

HATHERSAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Swimming Pool Committee held at the Heart of Hathersage on 16th August 2022

Present: Councillors W Hanley (Chair), B Hanley, T Hill, JA Marsden.

In attendance: CF Cave (RFO), M Wellington (Leisure Services Manager)

Apologies: Councillors HJ Rodgers, R Olle, S Turner

Min no		Action
040/22	Apologies were noted.	
040/23	Agreed to bring forward the Leisure Services Manager's report to enable him to return to duty at the pool.	
040/24	M Wellington declared an interest as a Council employee.	
040/25	There were no members of the public present. The RFO confirmed that a notice had been posted on the Stanage Hall door regarding the late change of venue.	
040/26	The minutes of the meeting held on 16 th June 2022 were approved and signed by the Chair as a true record. It was noted that no meeting had been held in July.	
040/27	Supplies of chlorine sufficient to last until late November had been obtained. Councillor Hill was having ongoing discussions with Sterling Hydrotech regarding the possibility of installing sodium hydrochlorite producing equipment. Some doubts were expressed regarding this system as it was believed that a number of pools that had had it installed had reverted to chlorine. Sterling Hyrotech to be asked for names of pools where it had been installed. It was understood that Droitwich Open Air and Stonehaven pools used sodium hypochlorite. These pools to be contacted to ask about their experience. It was believed that carbon dioxide could not be stored in the same building as sodium hydrochloride due to the risk of explosion. Health & safety Executive to be contacted for advice.	TH MW MW
040/28	Councillor Hill updated the Council on the ground/air source heating project. He expressed some dissatisfaction with the quality of reports received from Leisure Energy and the fact that there appeared to be no back up when the consultant was absent; these matters had been taken up with Leisure Energy's managing director. It had become clear that air source pumps would not be suitable for the Council's needs. Ideally 2 x 500kw ground source pumps would be required. Councillor Hill would continue to pursue this matter. Recorded weather data had not been downloaded. Question raised as to whether a licence was required. Mike Wellington to check and implement downloading.	TH MW

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040/29	It was agreed to accept P Copley's estimate of not more than £599.36 to test the electrical wiring of the pool premises and that this should be done every five years. It was noted that this estimate did not include testing the café wiring.	
040/30	Quotations had been obtained for reflooring the solarium. It was agreed to defer any decision until consideration of what other work on the solarium is necessary	
040/31	The pool manager's reports were presented. (1) Concern was expressed about the frequent failure of outside showers and the time taken to repair them. A contract to be sought with a plumber for immediate repair action. (2) The pool manager explained that the proposed winter opening timetable was the same as last winter's and was a minimum that could be extended if weather conditions were favourable. Some concern was expressed that the opening hours were not longer and that the pool closed by 4.30 at weekends. Timetable to be reconsidered. (3) Concern was expressed that the grass was not cut often enough and that weeds (especially nettles) had been allowed to grow in certain areas. Councillor Hanley proposed the purchase of a lawn mower so that cutting was not dependent on the contractor. No decision on a lawn mower was taken. (4) Councillors were disappointed that the inflatable had been used only once. Proposed weekly use during the summer holidays had been cancelled to allow the RNIB to use the pool. Proposed future use was on a monthly basis which the Councillors felt was too infrequent.	MW All/MW
	M Wellington left the meeting	
	(5) In view of the pressure on the Clerk following the loss of the Assistant Clerk it was agreed that Councillor W Hanley would carry out regular performance reviews of the managers.	WH
	(6) Consideration to be given to allocating specific responsibilities to specific staff members.	WH/MW
	(7) End of season staff reviews to be carried out by Councillor W Hanley, Mike Wellington and possibly another Councillor. Suggested date of 5 September.	WH/MW
	(8) Councillor Hill was asked to research information on pool covers as the existing covers were reaching the end of their life.	TH
040/32	It was believed that the five-year plan was now complete. MW to present a final draft prior to the next meeting for approval at the meeting.	MW
040/33	The users' survey was now available. The great majority of comments were favourable. Consideration needed to be given to all unfavourable comments to determine which required action. It was agreed to hold a cheese and wine event to which regular users would be invited and at which they would be asked for their written comments & suggestions regarding the pool.	All

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Date:

	A report on the feasibility of an online pool users' group to be prepared for consideration at the next meeting.	WH
040/34	Disquiet was expressed that yet again there was no pool adviser's report	
040/35	The RFO's report was attached. It was noted that whilst season ticket sales had increased over last year's, daily admissions were down. A comparison of credit card costs between Worldpay, the current service provider, and a proposal from Dojo showed a worthwhile saving. It was agreed to change service providers if a month's free trial with Dojo was satisfactory. It was noted that Dojo would cover any Worldpay exit costs up to £3,000.	MW
040/36	Items for the next meeting (other than those arising from these minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual pool user group • Annual pool walkaround 	
040/37	The time, date and venue of the next meeting was confirmed as 19.00 on 13 th September at the Heart of Hathersage	

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Date: