

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CAERPHILLY TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT GROUP SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, TREDOMEN ON MONDAY, 15TH DECEMBER 2003 AT 9.15 A.M.

PRESENT:

Councillor P. Bevan (Chairman of the Management Group), M. Evans (Caerphilly Town Council), S. Mason (Business Development Manager – Community Education), T. McMahon (Communities First Officer), M. Gregory (Manager- KICK), T. Clarke (Chairman – KICK) and D. Phillips (Committee Services Officer)

MEETING TO DISCUSS THE INDOOR SKATE BOARDING FACILITY AT THE CAERPHILLY INDOOR MARKET, PENTREBANE STREET, CAERPHILLY

The meeting was convened with appropriate representatives following concerns raised at the Caerphilly Town Centre Management Group on 4th December 2003 regarding the indoor skate boarding facility at the indoor market, Pentrebane Street, Caerphilly.

The indoor facility was first proposed in 2001/02 when funding was given by the Lions Club (to purchase equipment) and a grant from Caerphilly Town Council. The facility is presently administered by KICK (Kids in Caerphilly Krazee) and is run by a Youth Committee of volunteers. KICK currently pays all electricity, water and rent for the premises (the latter from June 2000 at a cost of £800 per month payable to Total Millennium Ltd).

The facility is currently open 3 days a week (Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6.00 p.m. - 9.00 p.m.) at a cost of £1 per hour. A café was located within the building but has recently vacated.

Sportlot has recently approved a funding application submitted by the Council for additional equipment and it was anticipated that the refurbished facility would be completed by the end of August.

The day-to-day management and revenue implications are to continue to be administrated by KICK

The delays and reasons for concerns outlined by the representatives from KICK were:-

- the lease agreement with the Council has not been signed – (one concern is that all equipment will be returned to and become the property of the Council if the facility closes);
- the cost of the public liability insurance for the premises at Pentrebane Street would be an extra £1,500 a year;
- apparent lack of consultation between the users of the facility and the equipment listed in the funded bid.

It was agreed that any re-location of any skateboarding equipment would be difficult – however it may be possible that KICK could be consulted and any relocation confined to the Caerphilly Town Centre area if this occurred.

It was confirmed that consultation would be held with the users prior to any equipment being installed.

A copy of the lease was given to the Chairman of the Management Group.

The Funding share for the scheme by KICK was then discussed. They need to find funding of £15,000 for the scheme.

KICK reported that funds already identified by them were:-

- £2,500 Youth Voluntary Grant (there is a possibility that this has been withdrawn)
- £3,000 Police Shrievally Fund
- £7,000 (remaining from a Community Regeneration Fund)

However this leaves a shortfall in funding even with the Youth Voluntary Grant.

It was agreed that the following matters would need to be addressed in order to make progress:-

- confirmation of funding on the Youth Voluntary Grant be sought and the total funding for the project be identified by KICK (M. Gregory)
- the lease agreement between the Council and KICK be examined and compared with other similar agreements and the insurance matter investigated further (S. Mason, T. McMahon).
- the expiry date of the Sportlot funding be investigated (S. Mason)

The importance of the facility succeeding was agreed by all representatives especially as it was noted that a bye law preventing skate boarding in various locations in the Town Centre had recently been introduced and will shortly be enforced by the Police.

It was agreed that the next meeting be convened in late January (subject to progress).
