

**SELECT COMMITTEE**  
**ON CULTURE AND RECREATION**

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2005, at 6.00 pm.  
Committee Room 3, Council House Dudley

**PRESENT:-**

Councillor Southall (Chairman)  
Councillors Attwood, Mrs Pearce, Simms, and Tyler  
Officers:- Assistant Director of Law and Property (Corporate Estate Services) – Lead Officer, Assistant Director of the Urban Environment (Culture and Community Services), Head of Sport and Recreation (Directorate of the Urban Environment - Sports and Recreation), Principal Leisure Officer Directorate of the Urban Environment) and Ms K Smith (Directorate of Law and Property)

71                    **MINUTES**

**RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2005, be approved as a correct record and signed.

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72                    **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No member made a declaration of interest in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct.

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73                    **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors Crumpton, Mrs Jordan, Kettle and C Woodall.

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74                    **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**

In relation to Minute number 70 (Cultural Services Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA), the Assistant Director of the Urban Environment (Culture and Community Services), reported that the inspection had taken place and a follow up meeting to discuss the full report on Cultural Services with the Inspectors would take place on the 12<sup>th</sup> May.

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MEMBERS WORKING GROUP FOR STOURBRIDGE TOWN HALL

A report of the Director of The Urban Environment was submitted on the work undertaken by the Stourbridge Area Committee (Stourbridge Town Hall) Working Group in examining projects which would enhance the appearance and profile of the Hall. The Hall had been included in a tour of the Borough by officers of the Heritage Lottery Fund and the various projects favourably discussed with the result that Council officers were seeking funding for a feasibility study.

The following projects were proposed for implementation during 2005:-

- Installation of tiered telescopic seating
- Decoration of the Hall.
- Flower planters to be arranged on the roof of the Town Hall in Market Street

## RESOLVED

That the information contained in the report submitted be noted and that the monitoring of the future projects I proposed for Stourbridge Town Hall be ??? at future meetings of this Committee with members of the Working Group limited to attend such meetings to continue further discussion and input of ideas.

HIMLEY HALL AND PARK AND EVENTS SECTION PERFORMANCE 2004 - 2005

A report of the Director of the Urban Environment was submitted on the review of the annual performance of the Himley Hall and Park and Events Section for the 2004-2005 financial year with reference to the section's annual Service Plan.

Following discussion by Members the following principal points were made:-

- That methods for obtaining funding be pursued as a matter of urgency with regard to the replacement of the heating boilers
- The impact on the Hall's income due to loss of revenue from the inability to utilise the North Wing be monitored.
- That the cost of installing public toilets in the park be reviewed
- That a list of priorities with regard to the Himley Hall Development Fund be drafted.

## RESOLVED

That the information contained in the report submitted be noted and that Members receive a report on expenditure priorities with regard to the Development Fund for Himley Hall as a matter of urgency, so that consideration may be given, in particular, the appropriation of funding for conversion of the boiler heating system.

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## PERFORMANCE REPORT- SPORT AND RECREATION

A report of the Director of the Urban Environment was submitted on the performance of the Sport and Recreation Section during the period April to December 2004.

Following discussion by Members the following principal points were made:-

- Members noted that there were still difficulties in recruiting and retaining numbers of staff to ensure the safe operation of swimming pools and that this had led to a restricted service.
- That the user statistics for April –December 2004 had not been included, which due to the limited functionality of the existing Leisure Management System would be rectified with the installation of the new system from April 18<sup>th</sup> 2005.
- It was noted that The Dell Stadium income had decreased and that it had become a matter of some urgency to get the running track resurfaced to ensure the retention of track accreditation for competitions and training.
- A Trainer/Assessor had been appointed within the Sport and Recreation Section to ensure ongoing training of all employees and for the delivery of a programme for members of the public and other organisations.
- The Community Sports Coach scheme had been implemented and would bring a total of £288,000 worth of investment into sports delivery over a three year period to establish paid professional coaches. The following areas of sport were shown to have a need for a coach, Disability, Gymnastics, Hockey and Rugby however, these would be re-evaluated.

### RESOLVED

That the information contained in the report submitted on the Sport and Recreation Section Performance for the period April to December 2004, be noted

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## OUTLINE WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE SELECT COMMITTEE 2005/2006 CYCLE

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

It was noted that this draft outline work programme could be added to as required by Members and in this connection it was suggested that the development fund for Himley Hall be looked at by the Select Committee in relation to prioritising refurbishment works.

**RESOLVED**

That the draft outline work programme for the Select Committee in 2005/2006, as now reported with the addition of the issue of the development fund for Himley Hall, be endorsed for further consideration at the first meeting of this Select Committee in the new municipal year.

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**DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND RECREATION 2004/2005.**

A report of the Lead Officer was submitted on the draft Annual Report to the Cabinet and Council of this Committee's review of the 2004/05 year.

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 2004/05 municipal year be endorsed for submission to the Cabinet and Council.

The meeting ended at 7:50 pm

CHAIRMAN