

# Public Document Pack

## Coventry City Council

### Minutes of the Meeting of Cabinet Member for Public Health and Sport held at 2.00 pm on Monday, 17 December 2018

Present:

Members:                                   Counillor K Caan (Chair)  
  Councillor M Lapsa (Shadow Cabinet Member)

Other Members:                        Councillors R Ali

Employees (by Directorate):

Place: F Cockayne, D Cockroft, C Sinclair, S Wiles

#### **Public Business**

##### **10.     Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

##### **11.     Minutes of Last Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 October 2018 were signed as a true record. There were no matters arising.

##### **12.     Petition - Indoor Bowls Re-provision - Identify an Alternative Site for Indoor Bowls in Coventry**

The Cabinet Member for Public Health and Sport considered a report which responded to a petition requesting that the Council reassess and identify a more suitable and more affordable site for the re-provisioning of a six rink indoor bowls development than at the Avenue Bowls Club site in Coundon. The petition, bearing 192 signatures was sponsored by Councillor Kelly and stated:

“Coventry City Council takes action by reassessing and identifying a more suitable affordable alternative site for the proposed six rink indoor bowls club development at the Avenue bowls club site on Gaveston Road, Coundon, based on no consultation with affected residents and the confirmed lack of consultation performed by the Council in identifying the most suitable site, with either Bowls England or the English Indoor Bowling Association.”

In addition, a further petition and two e-petitions had been submitted in respect of the Avenue Bowls Club, however as these petitions related to planning matters, it was proposed that they be referred to Planning Committee for consideration when a planning application for the site is submitted.

On behalf of Councillor Kelly, Councillor Gannon attended the meeting together with the Petition Organiser and both spoke in support of the petition.

In January 2018, the City Council approved the addition of £2.05 million to the capital programme for 2018/19 onwards for the development of a new six rink indoor bowls facility at The Avenue Bowls Club in Coventry.

Officers had engaged with a group of the petitioners and at their request carried out further feasibility work into 18 alternative sites suggested by the group based on an agreed set criteria of (i) Appropriateness of Site (ii) Affordability (iii) Governance (iv) Operational Management and (v) Commercial Return/ Sustainability.

Initial feasibility work discounted fourteen of the sites on the basis of appropriateness of site and capital costs falling within the Councils affordability envelope for the project. The other option proposed by the group of petitioners in relation to locating the six lane indoor bowls rink on an existing public leisure site was considered and discounted as part of the original feasibility in relation to the January 2018 Cabinet Report.

Detailed feasibility work was undertaken on the four remaining sites – Dunlop, Sphinx Sports and Social Club, Coundon Social Club and Copsewood Sports and Social Club. The results of this work was shown in the feasibility study report which was appended to the report. The report demonstrates that when all factors are considered, The Avenue Bowls Club was still the most suitable location.

Consultation had taken place with the English Indoor Bowling Association (EIBA) on the feasibility work and the EIBA support The Avenue as the preferred location for indoor bowls provision in Coventry.

**RESOLVED that, after due consideration of the report and noting petitioners concerns and matters raised at the meeting, the Cabinet Member:**

- (1) Noted the petition and the petitioners concerns.**
- (2) Noted that a feasibility study into the 18 other sites suggested by local residents has been undertaken and showed The Avenue Bowls Club to be the most suitable and affordable site for indoor bowls relocation within the agreed set criteria.**
- (3) Referred the petitions and e-petitions that relate to planning matters to Planning Committee to be considered as part of the determination of the relevant planning application.**

- 13. Any other items of public business which the Chair decides to take as a matter of urgency because of the special circumstances involved.**

There were no other items of public business.

(Meeting closed at 2.45 pm)