

## SELECT COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND RECREATION

Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2004, at 6.00 p.m.

### PRESENT:-

Councillor Tyler (Chair)  
Councillor Crumpton (Vice-Chair)  
Councillors Mrs Coulter, Kettle, Miss Nicholls, Southall and C L Woodall together with Mrs Reilly (Head of Corporate Estates) (Directorate of Law and Property) - Lead Officer to the Committee, Messrs Lowndes and Webb (Directorate of the Urban Environment) and Mr J Jablonski (Directorate of Law and Property)

### IN ATTENDANCE:-

Mr S Greene - (Dudley Racial Equality Council) and Mr L Bayley - (Shaydz of Black) - in connection with Agenda item number 6 (Public Participation)

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### MINUTES

#### RESOLVED

That, subject to the following amendment, the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 11th March, 2004, be approved as a correct record and signed:-

Deletion of the word "Lahanbra" and the substitution of the word "Halama" therefor in the third paragraph of the preamble to Minute Number 66.

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### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of Personal Interest, in accordance with Members' Code of Conduct, where made by the following Members for the reasons indicated:-

Councillor C L Woodall - in connection with his Chairmanship of the Friends of Green Park and as the Chair and a Director of St Thomas's Network.

Councillor Southall - in connection with his membership of the Friends of Wordsley Park, his membership of Birmingham County Football Association and his Presidency of Stourbridge Football Referees Association.

Councillor Mrs Coulter - as a member of the Friends of Netherton Park.

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APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors Simms, Tomkinson and Waltho.

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APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE FOR THIS MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

It was reported that Councillor Mrs Coulter had been appointed to serve as a substitute for Councillor Waltho for this meeting only.

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MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

In relation to Minute number 66 (Borough Strategy for Skate and Wheeled Sports) the Chair reported that it was intended that young people involved in the Skate Park provision would be invited to attend a future meeting of the Committee in connection with this matter.

In relation to Minute numbers 64 and 65 (The Leasowes Restoration and Himley Hall and Park and Events Section Performance 2003/04) it was noted that Members requiring transport in connection with the site visits to these sites should notify the relevant officers as soon as possible.

In relation to Minute number 62 (Borough Festival 2004 - Outlined Proposal for Budget Allocation) the Chair reported on the matters considered at a recent consultation meeting in connection with the Borough Festival with particular reference to a proposal that the period of the Festival be relaxed so that some events, for example, the Caribbean Festival, could be held outside the Festival period in summer so as to enable more time for the organisation of and consultation on the event.

RESOLVED

That the above matters be noted and that in connection with the Borough Festival the suggestion made that the Festival be extended on the lines indicated above be endorsed by this Committee and that the Lead Member for Leisure be informed accordingly.

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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Green and Mr Bayley were in attendance in connection with issues in respect of the Borough Festival and in this connection Mr Lowndes reported that the Minutes of the Caribbean Consultative Group Evaluation Meeting held on Wednesday, 25 June, 2003, contained details of the post event evaluation undertaken by the Consultative Group in respect of last year's Festival.

As this document had not previously been circulated to Members, it was

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Caribbean Consultative Group Evaluation Meeting, held on Wednesday 25th June, 2003, be circulated to all Members of this Select Committee and that if Members had any comments on the content of the evaluation they are asked to forward these to Mr Lowndes.

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#### FEEDBACK FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE WORKING GROUPS

Mr Webb, on behalf of Councillor Waltho, outlined the work undertaken by the Playing Pitch Working Group in connection with the draft Playing Pitch Strategy and the recommendations contained therein. Particular reference was made to concerns regarding changing rooms and the question of partnership involving the use of educational facilities which were currently not open to the public.

One major proposal was that a Partnership Meeting Conference of key stakeholders be arranged.

Arising from the report given, Members asked questions in respect of the Liveability Fund and its use in parks in relation to those with football pitches; the work to be undertaken with Friends of Parks groups so that further improvements could be made and powers that were available to prevent abuse to parks for example by cars being driven onto them an issue which could possibly be looked at in the future.

It was noted that the outcomes of the Group with particular reference to improvements to changing rooms and to playing pitches in the Borough now needed to be drawn up with appropriate recommendations to the Lead Member.

The Chair reported on the activities of the Public Halls Working Group referring to a recent visit to Stourbridge Town Hall and work with the voluntary sector in connection with the use of halls. It was noted that this Borough was the only one developing training in this connection with voluntary groups which was considered to be an important step forward. It was also noted that the issue of catering at Dudley Town Hall was being investigated.

It was noted that a further report on the work of this Working Group would be made to a future meeting of the Select Committee in the new municipal year.

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#### OUTLINE WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE SELECT COMMITTEE 2004/05 CYCLE

A report of the Lead Officer was submitted on an outline work programme for the Select Committee for the next municipal year.

It was noted that this was a draft outline work programme which could be added to as required by Members and in this connection it was suggested that the whole question of insurance be looked at by the Select Committee particularly in relation to the policy in respect of insurance required for voluntary groups.

RESOLVED

That the outline work programme for the Select Committee 2004/05 cycle, as now reported, and with the addition of the issue of insurance raised at this meeting, be endorsed for further consideration at the first meeting of this Select Committee in the new municipal year.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND RECREATION

A report of the Lead Officer was submitted on the draft Annual Report to the Executive and Council of this Committee's review of the 2003/04 year. A copy of the actual annual report had been circulated separately.

Arising from consideration of the content of the Annual Report it was

RESOLVED

That the content of the Annual Report of the Select Committee on Culture and Recreation for the 2003/04 municipal year be endorsed for submission to the Executive and Council

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REMARKS BY THE CHAIR

At the conclusion of the Committee's business the Chair thanked everyone for their help and encouragement in conducting the business of the Select Committee. Members in response thanked the Chair for the able and courteous manner in which he had conducted meetings of the Committee.

The meeting ended at 7.25 pm

CHAIR