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MINUTES of MEETING of BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE held in the CASTLE HOUSE, DUNOON on TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2015

Present: Councillor Alex McNaughton (Chair)

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| Councillor Gordon Blair | Councillor Bruce Marshall |
| Councillor Michael Breslin | Councillor Len Scoullar |
| Councillor Isobel Strong | |

Attending: Shirley MacLeod, Area Governance Manager
Graeme Forrester, Area Committee Manager
David Clements, IOD Programme Manager
John Gordon, Regeneration Project Manager
Allan MacDonald, Amenity Services Performance Manager
Jayne Lawrence-Winch, Area Manager- Adult Care
Morag Gillies, Learning Disability Manger
Heather Gillies, Acting Unit Manager
Julie Fisher, Head Teacher, Rothesay Joint Campus
Fiona Johnston, Area Education Officer
Douglas Blades, Public Transport Officer
Lynda Robertson, Built Heritage Conservation Officer
Caroline Sheen, Estates Surveyor
Richard Whitcomb, Bute Community Group
Catherine McLean, Bute Community Group

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received by Councillors Robert Macintyre, Dick Walsh and Jimmy McQueen.

The Chair ruled and the Committee agreed that the business dealt with at item 15 of this Minute be dealt with as a matter of urgency by reason of the Dunoon five-a-side current arrangements running out in September 2015 and to allow Roads and Amenity Services to carry out a consultation exercise with all users of the sporting facility to meet this timescale.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest intimated.

3. MINUTES

(a) BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE - 7 APRIL 2015

The Minute of the Bute and Cowal Area Committee held on 7 April 2015 was approved as a correct record.

(b) BUTE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM - 17 APRIL 2015

The Minute of the Bute Community Safety Forum held on 17 April 2015 was noted.

Councillor Breslin raised a query in relation to the 11th August 2014 Cowal Community Safety Forum meeting where there was a specific request into a concern about Argyll and Bute Council and other partnership calls being blocked as they withhold their number and advised this is not customer friendly. The Area Committee Manager agreed to look into this and it was agreed that this issue would be on the next Bute and Cowal Community Safety Forums.

4. PUBLIC AND COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

No public or Councillor questions were raised at this point. The Chair confirmed that he would allow time for further public or Councillor question time after item 14, Traffic and Parking issues, as members of the public had specific questions relating to that item.

5. AREA PLAN SCORECARDS

The Committee considered a report containing the Area Scorecard for FQ4 2014-2015.

Decision

The Committee noted the exceptional performance presented on the Scorecard.

(Ref: Report by IOD Programme Manager dated 2 June 2015, submitted).

6. SECONDARY SCHOOL REPORTS - ROTHESAY ACADEMY

The Chair welcomed Julie Fisher, the new Head Teacher for Rothesay Joint Campus to the meeting and congratulated her on her new position. Ms Fisher provided the Committee with a report which outlined the school's performance during the 2014/2015 academic year along with updates on learning-centered activities that have taken place.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

(Ref: Report by Acting Head Teacher dated 2 June 2015, submitted)

7. PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORTS

The Area Education Officer for Bute and Cowal took the Committee through the annual Bute and Cowal primary schools report, which provided a statistical breakdown of performance measures as well as information on various school initiatives that have taken place in the Bute and Cowal area.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

(Ref: Report by Head of Education dated 2 June 2015, submitted)

8. OLDER PEOPLES CARE AT HOME SERVICE UPDATE

The Area Manager for Adult Care provided the Committee with an ongoing update on the home care service provided in Bute and Cowal. The report highlights recent developments in improving the service and Bute and Cowal current service provision activity. It also shows the number of service users awaiting services and the review activity to date.

Decision

The Committee:

1. Noted the contents of the report; and
2. Noted that a new revised report template be provided at future Area Committee meetings to provide a much broader view of Adult Care services.

(Ref: Report by Area Manager – Adult Care dated 2 June 2015, submitted)

9. CARE INSPECTORATE REPORT ASSIST/PHOENIX CENTRE

The Learning Disability Manager and the Acting Unit Manager for the Assist and Phoenix centres provided the Committee with a further progress report of the Bute and Cowal Learning Disability day services, ASIST in Dunoon and Phoenix in Bute, as well as including information on the standardisation of all learning disability and other day services.

Decision

The Committee noted the contents of the report and congratulated the Learning Disability Manager and the Acting Unit Manager and her staff for all their hard work.

(Ref: Report by Unit Manager dated 2 June 2015, submitted)

10. BUTE CARE HOME PROVISION

A report updating the Committee on the issue of improving health and social care provision for older people on the island of Bute, following on from earlier reports of June 2014 and October 2014, was considered.

Decision

The Committee:

1. Noted the commencement of, and progress on the initial options appraisal discussions within Improving Care on Bute Group; and
2. Agreed the future work programme of this Group, as set out in 3.3 and 3.4 of the report.

(Ref: Report by Interim Services Manager – Adult Care dated 2 June 2015, submitted)

11. STRATEGIC URBAN REGENERATION FUND

A report updating the Committee on the progress of SURF, who were engaged in October 2014 by HIE, to produce a feasibility study to assess the potential for developing a sustainable 'Alliance for Action' regeneration initiative focussed on the town of Rothesay, was considered.

Decision

The Committee:

1. Noted the contents of the report; and
2. Agreed to take this report at the August Area Committee when an Officer will be present.

(Ref: Report by the Projects and Renewables Manager dated 2 June 2015, submitted).

12. ACTIONS FOR GROWTH - BUTE AND COWAL ECONOMY

A report providing the Committee with an update on the preparation of the Bute and Cowal Economic Development Action Plan (EDAP) for 2015/16, was considered.

Decision

The Committee:

1. Noted the contents of the report; and
2. Agreed to take this report at the August Area Committee when an Officer is present.

(Report by the Economic Development Manager dated 2 June 2015, submitted)

13. BUS SERVICE - ROTHESAY/PORTAVADIE

The Public Transport Officer provided the Committee with a report detailing information on development work which is ongoing in relation to the supported bus network in Cowal including services 477/478/479 which serve West Cowal, Dunoon, Portavadie and Rothesay, also service 489 which runs between Toward and Glenfinart and service 480 which runs between upper Kirn and Dunoon Ferry Terminal.

Decision

The Committee:

1. Noted the progress on the changes already agreed; and
2. Agreed to consider a further report once the options for service 480 have been evaluated.

(Ref: Report by Public Transport Officer dated 2 June 2015, submitted)

14. TRAFFIC AND PARKING ISSUES

A report providing the Committee with a summary of the various issues raised by Members at the parking review workshop held earlier this year, was considered. The report also provides an overall programme for the parking review and consultation process.

The Amenity Services Performance Manager, in response to a public question, advised that the report set out plans for public consultation and that views from stakeholders would be welcomed also at that stage.

The Amenity Services Performance Manager advised that Committee that if they have comments they wished flagged up in relation to the consultation document, to contact the Head of Roads and Amenity Services.

Decision

The Committee:

1. Noted the contents of the report; and
2. Agreed that a consultation document be amended in the next few weeks and if Members had anything else they wish to put forward then to contact the Head of Roads and Amenity Services, and then issued to Community Councils and Stakeholders.

(Ref: Report by Head of Roads and Amenity Services dated 2 June 2015, submitted)

15. DUNOON PLAYING FIELDS AND SPORTS STADIUM

A report providing further details to the Committee with regards to options for operating the five-a-side all weather pitches and other facilities at Dunoon Stadium was considered.

Decision

The Committee:

1. Noted the contents of the report; and
2. Agreed to a consultation exercise being carried out to work towards a holistic management arrangement for the facility as a whole.

(Ref: Report by the Head of Roads and Amenity Services dated May 2015, was considered).

