**HATHERSAGE PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Extra Swimming Pool Committee Meeting held at the

Sampson Room, Memorial Hall, at 6.30 p.m. on 21st June 2017.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Present: | Councillors B Hanley; P Mander; J Marsden; H Rodgers; S. Turner and P Whitney |
| In attendance: | A Jones (Clerk); C M Wilkinson (Marketing). Steve Wyatt (Assistant Clerk); A Watts (Professional Adviser); M Wellington (Pool Manager). |
| 029/17 |  | Apologies for absence were received from G Foy (Assistant Manager) |
| 030/17 |  | C. Wilkinson, M. Wellington and A. Watts declared an interest because of their employment at the pool.  |
| 031/17 |  | There was no public participation. |
| 032/17 |  | **The Minutes of the SPC meeting** of 13th June had been circulated. The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair. |
| 033/17 |  | **The Five-Year Plan.** |
| 033/17 | .1 | **Summary of methodology.**  Cllr Turner has agreed to project lead the creation of the five-year plan. It will be based on professional advice regarding plant and machinery issues, and take into consideration feedback from all stakeholders as had been recently circulated. The 2013 Pool Business Plan had been reviewed as a background to the new Five-Year Plan. The Marketing Group was asked to draft the Marketing element of the five-year plan. It was noted that a further exercise of costing would need to be carried out for all proposals. |
| 034/17 |  | **Plant/Machinery Priorities** |
|  | .1 | Professional Adviser Ashley Watts recommended that the next priority for the Swimming Pool Committee was to replace/improve the pool filters, to reduce the current turnover of cleared water rate to nearer 3 hours. The velocity/suction rate of filters is limited due to safety issues with the risk of powerful suction catching children and hair. However, with new technology there are smaller kit options to improve circulation. Diatomaceous earth filtration and a multi-cyclone filter were mentioned as options which may allow us to improve circulation without involving major excavation to put in large new plant. Ash advised we need a 3-filter system with 2 filters operating and 1 resting at any one time.It was agreed that this should be aimed for during the next closed season if possible.It was agreed to appoint a consultant to advise on the options available with costs, to enable the SPC to make recommendations to HPC on the best way forward.Ash will draft a brief of the services required, and advise the Clerk of 3+ appropriate specialist consultants to request a quote for their services. The Clerk will contact the consultants direct to ask them to submit a quote for consideration by SPC. SPC would also be interested to consider interim measures to ameliorate the situation, such as reducing the number of swimmers to reduce the stress on the filters coping with high levels of suntan lotion; improved signage and advice to swimmers about showering. |
| 034/17 | .2 | It was noted that as a consequence of major refit work on the filter system, it would be pragmatic to plan to carry out re-lining and replacement/repair of pool surrounds to fit in with the disruption inevitable from the exercise to fit new filters. |
| 034/17 | .3 | Councillors commented that pool users and supporters would be supportive of further fundraising for these new improvements, having seen the positive outcome of their previous fundraising efforts in the refurbishment of the solarium etc. |
| 034/17 | .4 | Ash advised that towards the end of the five-year plan period the SPC would need to install new boilers. Again, as new technology is developed, it may be possible to achieve improvements on the existing boiler arrangements without needing major excavation. When the time approaches geothermal and air source heat pumps should be considered. In the meantime, it was agreed to explore increasing the number of solar panels to generate as much electricity as possible utilising the changing rooms, toilets and utility room. The Pool Manager was asked to obtain quotes for this. |
| 034/17 | .5 | It was agreed to research a new PA System, to try to overcome current noise level and clarity issues.Page 1 of 2: Chair’s Initials ………………………………………………. Date: 18th July 2017 |
| 035/17 |  | **Buildings and Landscaping** |
| 035/17 | .1 | The removal of the Caretaker’s existing shed is a priority as it is an eyesore to the detriment of the overall appearance of the entrance to the pool and office. It could be replaced with a more attractive small garden shed located in a less prominent position. There are electrics in the existing shed which will have to be removed. The Pool Manager will obtain a quote from Paul Copley (approved electrical contractor.)It was agreed to take to the July HPC meeting a proposal to buy a new shed, remove the existing shed and make the necessary alterations to the electricity supply. |
| 035/17 | .2 | The overall entrance to the complex would benefit from a re-design. This could be offered as a project to Sheffield/Manchester University Architecture Students. |
| 035/17 | .3 | The refurbishment of the pool office will be necessary within the five years of the plan. |
| 035/17 | .4 | It was agreed that a further priority was to improve the disabled access and widen the footpaths. |
| 035/17 | .5 | It was agreed that improvements to drainage were needed on the large grassed area. |
| 035/17 | .6 | It was queried what arrangements are being made to complete the work on the solarium flooring. It was confirmed that the Pool Management has arrangements in hand to paint the floor with a sand compound to improve the surface and reduce slipperiness when wet. |
| 035/17 | .7 | It was queried what the collection arrangements are for the recycling bins as current collection doesn’t appear to be working well. Pool Management will check and report back. |
| 036/17 |  | **Signage** |
| 036/17 | .1 | Signage to the pool from approaching roads needs to be improved. It was noted that this has previously met with resistance from planning/highways. It was agreed to try again to get permissions for more and better signage.  |
| 036/17 | .2 | Similarly, signage to the pool from the railway station needs to be improved. There had not been a positive response from the station manager when this was previously requested. It was agreed to try again, particularly promoting the new artwork which is very much in the style of railway posters. It was noted that a sign for Hathersage Pool at stations along the Hope Valley Line from Manchester to Sheffield could be of benefit to the Hope Valley Line as well as the pool. |
| 036/17 | .3 | Signage at the entrance to the pool is in the process of being re-designed. A combined sign for the pool and café, possibly as a triangle shape, would improve visibility as you approach the entrance to the pool, (rather than the current flat on sign, which is only visible when you are right alongside it.) A flagpole was also suggested and will be explored. It was noted that there are other permissions issues for flag poles. |
| 037/17 |  | **Open Season and Opening Times** It was agreed to move towards 12 months opening, with a range of options considered from 8 months heated and 4 months cold, to some months heated but not to full temperature.It was agreed to leave the Pool Management team to make recommendations on the best options for this, taking into account pool heating costs and wages. Key considerations are that 12 months opening does not need to mean 12 months of full-time opening, and e.g. weekend opening for some of the weeks would still constitute 12 months opening. It was noted that a facility open for 12 months of the year has more access to funding sources than a seasonal only pool. It was noted that planning permission would be required to change the opening dates and times of the pool. |
| 038/17 |  | **Staff -** It was agreed to promote training and staff development with a view to succession planning, incentive and continuing high work performance from existing and future staff. |
| 039/17 |  | **Marketing Plan -** It was agreed that the Marketing Group will hold a meeting to draft the Marketing element of the Five-Year Plan and that Cllr Rodgers will attend. |
| 040/17 |  | **Review -** It was agreed that there will be a Five-Year Plan Annual Review meeting in 2018.  |
| 041/17 |  | The next meeting of the SPC will be on 18th July 2017. No agenda items were noted. |
|  |  | The meeting closed at 7:25 pm.Page 2 of 2: Chair’s Signature …………………………………………. Date: 18th July 2017. |