

**MINUTES OF INVERCLYDE LEISURE  
BOARD MEETING  
held on  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 3.00pm  
within Waterfront Leisure Complex, Greenock**

**Present:** Bill Hawthorne (Chair), Councillor Jim McEleny, Councillor Graeme Brooks, Councillor Lynne Quinn and Andrew Hetherington.

**In Attendance:** Kieron Vango, Chief Executive, David McCorkindale, Head of Leisure & Community Facilities and Audrey Lavelle, Finance Manager, all Inverclyde Leisure, Tony McEwan, Head of Culture, Communities and Educational Resources and Ian Cameron, Principal Accountant both Inverclyde Council and Lesley Hallam, Minute Secretary.

**1.0            Apologies for Absence**

1.1            Apologies were received from Puneet Gupta and Colin Wilson.

**2.0            Minutes of Meeting of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

2.1            The minutes of the meeting of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019 were submitted and approved on the motion of Councillor Graeme Brookes and seconded by Councillor Jim McEleny.

**3.0            Matters Arising**

3.1            None.

**4.0            Financial Monitoring Report 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020**

4.1            There was submitted a report dated November 2019 by the Finance Manager updating Directors with the financial projection to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020.

4.2            The Finance Manager reported that after 6 months, IL is forecasting a deficit.

4.3            Total income is ahead of budget and 3% up on the prior year. A number of centres including Lady Octavia, Ravenscraig, Halls & Communities and Health & Vitality are all forecasting ahead of their budget targets.

4.4            Discussion took place regarding the CHP boiler work and Directors were advised that discussions are ongoing.

**Decided:**

i    that the Directors noted the content of the report.

## **5.0 Business Plan Update**

5.1 There was submitted a report dated 19<sup>th</sup> September 2019 by the Chief Executive updating Directors on the areas of the Strategic Plan being worked on by the team, new projects and initiatives and agreed recommendations at the end of this report.

5.2 Chris Jewell & Councillor Jim Clocherty entered the meeting.

5.3 The Chief Executive conducted a SWOT analysis with Directors. Suggestions contained within the SWOT will help formulate the 2020/2023 Business Plan going forward.

5.4 The CEO advised Directors that a decision regarding the tennis application should hopefully be known late December 2019. In response to a question regarding provision of tennis out-with the private club setting the Head of Leisure & Community advised that successful tennis classes are currently taking place within Greenock Sports Centre.

5.5 Directors agreed that it is important to keep equipment up-to-date and agreed £78k funding for supplementary works required to be carried out as part of the gym refurbishment at the Waterfront.

5.6 Directors were informed that management fee proposals have been submitted to IC which will form ongoing negotiations between IL and IC over the next 4 months. The Chief Executive will update Directors as saving negotiations progress.

5.7 Directors noted that 62% of the team's objectives have been achieved so far this year.

5.8 Directors noted the KPI framework to the end of October 2019.

### **Decided:**

- i that Directors noted the content of the report; and
- ii that the Directors agreed £78k for the Waterfront gym for supplementary equipment, flooring and additional services.

## **6.0 Leisure & Community Facilities Update**

6.1 There was submitted a report dated November 2019 by the Head of Leisure & Community Facilities updating Directors on the company's operations in line with IL's three-year Strategic Plan.

6.2 David McCorkindale and Andrew Hetherington presented to Directors Greenock Whinhill Golf Course Business Plan which outlined IL's short and long term objectives for the future of the club. A lengthy question and answer session followed thereafter with the undernoted issues discussed:-

- 6.3
- For Directors' clarification from the 3 options available Whinhill Committee didn't want to take over the running of the golf club themselves.
  - IC have approved this decision
  - IL will take over the running of the facility once the transfer has been completed.
  - IL will work with the committee to develop the facility.
  - It was raised that competitor analysis on pricing could have included other municipal clubs.
  - Concern that we've not got the buy in from the committee.
  - Reputational damage – IC could get into a legal dispute with the club.
  - Ideal solution if committee members could work with IC/IL
  - Management agreements still to be worked out. Patten & Prentice will represent IL.
  - Opportunity to pro-actively market golf for females.
  - Re-design customer journey to ensure controlled access to the course.
  - Capital investment will be looked at in the long term.
- 6.4 The Head of Leisure & Community continued with the rest of the report and highlighted the following key issues:-
- Both Greenock Sports Centre and Gourock Pool were recently successful in gaining the quality Quest Accreditation.
  - IL hosted another successful recruitment fayre.
  - Works have commenced on the refurbishment of Grieve Road and Wemyss Bay community halls.
  - A number of local community events are due to take place within our Town Halls over the coming months.
  - The Head of Leisure & Community confirmed that IC are taking up the issues with the Greenock Town Hall floor with the contractor.
- 6.5 Returning to section 4.2 in the report Councillor Jim McEleny felt that it was premature to support this recommendation at the moment based on not having the buy-in of the committee and a potential legal dispute which could ensue over ownership of property. C Jewell deemed that negotiations would take into consideration Councillor Jim McEleny's concerns.
- 6.6 Councillor Clocherty commented that we don't know if any legal issues exist. IC own the buildings and any legal dispute would be between Whinhill and IC, not IL.
- 6.7 It was agreed that IL & IC will meet with the committee again to ensure that the transition is as smooth as possible.
- 6.8 Councillor Jim McEleny proposed his counter proposal but there being no seconder this motion was not carried.
- Decided:**
- i. that the Directors noted the content of the report;

- ii. that the Directors noted Councillor Jim McEleny's counter proposal to delay agreeing the recommendation at 4.2, however, with no seconder this motion was not carried; and
- iii. that the Directors agreed to the IL Golf Business Plan presentation and for IL to start negotiations with IC to transfer the facilities and employees and report back to the January board with an update.

**7.0            AOCB**

7.1            Councillor Lynne Quinn asked if there was any update on the moveable pool floor within the WLC. The Head of Leisure and Community advised that no money has been approved by IC yet.

7.2            Councillor Lynne Quinn to pass details of teen CrossFit users to the Head of Leisure and Community.

7.3            The Head of Leisure and Community confirmed that the lights at Parklea are sorted.

7.4            A conversation took place regarding comments from park attendants at Battery Park. The Head of Leisure and Community to look in to where this is coming from.

**8.0            Date of the Next Meeting**

8.1            The date of the next meeting will be Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020 which will take place at 3.30pm. Venue to be confirmed.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed.

Chair .....

Date.....