

# PLEASE NOTE VENUE

## CULTURE, LEISURE AND TRANSPORTATION PORTFOLIO DECISION SCHEDULE



**Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2007**

**at 10.00 a.m .**

**in Committee Room “C”, Civic Centre**

Councillor Tumilty, Cabinet Member responsible for Culture, Leisure and Transportation will consider the following items.

1. **KEY DECISIONS**  
None
2. **OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**
  - 2.1 Mill House Leisure Centre – Essential Maintenance Works Requiring Building Closure – Director of Adult and Community Services
3. **REPORTS FROM OVERVIEW OF SCRUTINY FORUMS**  
None

## **CULTURE, LEISURE AND TRANSPORTATION PORTFOLIO**

Report To Portfolio Holder  
2 February 2007

**Report of:** Director of Adult and Community Services

**Subject:** MILL HOUSE LEISURE CENTRE – ESSENTIAL  
MAINTENANCE WORKS REQUIRING BUILDING  
CLOSURE

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### **SUMMARY**

#### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To advise the Portfolio Holder of essential maintenance works required at Mill House Leisure Centre and to seek approval for a building closure allowing for the work to be completed. Details of the works required are given as well as timescales involved and an indication of costs.

#### **2.0 SUMMARY OF CONTENTS**

To outline the nature of the work, the opportunities this gives to minimise public disruptions and to ensure early advertising of closure to the public.

#### **3.0 RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER**

Portfolio holder is responsible for Sports and Recreation.

#### **4.0 TYPE OF DECISION**

Non-key.

#### **5.0 DECISION MAKING ROUTE**

Culture, Leisure and Transportation Portfolio 2 February 2007.

#### **6.0 DECISION(S) REQUIRED**

- 6.1 The Portfolio Holder is requested to approve the closure of Mill House Leisure Centre during the period of Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2007 inclusive to allow for essential maintenance works to be carried out.

**Report of:** Director of Adult and Community Services

**Subject:** MILL HOUSE LEISURE CENTRE –  
ESSENTIAL MAINTENANCE WORKS  
REQUIRING BUILDING CLOSURE

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## **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To advise the Portfolio Holder of essential maintenance works required at Mill House Leisure Centre and to seek approval for a building closure allowing for the work to be completed. Details of the works required are given as well as timescales involved and an indication of costs.
- 1.2 A further report will be made to the Portfolio Holder on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2007, seeking approval for the awarding of a contract to a specialist contractor for one aspect of the works required. At this stage, Officers are concerned with gaining approval of the building closure in principle. This will allow adequate time for arrangements to be made in terms of notification to the public and existing building users and to plan for alternative arrangements for the Leisure Centre staff.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The principle works involved largely concerns the waterslide. This was originally installed in 1986 and has been maintained on an annual basis ever since. Towards the end of 2005 and into 2006, the gel coating of the slide (the actual ride path area), began to display minor areas of blistering and crazing and despite temporary repairs being undertaken, got to the point where this was no longer possible, such as the extent of the problem.
- 2.2 Following the last maintenance inspection undertaken in August 2006, it was reported by the company concerned that the surface had deteriorated considerably and could no longer be repaired. It was felt that if it was continued to be used, the surface was likely to break down completely and could potentially lead to users suffering cuts and grazes. Owing therefore to the obvious implications for user safety, the slide was immediately taken out of action and has now been closed from use since 31st August 2006.

## **3. DETAILS OF MAINTANCEWORKS**

### **3.1 WATERSLIDE**

- 3.1.1 The issue of the slide repairs has been difficult to resolve and has required a lot of research. Originally Officers believed that the only options available to the Council was to either replace the slide

structure in its entirety or to possibly locate a company who still possessed the moulds for this particular model of slide. This option would obviously considerably reduce the costs as only the slide ride track would need to be replaced, leaving the original support structures and canopy in place.

3.1.2 During this research however, through contact with a Leisure Centre in Leicestershire in possession of the same type of slide, some new technology was found to be available that Officers were previously unaware of. This allowed for the ride surface to be recoated and had been successfully carried out at this site. It was something offered uniquely by one company and with who contact has subsequently been made.

3.1.3 A site inspection has now taken place and confirmation given that the recoating process can be carried out, by far the cheapest option available to us. This will take five days to carry out but will however require the closure of the swimming pool hall.

3.1.4 Full details of the contractual agreements will be given in a report to the Portfolio Holder in February.

## 3.2 SPORTS HALL FLOOR

3.2.1 As part of the planned maintenance regime for Mill House Leisure Centre, the Sports Hall floor is sanded off and resealed on a bi-annual basis. This inevitably affects the availability of the hall with it being closed from use for a period of four and a half days.

3.2.2 This work was originally programmed to take place over the Easter bank holiday period in April 2007. The intention was to minimise the disruption to the public as the Centre would normally already be closed on the two public bank holiday days concerned.

## 4. PROPOSALS FOR CENTRE CLOSURE

4.1 Given that the Sports Hall floor maintenance works would also require a closure of some of the Centres facilities, rather than have two separate partial closures, Officers have been able to identify dates where the works could coincide together thereby limiting the disruption and inconvenience to the public.

4.2 It is proposed therefore that a full building closure occur between the period of Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2007 and Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2007 allowing for these works to take place. Adopting this action will also afford us the rare opportunity of having all staff members available together and it is intended that a detailed programme of staff training will be made available to the Portfolio Holder at the Portfolio meeting to be held in February.

- 4.3 Other essential maintenance works that could also be carried out during this closure period will also be identified and reported back to Portfolio.

## **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The costs of the waterslide and floor resealing works required will amount to approximately £23,000 and can be met by the Centre's existing revenue maintenance budgets. There is also the loss of income occurring during this closure period to consider but this has been taken into account during the recent budget out-turn projections forecast for 2006/07.

## **6. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 The Portfolio Holder is requested to approve the closure of Mill House Leisure Centre during the period of Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2007 inclusive to allow for essential maintenance works to be carried out.