

Shareholders Committee

Monday, 5th July, 2021

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor David Thain (Chair), and Councillors Imran Altaf, Andrew Fry and Lucy Harrison

Also Present:

Mr Simon Ingyon, Managing Director, Rubicon Leisure Limited

Officers:

Claire Felton and James Howse

Senior Democratic Services Officer:

Jess Bayley-Hill

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NAMED SUBSTITUTES

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Councillor Joanne Beecham.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED that

the minutes of the meeting of the Shareholders Committee held on 18th February 2021 be approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

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

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involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12 of the said act, as amended.

Minute Item No. 5 – Quarter 4 Performance Monitoring Report

Minute Item No. 6 – Award of Contract for new Outdoor Gym at Abbey Stadium Sports Centre

Minute Item No. 7 – Rubicon Business Plan 2021/22

Minute Item No. 8 – Urgent Business: Appointment of Non-Executive Director to Rubicon Board

5. QUARTER 4 PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT

The Managing Director presented the performance monitoring report for the period 1st January to 31st March 2021.

Members were advised that this had been a challenging period, as the majority of venues and services operated by Rubicon Leisure Limited had had to close during the third national lockdown, due to Covid-19.

RESOLVED that

the report be noted.

(During the 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 which related to the financial and business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). There is nothing exempt, however, in this record of proceedings.)

6. AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR NEW OUTDOOR GYM AT ABBEY STADIUM SPORTS CENTRE

The Managing Director presented a report in respect of the award of a contract for the operation of a new outdoor gym at the Abbey Stadium Sports Centre. Members were advised that the Council had previously agreed to allocate funding to support an outdoor gym at the Abbey Stadium Sports Centre. Further action could be taken in respect of this matter, subject to securing planning permission.

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As part of the debate in respect of this item, Councillor Andrew Fry questioned the implications of voting on this proposal for Members of the Planning Committee. The Monitoring Officer explained that Members could vote on the proposals at the Shareholders Committee. Further advice would be provided to Members prior to consideration of the relevant application by the Planning Committee.

(During the 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 which related to the financial and business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)).

7. RUBICON BUSINESS PLAN 2021 2022

The Managing Director presented the Rubicon Business Plan 2021 to 2022 for Members' consideration.

Reference was made to a number of operational and service delivery changes that had been identified in preparing the business plan, which covered a single year. Members were advised that the Managing Director was aiming to present a business plan later in the calendar year which would cover a three to five year period.

RESOLVED that

- 1) Members approve the one-year Rubicon Business Plan and note the subsequent operational and service delivery changes required to achieve a balanced position in 2021/2022; and**
- 2) members note the progress to date in preparing the longer term business plan, and the on-going dialogue between officers and the Rubicon Board to enable this to be finalised and presented to the Shareholder Committee for approval in due course.**

(During the 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 which related to the financial and business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) and which related to consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour

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relations matters arising between the authority or Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.)

8. **URGENT BUSINESS: APPOINTMENT OF AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO RUBICON BOARD**

The Shareholders Committee considered a nomination for the position of Executive Director on the Rubicon Board. This matter was referred to the Shareholders Committee for consideration in line with 8.1.13 of the articles of association of Rubicon Leisure Limited, as a reserved matter for the Committee to determine.

Members were advised that Mr Guy Revans, Head of Environmental and Housing Property Services at Redditch Borough Council, had been nominated to serve as an Executive Director on the Rubicon Board.

RESOLVED that

Mr Guy Revans be appointed as an Executive Director on the Rubicon Board.

(This report had been accepted as a matter of Urgent Business, with the approval of the Chair, and in accordance with the Council's constitutional rules and powers vested in the Chair by virtue of Section 100 (B) (4) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972 to agree matters of urgency being discussed by reason of special circumstances.

In this case the special circumstances were that a debate and decision on this item was required to be considered at the present meeting, rather than the following meeting, in order for forthcoming meetings of the Rubicon Board to be quorate. This requirement had arisen following the resignation of a previous Executive Director from the Board, creating a vacancy that needed to be filled.

During the 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 which related to consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matters arising between the authority or Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority. There is nothing exempt, however, in this record of proceedings.)

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The Meeting commenced at 6.30 pm
and closed at 7.02 pm