16. COMMUNITY GROUP UPDATE ON WESTCHURCH

Members of the Bute Community Group provided the Committee with their take on what could be achieved at the Westchurch site along with potential ideas they would like further investigated.

Decision

The Committee noted the information provided.

(Ref: Presentation by Bute Community Group dated 2 June 2015, submitted)

The Committee resolved in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to exclude the public for the following item of business on the grounds that it was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 8&9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

17. WESTCHURCH PROGRESS UPDATE

The Committee considered a report updating them on the progress with West Kirk, Rothesay.

Decision

The Committee:

1. Noted the contents of the report; and
2. Noted that a further report come back to the August Area Committee or September Business Day.

(Ref: Report by Built Heritage Conservation Officer dated 2 June 2014, submitted)

18. TOILETS - KILMUN PIER

A report advising the Committee of the offers of purchase received in respect of the former public convenience at Kilmun Pier, Kilmun, was considered.

Decision

The Committee agreed the recommendations at 3.1 of the report.

(Ref: Report by Estates Surveyor dated 2 June 2015, submitted)

19. DUNOON QUEENS HALL UPDATE

The Regeneration Project Manager took the Committee through a report which provided an update on the Dunoon Queens Hall.

Decision

The Committee agreed the recommendations at 3.1 of the report.

(Ref: Report by Regeneration Project Manager dated 2 June 2015, submitted)

20. DUNOON WOODEN PIER UPDATE

The Regeneration Project Manager took the Committee through a report which provided a progress update on the phase 1A and phase 1B works on the Dunoon Wooden Pier.

Decision

The Committee:

1. Noted the recommendations at 3.1.1 and 3.1.2 of the report; and
2. Noted that a further update report be brought back to a future Area Committee.

(Ref: Report by Regeneration Project Manager dated 2 June 2015, submitted)

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ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL**BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE****DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES****June 2015**

Dunoon Playing Fields and Sports Stadium

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dunoon benefits from a comprehensive outdoor sports facility comprising of a running track, stadium, 4 x 5 a-side all-weather pitches (cages) which are currently leased out until September 2015, and a number of grass pitches. Various arrangements are in place for the use of the facility but there is currently no overall management plan for the coordination of the site.

As part of an agreement reached between Argyll & Bute Council and Dunoon 5s, arrangements were put in place in summer 2014 to allow the cages facility in the Black Park to be run until September 2015.

This arrangement was for one year only to allow both the council and the club the chance to explore options for future management of the facility and the site as a whole.

It is proposed that discussions take place between ABC, user groups, stakeholders and any other interested groups to understand their requirements and expectations in relation to the stadium. In order to put in place arrangements that cover the holistic use of the facility it is proposed that a local consultation is carried and that a comprehensive management plan be developed for the whole site. This will include bringing forward proposals for the future management of the 5 a-side options.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Members note the contents of this report and agree to a consultation exercise being carried out to work towards a holistic management arrangement for the facility as a whole.

Dunoon Playing Fields and Sports Stadium

3.0 SUMMARY

- 3.1 The purpose of this report is to provide further details to Members with regards to options for operating the five-a-side all weather pitches and other facilities at Dunoon Stadium.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 That Members note the contents of this report and agree to a consultation exercise being carried out to work towards a holistic management arrangement for the facility as a whole.

5.0 DETAIL

- 5.1 This report provides update on the current lease arrangement at the cages facility within the Black Park and the options being considered for future management of the facility.
- 5.2 A&BC and Dunoon 5s representatives have recently discussed the current arrangement at the Stadium and are keen to explore future options for the cages and Dunoon Stadium facility in general.
- 5.3 An agreement between A&BC and Dunoon 5s was reached in 2014 due to concerns that the Cages facility was been underutilised and the group who had run the facility for over a decade prior to this had made it clear they wanted to cease their lease agreement with the council. It was also clear that there had been a lack of investment in the facility and a sinking fund that was agreed as part of the lease with the previous lease had not been put in place to carry out maintenance at the Cages.
- 5.4 Dunoon 5s advise that there has been a steady uptake at the Cages since taking up the lease with several user groups taking advantage of the all-weather pitches to Inc.:- The Dunoon Help Programme / Kyles Athletic Shinty Club / Dunoon Shinty / Dunoon Athletic FC / Dunoon Youth Football League / Morrison's Supermarket and other local businesses.

