

ASH-CUM-RIDLEY PARISH COUNCIL
SPORTS CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Minutes of a meeting of the Sports Centre Management Committee held on
Wednesday 02 August 2023 at 11am at Ash Green Sports Centre.

Present: Cllr M Manley – Chairman
Cllr R Brammer
Cllr C Clark
Cllr S Fishenden
Cllr V Ngwenya
C Price

A de Jager – Parish Clerk and Sports Centre Manager
K Law – Assistant Clerk and Finance Officer

1. Apologies

Cllr M Aspinall and Cllr I MacLeod

2. Declarations of Interests

None

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 02 May 2023 were approved and signed as a true record.

4. Sports Centre Working Group

The three Leisure Trusts approached with a view to managing the Sports Centre for the Parish Council all indicated that they are interested in taking the proposal further. Following discussion, Cllr R Brammer PROPOSED that one of the Trusts is ruled out as their requirements were not sustainable. The Sports Centre Working Group will produce a specification that will be put to the other trusts.

5. Finance

5.1. Current Financial Position – the Finance Officer took members through the reports noting that the Sports Centre has a £1,242 deficit excluding the grant from Hartley Parish Council. The Sports Centre income is £8,869 more than at the same time last year, some of this is due to the increase in charges, but we do not have the income from room hire that we had last year. Members were taken through the income and expenditure. While we continue to keep costs down, the staff costs will be overbudget as the Parish Council will return the shifts to the Sports Centre staff. Office equipment is overbudget due to the purchase of the tablet which is required for the new software. A refund is awaited from Global Payments as charges have been duplicated and a charge levied for training that was not received. Membership income is better than expected. Sale of water has increased since we stopped providing plastic cups for the water cooler.

5.2 Cllr S Fishenden PROPOSED that the cheques signed since the last meeting are approved. SECONDED: Cllr V Ngwenya and AGREED.

6. **Sports Centre Manager's Report**

Centre Usage

Graphs are attached. The numbers for July 2023 are up to and including 26 July 2023. Overall the centre is being used more, but still not at our pre-COVID levels.

Software

The new software is being slowly introduced. It has been used for booking and paying for activities in the Holiday Scheme. Some teething problems have been experienced, but this is generally due to booking multiple activities at the same timeslots, which would not occur when booking classes in the Sports Centre.

Gym

We continue to receive enquiries and book inductions, but need to get on to a retention strategy. The gym is busier during the day.

Classes

Morning classes continue to be very successful and are at capacity. Evening classes are attended by regulars, with BoxFit growing in popularity. The Wednesday evening classes have stopped following the six week trial and after summer we will look at introducing a new class.

Teen Gym and Basketball

Teen gym and basketball have stopped for the summer holidays.

Summer Scheme

The Summer Scheme will run for two weeks in August, Monday to Thursday on 7 August to 10 August and 21 August to 24 August. Activities will run from 9.30am – 3.30pm. Uptake has not been as quick as anticipated and the sessions will be advertised more widely. The Co-op in New Ash Green will supply us with 500 bottles of water for the children.

Repairs and Maintenance

Wifi has been introduced into the gym and welcomed by members.

We are looking at purchasing a squat rack, Olympic bar and bumper plates, as the Smiths machine is in demand in the evenings.

The fins on the air source heat pump in the circuit training room have been damaged and will be replaced.

We have stopped supplying plastic cups for water, to encourage members to bring in their own water bottles.

Building insurance – it was NOTED that the Sports Centre building, including the parish office is not insured and a rebuild cost will be sought from a surveyor and brought to the September 2023 Parish Council meeting.

7. **Sports Centre Website/Facebook/Instagram**

No report

8. **Leigh Academies Trust and Lease.**

- The meeting with the Headteacher and Site Manager scheduled for June, was cancelled.
- Kent County Council Properties department requested a copy of the lease between Leigh Academies Trust and the Parish Council. We have advised that there is no lease and no discussion.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting of the Sports Centre Management Committee was set for 29 August 2023 at 2pm.

The meeting closed at 2.36pm

Signed:
Chairman

Date: