

MINUTE of MEETING of the WEST LOTHIAN LEISURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE held within VIRTUAL MEETING ROOM, on 21 OCTOBER 2021.

Present – Councillors Harry Cartmill (Chair), Cathy Muldoon, Alison Adamson, David Dodds, Charles Kennedy, Andrew McGuire and David Tait

In attendance

James Cameron – Lead Officer, WLC Donald

Forrest – Head of Finance and Property Services, WLC

Alan Colquhoun – Culture & Sport Manager, WLC

Robert Young – Senior Service Accountant, WLC

Tim Dent – Chief Executive, WLL

Andrew Heron – Head of Finance and Administration, WLL

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor David Dodds declared an interest as his son was an employee of West Lothian Leisure. As his interest was remote, he would participate in all items of business.

Councillor Andrew McGuire declared an interest as a member of West Lothian Leisure. He would participate in all items of business.

2 MINUTES

The committee approved the minutes of its meeting held on 26 August 2021 as a correct record.

3 PRIVATE SESSION

The committee resolved under Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business as it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

4 WEST LOTHIAN LEISURE FINANCIAL POSITION

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Finance and Property Services providing an update on West Lothian Leisure's (WLL) 2020/21 audited accounts (Audited Accounts) and its 2021/22 financial position.

During discussion, members were advised that the positive trends regarding WLL's income continued. Members were also assured that expected upcoming increases in utility costs had been factored in the budget forecast.

Members wished to thank all WLL staff for their efforts resulting in positive trends and controlled costs.

It was recommended that the committee note:

1. The WLL Board had approved WLL's unqualified 2020/21 Audited Accounts and the council had provided a comfort letter in relation to those accounts;
2. WLL's financial performance for the four months to 31 July 2021;
3. WLL's reforecast for the year to 31 March 2022; and
4. That the second half of the 2021/22 management fee and the third quarter of the 2021/22 reserve funding had been provided to WLL since the last WLLAC meeting.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.

5 MONITORING REPORT: CULTURE, SPORT, LEISURE & OUTDOOR EDUCATION

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Education (Learning, Policy and Resources) providing an update on the operation of Culture, Sport, Leisure and Outdoor Education services delivered by West Lothian Leisure (WLL), within the context of facility re-opening and service resumption in line with the continued achievement of planned milestones in the Scottish Government's roadmap for COVID recovery.

During discussion, officers stressed the importance of regular maintenance in keeping venue standards high.

It was recommended that the committee note the contents of the report.

Decision

To note the terms of the report.