Shareholders Committee

Tuesday, 25th August, 2026

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Matthew Dormer (Chair), and Councillors Brandon Clayton and Ashley Monk

Also Present:

B Clawson-Chan (Managing Director, Rubicon Leisure Limited)

Officers:

Ruth Bamford and James Walton

Principal Democratic Services Officer:

Jess Bayley-Hill

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NAMED SUBSTITUTES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Gemma Monaco and Craig Warhurst.

In addition, apologies for absence were received from Councillors Sharon Harvey, Wanda King and Nic Pioli who, in accordance with the terms of reference for the Committee, had all been invited to attend the meeting in their capacity as political group leaders.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE SHAREHOLDERS COMMITTEE HELD ON 31ST MARCH AND 7TH APRIL 2026

In the absence of any Members who attended the meetings of the Shareholders Committee held on 31st March and 7th April 2026, the Assistant Director for Planning, Leisure and Culture Services, who was present at both meetings, confirmed that they provided an accurate record of proceedings.

Chair

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meetings of the Shareholders Committee held on 31st March and 7th April 2026 be approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. TO CONSIDER ANY URGENT BUSINESS, DETAILS OF WHICH HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED TO THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF LEGAL, DEMOCRATIC AND PROCUREMENT SERVICES PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING AND WHICH THE CHAIR, BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES, CONSIDERS TO BE OF SO URGENT A NATURE THAT IT CANNOT WAIT UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING

There was no urgent business for consideration on this occasion.

5. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that:

Under S100 A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following matters on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12 of the said act, as amended.

- **Minute Item No. 6 – Performance Outturn Monitoring Report 2025/26 - Rubicon Leisure Limited**
- **Minute Item No. 7 – Performance Monitoring Report Quarter 1 2026/27 – Rubicon Leisure Limited**

6. PERFORMANCE OUTTURN MONITORING REPORT 2025/26 - RUBICON LEISURE LIMITED

The Managing Director of Rubicon Leisure Limited presented the Performance Outturn Monitoring Report 2025/26 for the company for Members' consideration.

During the presentation of this report, the following points were highlighted:

- Performance during the 2025/26 financial year had been positive with significant growth having been achieved.

- Health and safety audits had continued to be conducted during the year as required and compliance exceeded the national average.
- Staff were recognised as a key asset for the company and the Managing Director welcomed opportunities to invest in the development of employees.

Clarification was provided that Pitcheroak Golf course had performed well in 2025/26 and had benefited from the fact that the weather had been milder than during some recent summers. By contrast, it was highlighted that the temperatures in the summer of 2026 had been consistently high and this might have impacted on participation in sports, including golf.

Consideration was given to the performance of the different venues that were managed by Rubicon Leisure Limited on behalf of the Council. The Abbey Stadium performed well. The Arrow Valley Countryside Centre had also performed well, although water sport activities had been impacted by the emergence of blue/green algae on the lake in summer 2025.

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

(During consideration of this item, Members discussed matters that necessitated the disclosure of exempt information. It was therefore agreed to move to exclude the press and public prior to any debate on the grounds that information would be revealed that included information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)).

7. PERFORMANCE MONITORING QUARTER 1 2026/27 - RUBICON LEISURE LIMITED

The Managing Director of Rubicon Leisure Limited presented the Performance Monitoring report for the first quarter of the 2026/27 financial year for the company.

The following key points were highlighted for Members' consideration:

- The Palace Theatre had been awarded Redditch business of the year in the Redditch Business Awards 2025.
- Forge Mill Needle Museum had held a number of exciting events as part of its summer programme and had been actively involved in youth engagement.

- The extreme weather had had an impact at Pitcheroak Golf club.
- The community centres provided an opportunity for Rubicon Leisure Limited to work with a range of community partners.

Members subsequently discussed the performance of Rubicon Leisure Limited during the quarter. Reference was made to the facilities available at the Arrow Valley Countryside Centre and Members praised the work that had been undertaken at this venue.

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

(During consideration of this item, Members discussed matters that necessitated the disclosure of exempt information. It was therefore agreed to move to exclude the press and public prior to any debate on the grounds that information would be revealed that included information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)).

The Meeting commenced at 5.30 pm
and closed at 5.50 pm