- 5.5 As part of a wider consultation, various Sports Clubs including Cowal Rugby Club / Cowal Ladies Shinty / Dunoon Amateurs FC & Dunoon Athletic FC had arranged a meeting with the Dunoon Councillors to discuss the options at the stadium around the middle of March. This was to discuss the wider use of the stadium facility and options going forward for the User Groups at the stadium.
- 5.6 A&BC Community Services Department have indicated that funding is in place to allow their Sports Hub Officer to visit Dunoon in September to open up discussion on sports provision / facilities in Dunoon, this will give clubs an opportunity to meet round the table with a view to creating a Dunoon Sports Hub that can consider the options for future sports provision in the area. This could encompass the stadium in its entirety with options to create athletics / cycling to take advantage of the red blaes track that surrounds the main pitch and look to introduce a wider range of sports at the stadium. This would facilitate the development of a holistic management plan for the site as a whole.
- 5.7 The current lease at the Cages is due to end on 31st Aug 2015; Dunoon 5s have indicated that they are keen to be part of any future discussions regarding both the running of the Cages and wider stadium facility. The council have supported the group over the last year in terms of financial support. It is understood that the facility now runs and operates at a level that meets the demands of all user groups at the stadium, it is recommend that an interim lease agreement between the council and Dunoon 5s be extended on a monthly basis to allow the Sports Hub Officer to engage with user groups with a view to looking at the cages facility and wider stadium use. As part of any extension to the lease, the council would seek confirmation with Dunoon 5s that no further payment will be made to subsidise the running of the facility. On this basis the lease holder will run the facility and fund the personnel at the Cages. A&BC will continue with the maintenance agreement in the short-term until a long term plan for the facility is agreed via the Sports Hub Officer, Amenity Services, Social Enterprise Department and local User Groups.
- 5.8 The outcome of the consultation and firm recommendations for future operation will be reported back to Area Committee at its December meeting.
- 5.9 As part of any long term plan for the wider stadium facility, it will be necessary to lay out clear Users Guidelines in terms of pitch usage / maintenance and booking slots etc. this should form part of any discussions and look to engage with as many sports organisations as possible.
- 5.10 A&B council currently employ one full time member of staff within the stadium and it is that person's responsibility to ensure upkeep of pitches and surrounding areas are to an acceptable standard and playing surfaces are kept in good order to allow continued use. The

stadium at present has 3 main pitches and user groups, namely: -
Black Park (Football/Shinty training) Stadium Pitch (Football/Shinty)
Top park (Rugby) See attached plan - Appendix 1

6.0 CONCLUSION

6.1 It is understood that the facility is operating well and that general feedback from the lease holder and user groups are positive. This report recommends that we consult with as many sports groups as possible to develop a holistic management plan for the stadium and identify arrangements for managing the cages and the wider site in the future. In the interim the existing lease is extended on a monthly basis without financial support from A&BC. This will allow the Sports Hub Officer to engage with interested parties and to bring proposals back for Member's consideration in December 2015.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Policy: Potential Third Sector Transfer Support
- 7.2 Financial: Future implications to Amenity Services
- 7.3 Legal: Asset transfer of facility/Minute of Agreement
- 7.4 HR: N/A
- 7.5 Equalities: N/A
- 7.6 Risk: Long term financial sustainability of facility should the existing ad hock arrangements continue. Provision of a holistic management arrangement for the facility in its entirety and the various user groups will help to provide a sound frame work under which the facility can be run in the future.
- 7.7 Customer Service: N/A

