

## **AGENDA ITEM FG26/17**

### **FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF MANAGEMENT OF THE PAVILION AND SPORTS GROUNDS: RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL**

A proposal for the future management of the Pavilion and sports grounds will come to the Council on 23 October 2017. However, there are some financial aspects for which it would be helpful to have recommendations from the Finance and Good Governance Committee for the PC to consider. These points have arisen from questions asked over the last couple of months.

#### **1. Fee for business use of the sports fields.**

The PC is using the same fee structure as the previous management regime and will review this next year once we have a better idea of the income and costs associated with the Pavilion and sports fields.

However, we have identified a gap in the current fee structure. A business uses the sports fields for a couple of sessions a week of 'Boot Camp'. To date the business has not been charged for this use. Can the F&GGC recommend;

- A) **Whether a charge should be levied.** There is a notional cost to the PC for opening/closing the access gate when the field is in use to allow emergency vehicles access and there is wear and tear to the grass.
- B) **The level of charge.** If the committee recommends a charge should be levied, how much should it be, and per session or per hour? A football match costs £28 for a Melbourn team and £38 for any other team and this includes use of the Pavilion.

#### **2. Negotiation of an annual fee rather than 'pay as you go'.**

The current fee structure is based on a charge for individual sessions of use of either the sports grounds and/or the Pavilion. However, Melbourn Dynamos Football Club (MDFC) has proposed an annual fee (Annex). Can the F&GGC recommend:

- A) **Whether an annual fee is a good idea.** The letter from MDFC makes a case based on reduction of the amount of administrative work of invoicing, paying and processing lots of small sums.
- B) **Whether the proposal made by MDFC should be accepted by the PC.**

#### **3. Criteria for free use of the facilities.**

Examples of events which have not been charged for are: Melbourn Fete which has free use of the Pavilion and all the sports fields, the Bowls Club which had free use of the Old Recreation Ground for parking, and the East of England Air Ambulance (the New Recreation Ground).

So that the PC is consistent in its decision-making, criteria need to be agreed for dealing with any requests for free use. The suggested criteria are:

- The organisation must be based in the Parish.
- The organisation must not make money from the use.
- It must be a one-off use.

Do Councillors have any other criteria to suggest?

4. **Youth Club (MAYD).**

MAYD uses the Pavilion (and sports grounds sometimes) for 2 sessions on a Tuesday evening during term time. The previous management charged MAYD for the use of the Pavilion.

Can F&GGC recommend to the PC:

A) **Whether to continue to charge MAYD for use of the Pavilion and sports grounds.** The argument for continuing to charge is that the intention continues to be to make the Pavilion/sports grounds into a separate entity from the Parish Council which manages the use and maintenance of the Pavilion and grounds on behalf of the PC. If this is to be financially viable, the entity must receive an income for such a significant use. To date, the rent for the Pavilion has been paid from the community grant made to MAYD and this should continue to be the case if a charge is made.

B) **If MAYD is to be charged,**

- **How much?** Should the charge be calculated on annual basis as suggested under 2 above?