

AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY BOARD
WAS HELD ON 10 JULY 2012

The Mayor (Councillor Dickson) (ex-officio), Chairman of the Policy and Organisation Board (Councillor Hook) (P); Burgess (Chairman) (P), Carter C K, Mrs Cully (P), Edgar (P), Foster-Reed (P), Henshaw, Mrs Hook (P), Hylands (P), Kimber (P), Mrs Morgan, Murphy (P) and Mrs Wright.

It was reported that, in accordance with Standing Orders, Councillors Hook and Wright had been nominated to replace Councillors Henshaw and Mrs Wright respectively for this meeting.

17. APOLOGIES

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were received on behalf of The Mayor and Councillors Henshaw and Mrs Wright.

18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

19. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations

20. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

PART II

21. STOKES BAY PADDLING POOL

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive which advised the Board of the current condition of the Stokes Bay Paddling Pool and proposed that it be replaced with a new wet and dry play area for the under 8's.

Members recognised that there had been ongoing issues with the pool and that the proposals would reduce running costs as the facility would not need to be staffed.

The facility would be free to use and could be made available at short notice. This was particularly welcome given the recent unpredictable weather. It would be complimented with a dry play area.

Members noted that the facility would be available for the 2013 season. In answer to a Member's question, it was confirmed that the facility would not

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need an operator and that water quality checks would be carried out by Gosport Borough Council's Environmental Health Team.

Members felt that it was important that consideration be given to the level of fencing in place at the facility, as it was an isolated site and it would be important to prevent vandalism.

It was anticipated that there would be a slight alteration in the location of the facility to ensure that there was a clear separation from the car park. It was also hoped that picnic benches could be included in the proposal.

In answer to a Member's question, the Board was advised that the costings were estimates, but that it was hoped they would cover all of the work required.

The Board was advised that the facility could be drained in the winter to prevent frozen pipes and that the water used would be fresh and recycled through the facility.

Members recognised that they would be unable to prevent the use of the facility by older children and that the facilities were popular around the country and were suitable for all ages. Parents would often use the facility with their children and that as a result, the facility would be self regulating in relation to users.

It was requested that the provision of a shaded area be investigated and that the Board be advised of the temperature of the water.

Members welcomed the proposal for a facility that could be used by adults and children alike and would enhance the Stokes Bay area.

RESOLVED: That the Board approve:

1. The replacement of the paddling pool at Stokes Bay with a wet and dry play area for under 8's;
2. Not to open the paddling pool for summer 2012; and
3. The Policy and Organisation Board being requested to approve an additional scheme in the 2012/13 Capital Programme for a new wet and dry play area at Stokes Bay to be funded from developer's contributions as detailed in paragraph 2.6 of the Chief Executive's report.

22. LEISURE PLAY AREAS

Consideration was given to a report of the Community and Customer Services Manager seeking support of the Board for additions to the Capital Programme and the use of developer contributions for the improvement of various play facilities in the Borough.

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Ward Councillors for Town, Rowner and Holbrook wards welcomed the proposals and advised that residents in the surrounding areas would also welcome the improvements.

The Board was advised that the fitness equipment had been designed to provide a work out for the whole body.

In answer to a Member's question, clarification was given as to the location of the equipment for the Walpole Park play area. It was also confirmed that provision had been made for repairs on existing equipment.

Members' expressed concern at the proposed use of bark chippings at the Elson site as it was felt that it deteriorated easily and was unpopular with residents. The Board was advised that the pictures provided were indicative of what could be installed. Bark was already in place at Elson, but consideration could be given to alternative surfaces.

The Chairman advised the Board that he would provide Members with details of the remaining balance of developer's contributions.

Members recognised that it was important that improvements to facilities still took place, even in the current financial climate.

It was requested that consideration be given to the location of the equipment in Lee-on-the-Solent to ensure that it did not obstruct the view from the Coast Watch tower.

Councillor Hazel, ward Councillor for Elson addressed the Board, welcoming the proposals for the Elson park site.

The Board welcomed the provision of equipment for all ages and it was confirmed that a replacement facility would be installed on the Holbrook site on the completion of the new leisure centre.

The Board was advised that it was hoped that the installation of equipment would commence in September and be completed by Christmas. It was requested that consideration be given to ensuring that the lighting at the facilities was adequate.

RESOLVED: That the Board supports the following:

- a) Walpole Park play area, provision of fitness equipment.
- b) Elson Recreation Park play area, upgrade of existing equipment.
- c) Rowner Copse Park play area, upgrade of play equipment.
- d) Lee on Solent Skate Park, provision of Youth Shelter.

And that the Board recommends the Policy and Organisation Board to approve the amendments to the Capital Programme as detailed in paragraph 3 of the Manager's report.

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23. AOB

There was none.

The meeting ended at 5.30p.m.

CHAIRMAN