

**Minutes of:** **PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**Date of Meeting:** 28<sup>th</sup> November 2011

**PRESENT:** Councillor L McInnes (Chair)  
Councillors Aldred, Essex (sub for L Barnes), Morris,  
Roberts, Robertson and Stansfield.

Irene Divine, Co-opted Member

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mike Riley, Communities Manager  
Martin Kay, General Manager, Rossendale Leisure Trust  
Ken Masser, Rossendale Leisure Trust  
Christine Ashcroft, CLAW  
Lisa McDowell CLAW  
Michelle Hargreaves, Committee and Member Services Officer  
Councillor Marriott, Portfolio Holder for Finance and  
Resources  
Councillor Gledhill

6 Members of the Public

---

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were apologies for absence on behalf of Councillor L Barnes (Councillor Essex sub) and also Liz Sandiford, Head of People and Policy.

**2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

**Resolved:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**3. URGENT ITEMS**

There were no urgent items for discussion.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Aldred and Morris declared a personal interest as members of the Leisure Trust Board.

## **5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

The Chair agreed to deviate from the Procedure for Public Speaking and allow members of the public to ask questions as the reports were discussed.

A member of the public raised an issue in relation to the Council's strategy regarding the maintenance of Haslingden Pool. The Chair stated that the question would be taken back for a response from the Leader.

Another question that was asked was in relation to the Council pursuing a subsidence claim and whether this was holding up the maintenance plan. This would be responded to by the Head of Finance & Property Services.

## **6. CHAIR'S UPDATE**

The Chair informed Members of the following:

- The market testing regarding the Council's Stock Condition survey requirements was completed on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2011. The testing had been broken down into 3 levels of importance, and the assets under CLAW were deemed high/ medium priority. The Stock Condition survey process was likely to take 10-12 weeks and Officers anticipated interim updates.
- The Chair also informed members on Healthy Futures in relation to the cardiology plan. The critical care had been removed at Rochdale and the stroke and cardiology unit had been moved to Fairfield. There had been a consultation at the Riverside, Whitworth, in relation to issues of transport and aftercare. A document had been put together by the Healthy Futures Team of what was to be expected. It was also suggested there be a consultation event held in Rawtenstall.

## **7. INTEGRATED PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 2**

The Communities Manager presented the Quarter 2 Integrated Performance Report on behalf of the Head of People and Policy.

The report highlighted that currently the Quarter 2 results had evidenced positive performance, some of the achievements involved were:

- LI 8 - % of invoices paid on time achieved its highest ever outturn of 98.68%.
- STAN – number of people accessing STAN had increased.
- LI 79a – processing of HB/CTB claims was up 5% from Quarter 1 with an outturn of 98%.

The following indicator that was not achieving:-

- LI 79bi – percentage of recoverable overpayments recovered.

It was noted that the author was pleased as 93% of the business plan was on target.

Members discussed the following points below:

- LI 156 in relation to the DDA works and whether this information was up to date. It was clarified that the development work at Marl Pits did not include work on the pavilion however; discussions were taking place with the sports clubs about forming a community of interest group to look at how this and other issues could be addressed.
- LI OP1 clarification with regards to missed bins within 24 hours.
- LI OP2b members requested that clarification be sought for this performance indicator. It was discussed that tonnage would be a more appropriate figure to report rather than fuel used. Operations Manager to clarify.
- Vacant Property Strategy, members requested further appendices to this report, detailing a further breakdown of the performance figures for both private and commercial properties.
- What measures were being taken in relation to the redesigning of the litterbin collection rounds.
- Completion of the diversion of utilities at Marl Pits.
- It was pleasing to see the number of market stalls occupied around the borough.

**Resolved:**

1. That the Committee notes the level of performance detailed in the report.
2. That the Committee continues to monitor performance of those indicators that were under-achieving targeted levels of performance.
3. That the Committee compliment staff for this very positive report.

**8. LEISURE SERVICE PROGRESS UPDATES**

The Communities Manager presented an update on the progress of projects implemented as part of the Leisure Review and the subsequent recommendations taken by Council on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2011, including funding agreements relating to Rossendale Leisure Trust and Community Leisure Association Whitworth.

He then gave a further update on each of the following:

Ski Rossendale – there had been a smooth transfer of the lease of the site and the opening event on the 5<sup>th</sup> November was very successful.

Marl Pits Development – there had been a problem with the siting of a gas main which had delayed the start date for Kier. The development team was to meet on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2011 and works were due to commence on site on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2011.

Further details of CLAW funding were appended at 1 and 2, the Riverside Bookings were appended at 3 and the RLT information was appended at 4 and 5.

A member of the public raised a number of questions which the Communities Manager and the General Manager of the Leisure Trust responded.

Ken Masser outlined the financial overview of the appended information. Haslingden Sports Centre had broken even year to date, which was similar to the previous year. It was noted that the pool had a new manager. Marl Pits had also performed better than the previous year. Alder Grange and Whitworth were classed as satellite facilities and were both performing well.

It was noted that Haslingden Sports Centre had won an award in relation to its performance.

A number of questions were raised by members in relation to the following:

- Capping of members to Haslingden Sports Centre.
- Office on Kay Street and moving location.
- Advertising outside of the borough.
- Working with Marl Pits in relation to a marketing campaign and target audience.
- Potential opening of Marl Pits facility.
- Structural maintenance of both Haslingden and Marl Pits to be consistent.
- Plans for the Olympic torch to come through Rossendale- it was noted that the relay for life would be held on the same weekend.

Martin Kay briefly discussed where the Leisure Trust was in relation to the staff, it was noted that Norman Hauserman had stepped down as Chair of the trust and that Roger Fulton had now been appointed. The trust had been engaging in the Neighbourhood Forums and had also produced new marketing plans for Alder Grange and Whitworth dual use leisure facilities.

The trust had recruited a new football activator under the apprentices scheme with a view to strengthening the football delivery and development.

Christine Ashcroft, Chair of CLAW, gave Members an update on actions/progress to date. It was noted that there was a total of 40 employees across both sites and there were no overheads due to the fact that all staff were volunteers.

The leisure centre had been performing well and was up in relation to the budget in comparison to last year, it was felt that this was due to the new reception area which had given the centre a more modern feel.

There had been a re arrangement of management staff at the pool due to a manager leaving, this had saved money on the payroll and it was felt that the centre was running more efficiently.

The Riverside wasn't doing as well and it was important to try to adhere to the Globe report action plan. One of the main reasons of the falling income was mainly due to the number of cancellations.

A number of questions were raised by members in relation to other commercial properties and functions during the week, which the Chair of CLAW clarified.

Members congratulated CLAW in their performance and their continuing progress in moving in the right direction.

**Resolved:**

That the Committee note the work carried out to date in relation to the leisure projects.

Signed .....  
(Chair)

Date .....