

HATHERSAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk – Maura Sorensen, *Heart of Hathersage, Main Road, Hathersage, S32 1BB*

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Minutes of the meeting of the Swimming Pool Committee of Hathersage Parish Council
held at Hathersage Memorial Hall on Tuesday 13 July 2021, 7pm

Present: Councillors Stuart Turner (Chair), W Hanley, Tim Hill, Jane Marsden, Rosie Olle, Heather Rodgers; Mike Wellington (Leisure Services Manager)

In attendance: CF Cave (Treasurer), Maura Sorensen (Clerk)

037/21 Apologies for absence – Cllr Bridget Hanley; George Foy (Pool Manager)

038/21 To decide any variation in the order of business – none.

039/21 Declaration of interests – Mike Wellington (pool staff member).

040/21 **Public participation** – no members of the public were in attendance.

041/21 **Minutes of the previous meeting of 8 June 2021 were confirmed as a correct record;** there were no matters arising not dealt with in the agenda.

042/21 **Marketing/Advertising/Fundraising/Events:** MW noted the success of the Friday night monthly music event with the most recent evening selling out. Hilly Triathlon – organisers had confirmed all arrangements, including parking, were in place. Noted a potential reduction in numbers of participants, and event timings; MW liaising with organisers. Advertising – agreed no need for further advertising in Dore-to-Door this year. Noted the pool had featured across various media in the last few months; MW keeps a file/record.
Cllrs referenced the pool's birthday; MW noted no event was being planned – too challenging this year with managing Covid measures etc.

Cllrs referenced the proposed 'cheese and wine' event in the autumn – a provisional date/time was agreed – Sunday 19 September, 6.30pm.

Cllrs also noted proposals to re a pool users survey; MW to look at posting an online survey (SurveyMonkey). Suggested launching the survey early in September. MW noted the survey could be an opportunity to identify individuals with specific skills/expertise to support the pool in various ways.

MW referenced a request from a brass band to play (at no charge) on the pool bandstand on the August Bank Holiday Sunday; Cllrs **agreed** to the request; MW will liaise with the band re parking.

Cllr Hanley asked about bandstand events and resident liaison. MW noted careful consideration on all planned bandstand events and regular liaison with pool neighbours to ensure continued positive relationships.

- .1 **Welcome Back Funding music event** – evening of Friday 24 September. MW to liaise with/inform residents. Noted operational issues to be addressed including whether catering will be provided. Cllr Rodgers referenced putting up bunting for the event; noted the pool does not have bunting; noted it had already been agreed that HPC can use WBF funding to purchase good quality bunting.

043/21 **Charitable status for the pool:** CC referenced agreement at the July HPC meeting to pursue legal advice. He reported contact with two firms of solicitors only one of whom had responded so far; that firm had suggested an initial half hour meeting (at a cost of £150.00). Cllrs agreed in principle to CC going ahead with this meeting; suggested an outcome from this meeting should be to help clarify specifications if HPC needs to pursue further quotes in this matter.

044/21 **Admissions and timetable:** Cllrs **noted** transitional changes from 19 to 31 July leading to a return to full capacity from mid-August. MW enlarged on the operational details. MW noted the gradual adaptations will be reassuring to pool users. He also referenced communications with pool users via email and the pool website and Facebook page. Noted a positive response, so far. Noted other DDDC leisure facilities are taking a similar gradual approach to lifting measures. MW confirmed the pool will continue with the online booking system; and with current hygiene measures. Noted lane swimming will be kept to three lanes. Cllrs supported and commended pool management's approach, looking to ensure the safety and wellbeing of staff, pool users, and Hathersage residents.

Signed:

Date:

- 045/21 **Plant room upgrade project**
- .1 MW referenced a forthcoming meeting with Tom Crooks and TC Williams meeting – a post project completion review and an opportunity to raise any issues. **Fireboarding of the plant room:** MW referenced issues raised by potential contractors about the difficulties of undertaking this work with all the equipment installed. Suggested this issue should have been raised/addressed prior to equipment installation ***MW to raise with TC/TCW at forthcoming meeting.***
- 046/21 **Plant/Machinery/Operational issues/Management Reports**
- .1 **Pool Manager's report:** MW reported on applicants for the casual lifeguarding roles noting four had been shortlisted for interview; he suggested further recruitment could be undertaken later in the year. Cllr Hanley highlighted that it would be better practice for applicants to complete an HPC application form rather than submit a CV. ***Clerk to share template application form with MW, again.***
 - .2 **Pool Advisor's report:** Cllr Hanley summarised the report noting he had also shared the report by email just prior to the meeting.
 - .3 **Alternative heating initiative and Expressions of Interest (EoI):** Cllr Hill provided an update. Noted he was still awaiting a firm EoI from a couple of the companies who had expressed some initial interest; Cllr Hill highlighted the challenge of securing three quotes for this project. Noted a forthcoming pool site visit with one of the companies.
- 047/21 **Medium to longer term pool projects including capital projects**
- .1 MW referenced two quotes received for the proposed path work. Noted the preference for the work to be undertaken in the autumn (outside the high season). Timescale for completion of the work to be confirmed; MW noted it was hoped the pool could remain open while the work is being undertaken.
 - .2 **Ramp to improve accessibility to the bowling green:** noted there had been some confusion around which committee should consider this proposal; suggested this should be an item for a future meeting of the Amenities Committee.
- 048/21 **Pool staffing**
- .1 **Covid:** MW referenced the recent incident with a staff member testing positive for Covid and steps taken. Noted the staff member had been offered Statutory Sick Pay for the period of isolation. Noted no records have been kept, to date, of staff members having Covid vaccinations; pool management to look to keep a record.
 - .2 **Staff hours:** Cllr Hanley referenced instances where some lifeguards had worked an excessive number of hours in a week – with one staff member working 63 hours. Noted this exceeds the government safe working hours directive. Noted the Pool Advisor had also voiced concern suggesting average weekly working hours should be around 40. Cllr Hanley suggested hours need to be capped to protect everyone – staff, pool management, pool users, and the parish council. MW agreed, noting the excessive hours worked were in relation to staff leavers and staff shortages – this should be addressed with the recruitment of new staff. Discussing a cap on hours, Cllrs **agreed** no member of staff should work more than 45 hours a week other than in exceptional circumstances.
 - .3 **Recruitment:** noted this had been referenced in the Pool Manager's report.
 - .4 **Staff training:** nothing to update.
- 049/21 **Swimming Club:** noted the club had two more weeks to run before the summer break; noted a gala evening planned for September. MW noted additional public sessions can be scheduled while Swim Club is not meeting.
- 050/21 **Swimming lessons:** noted school swimming lessons have ended for the summer holidays; additional public sessions can be scheduled for this period.
- 051/21 **Finance:** CC had circulated details of takings. CC referenced loss of advertising revenue and seeking new advertisers – MW to pursue. Agreed to keep the costs to advertisers at £550.00.
- 052/21 **Clerk:** there was no additional report or correspondence
- 053/21 **Items for the next meeting:** pool staffing structure/staffing proposals
- 054/21 **Next meeting – Tuesday 10 August 2021, 7pm.**

Meeting ended 8.15pm

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