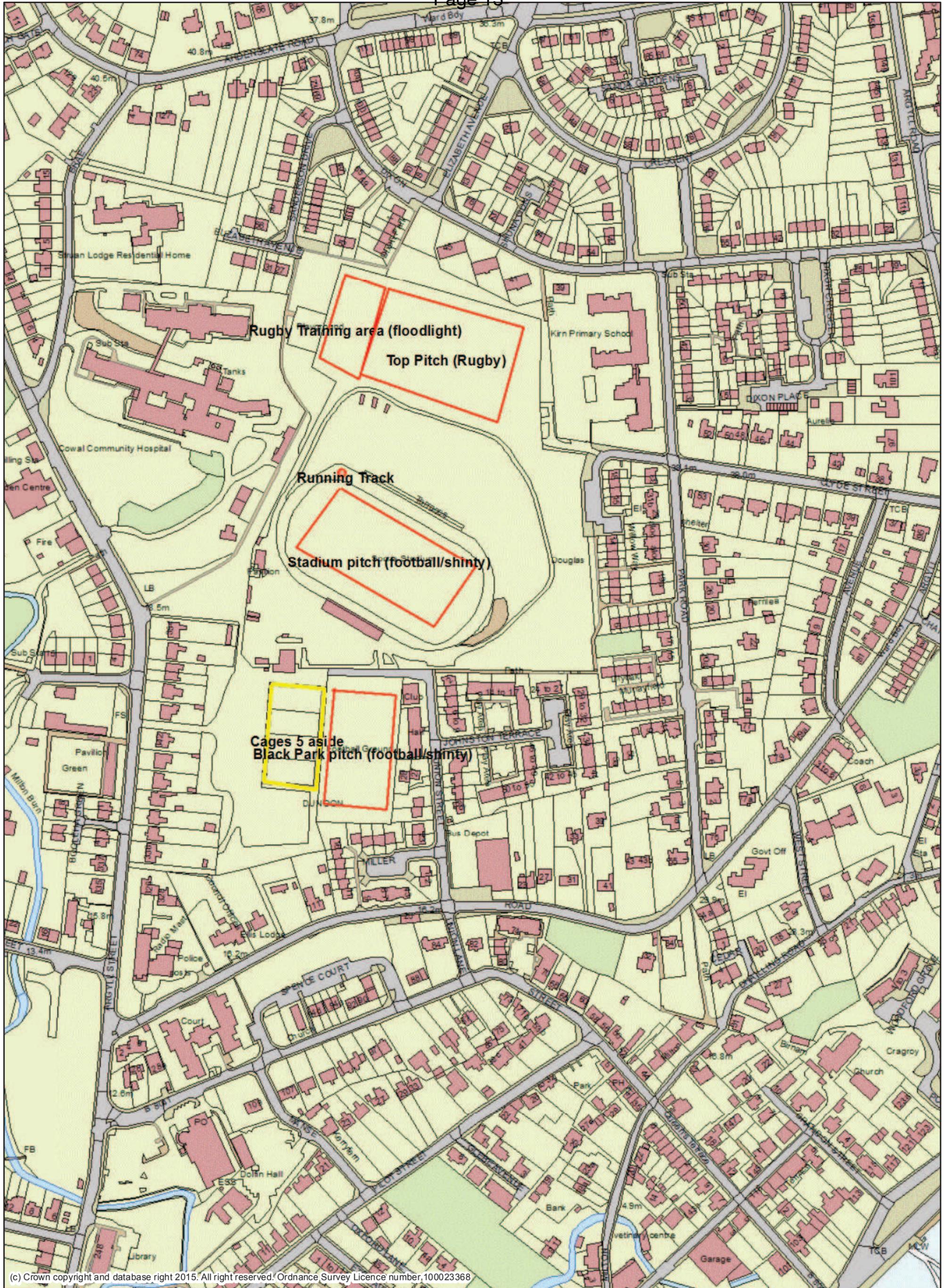
Policy Lead Cllr E Morton.

Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure Services

May 2015

For further information contact: Jim Smith, Head of Roads and Amenity Services

Appendix One: Plan of stadium layout.



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