

HATHERSAGE PARISH COUNCIL

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

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Hathersage Parish Council Swimming Pool Committee meeting, Tuesday 11 October, 7.00 pm MINUTES

Present Councillors Stuart Turner (Chair), B Hanley, W Hanley, Tim Hill, Jane Marsden, Rosie Olle, Heather Rodgers

In Attendance Chris Cave, RFO; Maura Sorensen, Clerk; Ashley Watts, Pool Advisor (*part, by Zoom and phone*)

059/22 Apologies for absence – Leisure Services Manager Mike Wellington; Pool Manager George Foy.

060/22 To decide any variation in the order of business – none.

061/22 Declaration of interests – none.

062/22 **Public participation** - a period of not more than ten minutes for members of the public and Members of the Council to comment on any matter; no members of the public were in attendance.

063/22 **Minutes of the 13 September 2022 meeting** were **confirmed** and actions arising **noted**:

- Pool cover – purchase of the Forge Leisure cover was **not** approved at the 4 October Parish Council meeting pending further research/investigation by Leisure Energy (Cllr Hill liaising)
- Liaison with Tom Crooks re TCW fixing damaged tiling *Clerk to liaise further.*

064/22 **Pool Advisor's Report** – the Pool Advisor, Ash Watts, joined the meeting via Zoom and phone for 10 minutes at the start of the meeting to provide a report and update to the Council (*written account of the oral report/update noted separately*).

065/22 **Pool Manager's Report**

.1 **Operations and maintenance including:**

- **Contract with a local plumbing service** – no update from pool management – suggested approaching Percivals who have previously done work at the pool. Noted if the contract included a retainment fee it may need full Council consideration. Suggested a deadline be set to get contract plumbing arrangements in place.
- **Routine maintenance - noted** painting the veranda floor, toilet blocks and changing areas will be undertaken during the 10 and 11 November pool closure.
- **New storage bins:** bin for the MUGA assembled and in place; bin for the inflatable and accessories delivered and is being assembled
- **Queried** whether a lawn mower has been purchased.

.2 **Staffing:** noted all new staff have been inducted. On 10 and 11 November, when the pool is closed for electrical testing, first aid renewal sessions have been scheduled as well as routine maintenance tasks (painting the veranda floor, toilet blocks and changing areas) - Cllrs commended the planned works.

Cllrs noted they had not been informed of the names of new staff members *Clerk to flag with pool management.*

Concerns had been raised about staff members working in excess of 48 hours in a week; the RFO suggested Cllrs authorising staff wages should flag these occurrences and they should be queried with pool management.

Staff had been issued with name badges however some staff had not been happy with the title 'Leisure Attendant'.

In relation to a recent weather-related (thunderstorm) pool closure – and other short-notice closures - Cllrs reiterated that staff on duty should complete their shifts and undertake other tasks e.g. routine maintenance; training. *Cllr W Hanley to flag with pool management.* A query was raised about completion of timesheets in relation to the recent Wednesday thunderstorm closure *RFO to check.*

