

CULM VALLEY SWIMMING POOL CAMPAIGN 8TH March 04

PRESENT: Sarah Gibson, Sarah Dienes, Jane Tiley and Nigel Middlewick.

FINANCES:

- Nigel had located 2 sums of money with unidentified sources; these were both funds from Daniel Tiley's run in the London marathon.
- Nigel will give Sarah G. a list of sums raised from each event
- Nigel has sorted out the accounts taken over from the last committee
- Various monies were handed over to be banked from collecting boxes in town and the last Line Dancing event.

AGM:

- to take place on Monday 15th March at 7pm in the Royal British Legion rooms
- Preliminary talk by Paul Cluett, principal consultant for those carrying out the feasibility study
- Sarah G. will do a report from the events of last year
- Nigel will present the finances

FEASIBILITY:

- Sarah G. attended the first meeting about this on our behalf.
- The catchment area will be a distance of 20 mins. around Cullompton
- We would need to offer something not available in the immediate locale

We agreed to lay low until the result of the study is known as a result we are not planning to attend the Town picnic although invited.

The meeting began with a presentation from Rob Kelly (MDDC) and Paul Cluett (Symonds Consultants).

Rob began by saying that through the efforts of the campaign there was no doubt about the wishes of the people that there should be a swimming pool in Cullompton. Symonds had been chosen as consultants because they offered a greater community focus than others. The conclusion of the report would be presented at the end of May /beginning of June. Then various committees would give it consideration before a decision is made as to whether we get a pool.

Paul Cluett gave an outline of the brief they were working from:

- 1 Can the population sustain a pool?
- 2 Are there partnership opportunities?
- 2 What would be the impact on other facilities e.g. Exe Valley?
- 3 What modifications will Culm Valley need?
- 4 What are the capital costs and sources of funding?
- 5 Revenue implications?

A drive time of 20 minutes is used as a basis.

Potentially the revenue costs are more critical than the capital.

There followed a long and often heated debate covering issues surrounding the possible future pool and the situation Cullompton often seems to find itself in compared with the rest of Mid-Devon.

BUSINESS

- 6 Sarah Gibson ran through the events of the last year.
- 7 What happens next depends on the feasibility study; an extraordinary meeting will be held when the decision is known.

Eileen Andrews gave a vote of thanks to the committee for their hard work.

Financial:

The sponsored swim has raised £760.60 so far and the London marathon raised £1250.30. In the 2 years that this committee has been running £6,879 has been raised.

Election of Officers:

CHAIR Sarah Gibson proposed by Eileen Andrews seconded by Linda Holloway.

SECRETARY Sarah Dienes proposed by Linda Holloway seconded by Christine Porter

TREASURER Nigel Middlewick proposed by Linda Holloway seconded by Mrs Bowerman

PUBLICITY Jane Tiley proposed by Sarah Dienes seconded by Pam Wood

COMMITTEE MEMBERS Pam Wood

Ashley Hellier offered to set up a web site culmvalleyswimmingpoolcampaign.co.uk

The meeting closed at this point

**EXTRACT FROM DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
COMMITTEE HELD ON JULY 15 2004**

34 CULLOMPTON SWIMMING POOL FEASIBILITY STUDY

Consideration was given to a report * of the Head of Community Development and Regeneration on the Cullompton Swimming Pool Feasibility Study (2004).

A number of the local ward Members together with Members of the Committee spoke in support of continuing to investigation the provision a swimming pool in Cullompton. Particular reference was made to the fact that it would serve the Culm Valley area and not just Cullompton and should be known as the Culm Valley Swimming Pool. This was acknowledged by officers who indicated that this would be reflected in the feasibility study.

The Chairman had circulated at the beginning of the meeting a number of revised recommendations to those contained in the report and after discussion where officers outlined the reasons for the recommendations in the report it was

RESOLVED that

(a) The findings of the Culm Valley Swimming Pool Feasibility Study (2004) be **NOTED** but not endorsed.

(b) A valuation of the land shown on the plan attached to the feasibility study as suitable for residential development be obtained immediately;

(c) The provision of a swimming pool in Cullompton and investigation of the possibility of partnerships with others as referred to in the feasibility study including both revenue and capital implications be pursued.

