

BRIFING NOTE – NORTHFIELD DISTRICT COMMITTEE FRIDAY 24 JUNE 2016

COLMERS COMMUNITY LEISURE CENTRE

A significant amount of work has been undertaken with various stakeholders to identify how the facility might continue to provide a level of service in the future in light of it having no operational budget from 1st August 2016.

Floodlit Astro Turf Pitches

The Place Directorate owns a floodlit astro turf pitch and pavilion (changing rooms and office) which is adjacent to the school site. This element of the facility currently covers its operating costs but the pitch surface is approaching the end of its operational life, which would require significant investment to bring it up to the required standard.

We propose to continue to operate the astro turf pitch for at least a further 12 month period, during which time further work will be undertaken to identify a longer term solution to the required investment.

School Facilities (Community Leisure Centre)

The school facilities are hired by the Sports Service and include a 4 court sports hall, changing rooms, studio/classroom, offices and reception area. In addition to the income it generates, the Council has been subsidising this facility by approximately £50,000 per annum which it is no longer able to do.

The proposal for the school facilities is for the Council to withdraw its provision from 1st August 2016. Colmers School & Sixth Form College will then implement a lettings based model to enable community groups to continue to access their facilities from the start of the new academic year in September 2016. Letters have been sent out to users of the facility (copy attached) and we will be holding an open evening event at the Leisure Centre on Thursday 16th June, 7pm – 8pm. This will provide hirers with the opportunity to ask any questions about the transition and meet members of both the leisure and school teams. We have had a very positive response from users so far and aim to make the transition for them as smooth as possible.

Should you require any further information or wish to discuss this in any further detail then please do not hesitate to contact me.

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