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- .3 **End-of-season review with staff – outcomes** – noted some positive staff engagement. Some concerns had arisen about staff attitudes to routine jobs e.g. cleaning. A further meeting is scheduled for January. Noted this will also be an opportunity to plan for summer season provision and to review the timetable; suggested more consideration be given to timetabling of sessions for season ticket holders, and to how there could be a greater focus/provision for Hathersage residents.
- .4 **Annual pool walkaround/survey** – date TBC.
- .5 **Setting up a pool user group** – Cllr W Hanley noted he would be happy to lead on this. Suggested group members should be broadly representative of pool users; to this end potential members would be asked to complete a brief application. Noted if a GF award is being pursued, community engagement would need to be demonstrated e.g. via user groups.
- .6 **Electrical installation testing: noted** testing to be undertaken on 10 and 11 November and that the pool would be closed for the duration; also noted the contractors would liaise separately with café tenants about undertaking testing at the café premises.
- .7 **Swimming lessons; Swimming Club:** noted, in relation to a recent weather-related pool closure, swimming club members had queried whether the closure/cancellation of their session had been necessary.
- .8 **Events; Marketing; Fundraising – noted:**
- 100 tickets sold between the two sessions for the August night swim.
 - £616.82 raised for a recent MacMillan coffee morning
 - Pool website now notes 'all events organised and run by King George's Field Charity Trust'.
 - **Jumblies** – suggested the Council could request a donation towards the cost of a lawn mower for the pool, and new plants for the pool garden.
 - **Flagged out-of-date information on the pool website** *Clerk to raise with Pool Manager.*
9. **Pool user survey/questionnaire:** further analysis had been provided by pool management. Cllr suggested it did not fully capture outcomes.
10. **Hathersage resident pool concerns:** concern flagged with a Cllr about noise from Sunday morning aquafit sessions.
- 066/22 **CONFIDENTIAL ITEM new holiday pay ruling** (for part-time workers): reference made to the latest advice from Bhayani and the likelihood of further challenges to the ruling. Confidential details minuted separately.
- 067/22 **Pool Heating Project**
- 1 **Leisure Energy: received** a report; Cllr Hill also tabled a report on potential costs under different options. Cllr Hill expressed some disappointment in Leisure Energy's (LE) ability to model options. Noted the recent energy crisis and spiralling costs had altered the original remit somewhat with a stronger focus now on cost-saving. Flagged that options shared included proposals for a lower winter pool temperature; and winter closure. Cllr Hill referenced the solar panel options. Noted PDNPA advice is being sought around the approval of solar panels installation. Further to Cllr Hill's suggestions re installing panels over the pool car park and on the boundary of the bowling green and playing field, suggested roofing the MUGA with solar panels might be an option. Cllr Hill went on to outline other heating options – ground source heat pumps and air source heat pumps, highlighting the pros and cons of each. Suggested that, if proceeding with any of these options, there may be a need for access to gas heating as a standby *RFO to check potential costs with brokers.* A potential funding pot was flagged – the Rural Prosperity Fund. Flagged that, if the Council moves to the next stage with the heating project, significant project management would be required and consideration would need to be given to oversight etc. **Next steps:** Cllr Hill to liaise further with LE on a more detailed costs analysis. Noted he would need to provide LE with a more detailed pool user/income analysis *RFO to provide a breakdown.* Cllr Hill to ask LE to provide relevant drawings to share with PDNPA in relation to seeking pre-planning advice. **Pool cover** – Cllr Hill to seek LE advice (by the end of the week) so the Parish Council can resolve whether or not to purchase the Forge Leisure cover.
- 2 **PDNPA; noted** a PDNPA response to initial enquiries about planning permissions and an offer to provide some pre-application advice. Acknowledged it was essential to get PDNPA advice prior to looking in detail at solar panel (and other) options. Cllr Marsden noted she would be happy to

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3 speak with an Officer. Also suggested inviting the new PDNPA Chief Executive to meet with Cllrs and see the pool.

- 3 **Weather data monitoring: noted** the relevant licence (and equipment) had been acquired and that log-in data would be shared with relevant Cllrs (for data collection purposes). *Cllr Hill to liaise with pool management.*

068/22 **Pool Five Year Business Plan:** the latest iteration of the plan was **agreed**; suggested any typos etc be flagged with Cllr Turner. Noted appropriate reference to external funding (DDDC; HPBC) should be included.

069/22 **Finance**

Noted winter season ticket sales had almost matched 2021 sales but daily admissions sales were under budget.

Pool management and RFO pursuing unpaid payments from Dojo.

070/22 Clerk – any additional reports and/or correspondence

Hilly Triathlon (HT): request received after agenda circulation - HT looking to hire the MUGA and pool on Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 July 2023, same hours as per 2022. HT to request use of the farmers field opposite the football pitch for competitors and spectator parking. The 2022 athlete information pack had highlighted the pool cafe and other businesses in Hathersage; HT happy to include further/other details in the 2023 pack. Cllrs agreed to the request in principle but suggested reviewing charges to HT – item for the November meeting.

071/22 Next meeting – **8 November 2022, 7pm** – venue TBC (Memorial Hall not available); and to **note** any items for the November meeting (Hilly Triathlon).

Meeting ended 9.10pm