

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Finance Committee Held on Tuesday 8th October 2013 at 7.30pm in the Community Office (prior to Full Council)

Present:

Councillors:

Tim Horton –Chairman
Roddy Orr – Vice-Chairman
Tony Williamson
Barry Adby
Harvey Batten

Officer:

Kristina Tynan

52/13. Apologies for absence
Ian Hill.

53/13. Mobile Floodlight – Request from Football Club – PSFC stated that a report will be sent which has been agreed by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the PSFC committee..

Security of this item is being looked by the Football Club and therefore no request has been received.

54/13 Football Pitch Barrier – Request from Football Club – This was discussed by PSFC who asked for a number of points to be clarified.

The Finance Committee received and welcomed a range of material that contributed towards the resolution of several issues stemming from the Pavilion and Sports Field Committee meeting held on 22 September 2013 (minute 62/13 pages 11 and 12). It congratulated those involved in all the work that has contributed towards the meeting of Financial Regulations and other guidance on tender process, costings, insurances, planning and the removal of a barrier or barriers.

Recommendation to Council: The Finance Committee sees no reason of principle in the Council not joining in financial transactions with the Sports Club that would enhance further the playing of sport and its general environment, recognising this would be likely to entail the extension of facilities for both the cricket and football clubs.

The Committee recommends the recording of the Council's appreciation to the Sports Club for the body of work that has gone into giving clarity regarding several issues since the meeting of 22 September.

Whilst fully recognising the degree of interest, especially within the football club, in introducing change quickly, the Committee believes that the expenditure of money and alterations to the land might best be viewed when the Business Plan is at least at a draft stage and after additional clarification is given to certain matters.

Further, certain of the emerging issues are outside of the formal remit for this Committee to recommend and therefore may involve non-financial judgment within the Council. These issues include:

- 1) The full implications of the achievement of NLS Step 6 (including here a boundary to the ground)
- 2) The formalities required in the lease between Beechwood Estates and the Parish Council – especially in the introduction of barriers and boundaries
- 3) The complete satisfaction among the membership of both sports committees on the location and management of new facilities, including here all safety matters
- 4) The management of and around new structures that may signal some change to the appearance of the area.

It was thought that Council may wish to again stress its interest to assist in the achievement of a full draft 'Business Plan' that will be implemented through the Watlington Sports Club. Further Council may suggest that the fullest exchange possible takes place between the Sports Club, the Parish Council, the Football Foundation and the OFA on the progressive development of both sports.

Vote: 4 in favour, 1 abstention CARRIED

55/13 Any Other Business

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.59PM