(d) The Council enter into discussion with Cullompton Town Council, other Parish Councils in the Culm Valley catchment area, Cullompton Community Association, Cullompton United Charities and others to ascertain by 31 March 2005 what, if any, financial contribution they were prepared to make towards the provision of a swimming pool in Cullompton; and

(e) The desire for a swimming pool be reflected within the Council's medium term financial plan.

(Proposed by the Chairman)

- Notes: (i) * Report previously circulated; copy attached to the signed Minutes.
_____ (ii) Cllrs C P Francis, Mrs L J Holloway, D J Nation and T W Snow all spoke.

CULM VALLEY SWIMMING POOL CAMPAIGN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

30TH SEPTEMBER 2004 19.30

There were approximately 40 members of the public present.
Sarah Gibson chaired the meeting with Sarah Dienes taking the minutes.

Chair's Introduction: This is not an annual general meeting that was held last March with a very poor turn out. At that meeting the officers were elected. The chair now feels a need to resign due to the increased pressures caused by a change in her job. The other officers are willing to remain in their posts but do not wish to be chair.

The organisation became the Culm Valley Swimming Pool **Campaign** in 2002 following the dissolution of the Cullompton Swimming Club.

The constitution states that the aims of the campaign are to raise funds and support it has not been about politics or organising grants.

Whilst there has been a general willingness to put money in a tin and sign a declaration of support there has been an unwillingness to attend events.

It was agreed at the AGM that we would undertake no fundraising whilst awaiting the feasibility study. This was so that there was not a growing pot of money if the whole thing was vetoed.

Mid Devon District Council is investigating the next phase with a decision due in March 2005.

ELECTION OF NEW CHAIR no volunteers forthcoming

Linda Holloway (MDDC and supporter of the campaign) explained that part of the ongoing process was getting a valuation of the land that will not be required.

Jane Campbell (MDDC and campaign supporter) continued that she was having the final meeting with Paul Cluett who wrote the feasibility study within the next 3 weeks. She iterated that the feasibility study had not questioned the desire for a pool in Cullompton; the question is will the people of the Valley be willing to pay for it? The study investigated the catchment area against the swimming provision already in place and this was deemed financially too small.

MDDC wish to attach the pool to the existing sports centre so that the fitness side will support the loss making pool and also there would only be one reception area.

Cullompton Pool should be going on the new rolling budget but that does not promise a time scale.

There is a possibility it may effect the local council tax but there is resistance to this on the grounds that we are already supporting the Crediton and Tiverton pools.

Phil Cuttell and Roger Morris then put themselves forward for the position of chair.

Roger Morris is a chartered surveyor who moved into Cullompton this year and who would like to be able to swim in the town.

Phil Cuttell has been a resident of Plymtree for the last 3 years. He is a business advisor with a long sporting history both playing and promoting.

Mr G Barden proposed that Mr Morris be elected chair with Mr Cuttell as vice chair. This was seconded by Tracey Frankpitt and carried by the meeting.

Ashley Hellier confirmed himself as a committee member having set up the web site this year and Allan Woodcock and Patricia Cornell also joined the committee.

Graham Barden proposed a vote of thanks to Sarah Gibson and included the rest of the committee for their hard work for the previous 2 years.

A question from the floor raised the whereabouts of a steering group and was reassured that one would be convened when it became needed.

Eileen Andrews mayor of the Town Council reaffirmed their support.

Representatives of CADI (the Cullompton Area Development Initiative) were asked to say what they are doing to support the swimming pool by Clive Francis. Gerard Edwards responded that they had set up a development trust, which could help with the financial side in the future. Tracy Frankpitt the chair of the trust pledged their support

was agreed that the new committee would discuss this at their first meeting.

A question was raised about disabled features of the proposed pool. Jane Campbell responded that it was envisaged that it would include a thermal pool, hoists, ramps and so on. The local doctors have said they would like to add this to their health scripts, which are already funded by MDDC. The primary health care trust is unwilling to put any money forward.

Phillip Herring offered to assist with paper collecting as a fund raiser. The committee will discuss this.

MEETING CLOSED AT 2015