitt of City Services and Tom O'Donovan of South Area Management

2. Matters arising and minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as an accurate record.

Cllr Wilson enquired when maintenance works were likely to be completed at Blackburn Hall. SM explained that there had been some delays in appointing a contractor to carry improvements but the indicative timescale for completion is late April / early May.

3. Update on community facilities in Outer South Leeds

SM provided an overview of current issues ongoing with community facilities across the area.

- Stanhope Memorial Hall, Churwell – The sale of this facility is still ongoing due to issues surrounding a covenant with previous trustees. Cllr McArdle to chase up further with Martin Farrington in Development.
- Churwell Community Centre – Discussions are still ongoing with regards to the future of the facility and how appropriate it will be to transfer activities from the centre to the new school provision. There have been discussions between the Governors of the school and Education Leeds SM is still a further update confirmation from Education Leeds on how the negotiations and project is progressing.
- Windmill CC, Rothwell – Cllr Wilson provided an overview of the current situation with the facility – there's £100k of Section 106 monies to be spent by Spring 2008 and as yet no progress with drawing up a lease between the trustees of the centre and the Council. The trustees want to provide the Council with a 75 year full repairing and insuring lease for the building. SM to follow this up with Paul Gough re Section 106 and Brian Walker with regards to the lease. SM to also investigate the status of the house next door to the building to see if there is any scope for the sale of the property.
- St Gabriel's, East Ardsley – The lease for this building is due to expire next year and options for the future of the facility were discussed. Options discussed were closing the facility and re-locating the activities in East Ardsley Primary School or arranging transport to take young people to the youth provision at Rodillian High School. Moving the youth club to East Ardsley CC was also discussed but it was not known if the facility has the spare capacity to hold this booking.
- Rose Lund CC, John O'Gaunts – Parks & Countryside are due to extend the centre to provide improved changing facilities for the users of the football pitch in front of the building. It was discussed at agreed that the building should remain under the responsibility of Learning & Leisure Department and NHD be recharged costs relating to community activity.

- Morley Town Hall – The request to appointing a meet and greet / security person was discussed, a contribution of £2500 has been requested by Customer Services towards this post. Following some discussion, it was felt that this £2,500 would be better spent on improving the buildings in Outer South rather than staffing costs. Another point raised was that the Area Committee may be asked to add in further funding if other tenants of the building don't wish to contribute.

4. Draft work programme for the Community Centres Sub Committee

The draft work programme was discussed. It was agreed that this was a good initial starting point for the group to work from.

The Lettings & Pricing policy was briefly discussed – a different pricing structure has been put together for Blackburn Hall and Morley Town Hall but the same discounts would apply. Cllr Dunn asked if it was possible for hirers to receive a discount if they carried out works to the facility such as decorating or providing new equipment. SM said that this could be looked into being incorporated in the discount schedule.

Trying to attract new users to the facilities was also discussed – further promotion of the facility needs to be undertaken through the Leeds City Council website or by the production of a promotional leaflet. Attracting businesses to use community centres as office space was also discussed.

5. Time and date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday 6th June at Lewisham Park Community Centre 10am.