C Community and Recreation (Community and Leisure Services) 462 Sub-Committee, Tuesday, 29th November, 2005

After discussion, the Sub-Committee agreed that Clarawood Community Association's revenue application in respect of the year 2006/2007 be reassessed and that a further report in respect of the recommendations thereon be submitted to the Sub-Committee for its consideration in due course.

Community Services: Department for Social Development Grant Aid

The Sub-Committee noted that the Department for Social Development, through the Voluntary and Community Unit, had advised that the Council would be receiving grant aid in the current financial year in the sum of £1,102,258, which represented an increase of 1.76% on the previous year. It was noted also that the Department had indicated that additional funding might be available during the current year following the launch of the Regional Advice and Information Strategy and the Head of Community and Leisure Services undertook to provide a further report in this regard when details of the additional funds were made available from the Department.

Ainsworth Community Association: Proposed Grant

The Sub-Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 4th October, it had agreed, in principle, to provide funding in the sum of £11,000 to the Ainsworth Community Association to enable its development plans to be progressed, subject the group meeting the appropriate criteria and the funds being available from within the existing Departmental Budget.

The Head of Community and Leisure Services reported that the Association had been requested to provide additional information regarding the timescale and the funding of its development plans and had been asked to confirm whether or not the grant would be used to clear the Association's existing debt or to facilitate the development of the new/refurbished community centre. He pointed out that, in order to identify the best way in which to safeguard the Council's interest, the Director of Legal Services had recommended that a legal agreement be drawn up, including the provision for a legal charge secured by a "Deed of Covenant and Charge".

The Head of Community and Leisure Services confirmed that, following a review of the current year's Community Services budget, £11,000 could be made available for the Ainsworth Community Association.

After discussion, the Sub-Committee agreed that the terms of the grant to Ainsworth Community Association in the sum of £11,000 include the following:

- (a) that the purpose of the grant would be to enable the Association to construct a new or refurbished community centre;
- (b) that the Council had the right to reclaim the grant if the purpose had not been fulfilled within a period of three years from the date of the formal legal agreement being signed, that is, construction is to have commenced; and

(c) that the Council's position be protected through verification of the position with the Association and its Bank and through a legal charge secured by a "Deed of Covenant and Charge".

Templemore Swim Centre Restoration

The Sub-Committee was informed that Alister Coey, Architects, who had been appointed to manage the restoration scheme at Templemore Swim Centre, would be holding a stakeholders meeting on Thursday, 8th December at 2.00 p.m. and had requested that two representatives of the Council be invited to attend.

After discussion, it was agreed that Councillor Long, together with an appropriate officer from the Department, attend the aforementioned stakeholders meeting.

Capital Programme

The Sub-Committee considered the undernoted Draft Capital Programme for the Community and Leisure Services Section:

"Purpose of Report

To consider the draft Capital Programme for Community & Leisure Services.

Background

Council's Capital Programme for 2005-06 and future commitments was agreed at a special meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting on 4 February 2005.

Current situation

An updated programme of capital schemes has been developed and is attached as Appendix A.

Resources

The cost of each scheme is set out in the Appendix.

Environmental impact

Environmental issues will be considered as part of each development.

Equality impact

There are no relevant equality considerations.