



REW VALLEY SPORTS CENTRE

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 59/13

12 AUGUST 2013

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to Members on recent meetings about the future of the Centre and invite discussion of and, if appropriate, endorsement for the recommendations of the meeting of the Public Buildings Working Group (PBWG) on Tuesday 23 July 2013.

No. DETAIL

1) INTRODUCTION

- a) As previously reported, funding of the Centre is due to end on 31 March 2014 and as both the Isle of Wight Council (IoWC) and Ventnor Town Council (VTC) are committed to retaining this important facility, discussions have been initiated between the two Councils about the prospects for its future ownership and operation through a form of Community Trust.
 - b) The latest of those meetings took place on 19 July and involved the Deputy Mayor and Town Clerk from VTC and the Isle of Wight Council's Strategic Manager Recreation, Leisure and Public Spaces Alex Minns and that service's Commercial Services Manager Sean Newton.
 - c) The outcomes from the meeting were reported to and discussed at the 23 July PBWG meeting.
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2) MEETING OUTCOMES

- a) Alex Minns confirmed a previous proposal of his to make available a Project Manager on his team to work on developing the information necessary for a future stakeholders' meeting to be able to have meaningful discussions about their potential future involvement.
 - b) The information requested was agreed to include detailed figures of income and expenditure for the last two years and robust and detailed financial projections for the first three years of any new ownership and funding regime in the context of a Business Case.
 - c) Alex Minns estimated that this investigative work could be completed by the end of August and, on that basis, the Deputy Mayor and Town Clerk agreed to recommend to VTC that it convene a meeting of potential stakeholders in the second half of September.
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3) PBWG RECOMMENDATIONS

Following a constructive and detail discussion of the meeting outcomes, the PBWG asks that the Town Council agree to:

- a) welcome the commitment of staff time from the Recreation, Leisure and Public Spaces Service to collate the relevant information which it sees as an essential first stage;
 - b) convene a meeting of interested parties for an initial discussion of the future ownership, operation and funding of the Centre in the second half of September, subject to that information being available not less than three weeks prior to that meeting;
 - c) ask the Isle of Wight Council to consider including the adjacent Sports Field in the facilities available to any new organisation taking over responsibility for the facility.
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