

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of
PERTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at the Perton Civic Centre on
Monday 21st January 2008 @ 7.00pm**

Present: Mrs R.Heseltine [Chairman]
Mrs C. Young [Vice Chairman]
Mrs P Allen
Mrs S.Bott
Mrs PN Pitt
Mrs A.James
AK James
D.J.Billson
AA Bourke
AK Black

Also Present: District Councillor - Roy Moreton
Parish Clerk – Tony Tappenden
Alliance Leisure Ltd - Julia Goddard

166/08 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were offered and accepted from Cllrs Miss C Duffell, D.Fereday, NP Caine, S.Bott and D.Heseltine.

167/08 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

No declarations were offered.

168/08 **PRESENTATION FROM ALLIANCE LEISURE – JULIA GODDARD**

Julia provided an overview of Alliance Leisure and their capabilities:

- Alliance is a 'solutions' company founded in 1998 and to date has invested over £22m in over fifty projects.
- They specialise in projects requiring no upfront cash payments but utilising fixed period contracts with fixed fees over the duration.
- They offer Facility Development – Project Management and Sales / Marketing.
- They have not yet delivered a pool – but average prices are around £2.7m
- Beaver Pools come in at around £2m for a six lane pool or £1.8m for four lanes and include changing facilities.
- They provide support but do not provide 'Operate' facilities.
- Halesowen Leisure Centre is a local example of their Partnership capabilities.
- To move forwards it is necessary to identify the actual customer i.e. who does Alliance actually contract with?
- Several companies exist that can provide a feasibility study: QLM – Quality Leisure Management of Cheltenham are thought to charge in the region of £2.5k - £3k for a fitness centre feasibility study.
- It was stated that a commercially successful Fitness Suite is imperative to subsidise the pool provision – Location and price is a key factor.
- Example costs were provided: -
- £0.5m over five years = £10714 + VAT pcm. This would require a total membership of 357 paying £30.00 pcm to cover the monthly payments and this excludes all operating costs
- £0.5m over seven years = £8123 + VAT pcm.
- £0.5m over ten years = £6220 + VAT pcm.

Julia left the meeting at approximately 8.05 pm having answered all questions raised.

169/08 **LEISURE COMMITTEE OBJECTIVES**

The Members debated various matters arising from the presentation:

Cllr Mrs P.Allen said that a feasibility study would be useful as would the option to examine the 'Family Centre' options.

Cllr D.Billson explained that from his recent investigations into this topic demographics had already been provided indicating a potential 475 members that would be available to a Perton Fitness Centre – this information had been provided by Pulse Fitness. To progress this matter would require partnership collaboration with the District Council involving Dave Heywood and Tony Ward.

Cllr Mrs P.Pitt said that the Council should look at Perton Middle School as a possible location.

Cllr R.Moreton stated that a Fitness Suite is the most profitable aspect of a Leisure Centre and accordingly a school site was not necessarily the best fit.

Cllr A.Bourke said that it was necessary to see the Pulse Demographics report and advise the County Council of our intent to move forwards.

Cllr A.K.James said that historically the County Council may have provided help with design costs but the big issue would be capital funding.

Cllr Mrs P.Allen said that the Members should take a look at an alternative possible 'off-school' site adjacent to the buses only lane and opposite the school by Turner Grove.

Cllr A.K.James repeated the specific need that we could only achieve this venture in partnership with the District Council since they were land owners and we would need their help financially.

Cllr D.Billson stated that there are two sites that could be serious contenders for consideration, the first being Perton Civic Centre and the other being the land between the childrens playground and the library.

170/08 **DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED that the next Leisure Committee review meeting will take place on Thursday 21st February 2008 at 6.30 pm subject to the invitation and availability of both Dave Heywood and Tony Ward from South Staffs Council.

Monday 11th February 2008 @ 7.00 pm
The meeting closed @ 8.35 pm

Chairman
11th February 2008