

**LEISURE (PFI) BOARD MEETING held at COUNCIL OFFICES LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN on 30 JANUARY 2002 at 4.30 pm**

Present: Councillor A R Row – Chairman.  
Councillors R J Copping and A J Ketteridge.

Officers in attendance: Mrs E Forbes, Mrs L Bunting, F Chandley,  
Ms K Chapman, J B Dickson and Mrs S McLagan.

**PFI 151 APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor R A E Clifford.

**PFI 152 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Leisure (PFI) Board held on 12 December 2001 were received, confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**PFI 153 BUSINESS ARISING**

**(i) Minute PFI 146 - Tax Advice - Costs**

In answer to a question from the Chairman, the Director of Resources reported that detailed quotations for specialist advice had been sought. After discussion it was

RECOMMENDED that the decision made by the Director of Resources in consultation with the Joint Chairs' of the Leisure (PFI) Board to appoint Ernst and Young as consultants for specialist VAT advice be ratified.

**(ii) Minute PFI 150 – Schools Update – (iii) Lord Butler Fitness and Leisure Centre**

Councillor Ketteridge raised his concern regarding the poor cleanliness of the wet change area at the Lord Butler Fitness and Leisure Centre. The Project Manager stated that there was an inherent design fault and that it was an ongoing problem which is being investigated and will be dealt with outside the PFI Project.

The Chairman had received a letter from a Member of the Council requesting that a meeting be arranged between members of the Bowls Club at the Leisure Centre and the Council to settle legal issues and terms and conditions.

**PFI 154 UPDATE ON MEETINGS OF THE SENIOR OFFICER BOARD**

The Project Manager reported that a meeting was to be arranged with the Chief Executive of DCL at which assurances would be sought about the transition arrangements at the Leisure Centre.

In answer to a question from Councillor Copping with regard to Helena Romanes School, the Project Manager reported that the problem had been resolved regarding the PE office. She added that there was no more leeway for demands from the school to change plans.

**PFI 155 UPDATE ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH LINTEUM LEISURE**

The Project Manager reported that all legal documentation was progressing forward and would go to counsel next week for the whole structure of the PFI to be assessed as a final endorsement exercise. She then circulated flow charts and management agreement details to explain the powers of the IPS. This information would also to be sent to the VAT consultants.

The Full Business Case was also being prepared to be sent to the DETR in early February. The Project Manager was to prepare a detailed report to full Council.

Concern was raised at the amount of time being spent on the PFI scheme by the legal consultants. Frank Chandley indicated that this was the most complicated PFI on the market at present and that the legal consultants must make a thorough report. The Chief Executive had written to Devonshires expressing her concern and requesting a detailed breakdown of figures so far. The Director of Resources said that a thorough investigation would take place with regard to extra costs.

**PFI 156 SCHOOLS UPDATE**

**Helena Romanes and Stansted Mountfitchet Schools**

The Project Manager reported that meetings were being held regularly with the builders, PelliKaan, and specifications and drawings had now been provided. She stated that PelliKaan had been very accommodating and had a very professional approach. There were currently no other outstanding issues.

**PFI 157 REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL**

A discussion took place regarding the format of the report to Full Council on 27 February 2002. The Project Manager said that Michael Ware from Mouchels would be attending to answer questions from Members if they arose.

**PFI 158 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Leisure (PFI) Board would be held on Wednesday, 20 February 2002 at 9.30 am.

The meeting ended at 5.55 pm