

# HATHERSAGE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Swimming Pool Committee of Hathersage Parish Council

Held at Hathersage Memorial Hall on Tuesday 10 August 2021, 7 pm

Present: Councillors Bill Hanley (Meeting Chair), George Foy (Pool Manager), Bridget Hanley, Tim Hill, Heather Rodgers, Jane Marsden, Rosie Olle, Peter Rowland  
For agenda item 17: Emily Abbey, Sara Furness, James Shuttleworth, Nick Williams  
In attendance: Chris Cave (RFO); Suzanne Cass (Assistant Clerk); Maura Sorensen (Clerk); George Foy  
Peter Crawford, speaking to agenda item 17; Clare Firth in attendance for item 17

- 055/21 **Apologies for absence:** Mike Wellington, Leisure Services Manager
- 056/21 **To decide any variation in the order of business:** none
- 057/21 **Declaration of interests:** G Foy (Pool Manager)
- 058/21 **Public participation:** Clare Firth's attendance for agenda item 17
- 059/21 **Confirmation of minutes of the previous meeting of 13 July 2021 and any matters arising:** minutes confirmed and no matters arising
- 060/21 **Marketing/Advertising/Fundraising/Events:**  
July night swim was sold out. Tickets for August night swim go on sale this week. The University of Manchester brass band will perform on the August bank holiday (11.30-12.30 hrs), with parking spaces reserved for band members. Letter to be sent to residents with updated list of events including "Welcome Back" events. **Action: M Wellington/G Foy**  
Advertising: no changes since last meeting, all new boards now in place within the Pool; couple of redundant boards to be collected.
- .1 **Welcome Back Funding music event:**  
Film night arrangements are in place and tickets are ready to go on sale. Event will be for Hathersage residents and free of charge.  
Millstone Grit will perform on 24 September 2021. **Action: Clerk to liaise with Pool Manager on arrangements.**
- .2 **Hilly Triathlon:** It was noted a complaint had been received, from the Pool Café, re event parking as customers were unable to park. It was noted that in previous years the car park was cordoned off to allow safe access and egress for bicycles. It was agreed to liaise more closely with the Pool Café in advance of future events. **Action: Pool Manager**
- 061/21 **Admissions and timetable:** An update was provided on the agreed timetable post covid, including more public sessions (2-hour slots), with a phased increase in numbers for public sessions. Arrangements for lane swim sessions will remain unchanged. A proposal to trial a "free flow" session for season ticket holders was noted.
- 062/21 **Plant room upgrade project**
- .1 **Update:** Meeting has taken place between M Wellington, T Crooks and TC Williams re fire boarding following issue raised by Building Inspector. T Crooks is to report back. **Action: Clerk to obtain report from T Crooks**
- 063/21 **Plant/Machinery/Operational issues/Management Reports**
- .1 **Pool Manager's report:** it was noted some spare parts has been purchased. Historic Pools of Britain subscription is due for renewal. It was recommended this be continued. **Action: for approval at September full Parish Council meeting.**
- .2 **Pool Advisor's report:** Cllr W Hanley shared an update. It was agreed suggested the Pool Advisor's report follow a standard format; Pool Advisor to be asked to submit the report to the Assistant Clerk in time for circulation with other meeting papers
- .3 **Alternative heating initiative and Expressions of Interest:** responses to expressions of interest have been received, not every company approached had responded, or met the criteria. Leisure Energy had responded to the quotation, it was noted they have extensive experience of contracts with local authorities (Freedom Leisure) and are also working with Teignmouth Lido. A full proposal to presented at next meeting. **Action: T Hill**
4. Establish the ownership of the playing fields, pool etc with the land registry. **Action: Parish Clerk**

- 064/21 5. Look and the parish records or records held at the Bank (if that is the case) to definitively establish the ownership and any transfers of ownership etc. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- Pool staffing matters**
- .1 **Pool staffing structure and new proposals:** a short report was presented. It was agreed to defer this item to allow normal operation (post Covid 19) to resume for a number of months. It was noted a longer discussion was required at a future point with the matter being referred to the HR Committee.
- .2 **Pool staff pay:** current pay rates were noted and are in line with other pools. Appropriate due diligence has been completed and will be reviewed at the next budget setting point.
- .3 **Recruitment:** it was noted four new casual staff have been recruited.
- .4 **Staff training:** noted staff undertaking the Level 2 swim course.
- 065/21 **Swimming Club:** nothing reported. Gala scheduled for September.
- 066/21 **Swimming lessons:** weekend group lessons continue and some schools will return for lessons in September.
- 067/21 **Finance:** update from the RFO: Opus, the pool cafe's previous electricity supplier had been invoicing the Parish Council for estimated supplies and, despite frequent advice to their customer care department, were now threatening to disconnect the pool supply. Evidence was now at the pool to prove, should anyone arrive to disconnect the supply, that the Council received their supply from elsewhere. It was noted details on takings to be presented at next meeting.
- 068/21 **Clerk** – any additional report and/or correspondence: none
- 069/21 Items for the next meeting: winter timetable (1 November 2021 – 31 March 2022) and proposals for membership tickets/admission prices; Peter Crawford gift.
- 070/21 Next meeting – Tuesday 14 September 2021, 7pm. Venue: Hathersage Memorial Hall

The first part of the meeting concluded at 7.50pm. This was followed by a discussion on the pros and cons of pursuing charitable status for the pool. Other HPC Cllrs (non SPC members) attended for this item.

- 071/21 Charitable status for the pool: Peter Crawford, Corporate Partner at Freeths Law Firm, provided some advice and insight into possible options HPC may wish to consider. Options included:

Community Interest Company(CIC): a limited company with limited liability and a board of directors; a CIC is set up for the benefit of the community. It was noted CIC's cannot be a charity. All CIC profits have to be returned to the community; there is a regulatory body for CICs.

Charitable company: a limited company, which can have different classes of membership, and would be registered with, and regulated by the Charities Commission.

Key aspects for consideration would be to split assets (land, pool etc) from operational activities. Clarification of existing leases to be sought. Specific advice will need to be taken from lawyers and accountants on the 2 options available, as there are pros and cons associated to each. The key factor would be to have the assets compartmentalised in a separate entity.

It was noted that, to take forward these options forward, further investigations and an investment in time and a financial commitment would be required to gain appropriate advice and guidance for a lawyer and accountant with appropriate knowledge in the CIC/Charities field.

Councillors agreed the first step was to clarify where the land assets currently reside, with King Georges Field, or the Parish Council, and as a second step to set up a separate working party/project group to enable further discussion.

*Concluded at 9.00pm.*

