

Committee: Individual Cabinet Member Decision Making

Date of meeting: 6 June 2017

Subject:	Sports Hub - Additional club relocation costs
Lead Officer:	Head of Leisure and Cultural Services, Head of Asset Management and Property Services
Portfolio Holder:	Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture, Portfolio Holder for Resources
Link to Council Priorities:	LC100, LC200
Exempt information:	None
Delegated status:	For resolution
Key decision:	N/A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Following the Council's decision to build the Elmbridge Xcel Sports Hub and commence the development; Walton Casuals were displaced from their ground and pavilion. This report outlines the financial compensation on loss of income that is required from the club to enable them to be financially secure going into the new Elmbridge Xcel Sports Hub

RECOMMENDATION: THAT MEMBERS AGREE TO THE FINAL SUM OF £30,000 TO BE PAID TO WALTON CASUALS FC. BY WAY OF LOST INCOME FOR THE 2016/17 SEASON.

REPORT:

1. Construction began on site for the new Xcel Sports Hub on 21 March 2016 with construction on target for a 1 September 2017 completion at which point the site will become operational.
2. As part of the construction programme, Walton Casuals surrendered their lease to vacate Waterside Drive. Officers have been supporting the club and arranged for ground share agreements to be put in place to allow the club to fulfil its league commitments for the 2015/16 season (Merstham FC) and 2016/17 season (Whyteleaf FC). These amounts (£20,400 and £19,550 respectively) were paid for by Elmbridge as continued protection of our longstanding tenant.
3. As part of the ground share agreements, the host club in both cases (following Football Association guidance) retained all bar and catering revenues with Walton Casuals FC retaining all gate receipts.
4. Given the geographic distances between Walton on Thames and both Merstham and Whyteleaf, the gate income along with programme sales for the club has reduced significantly from an average £10,000pa to £2,400pa.
5. In addition to the loss in gate income the club have also suffered 2 year losses in clubhouse hire (£17k), bar income (£18k) and social fundraising (£1k) linked to the clubhouse.

6. Conversely the club have also saved money by not having to maintain their ground i.e. premises\ pitch maintenance, utility bills rates, cesspool.

7. Walton casuals FC Financial Summary:

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
	£	£	£
Inc	78,555	32,541	28,201
Exp	82,665	64,366	63,165
+/-	-4,110	-31,825	-34,964
EBC Support		30,000	tbc

8. An interim payment was made to the club of £30,000 in 2016 in respect of loss of income for the 2015/16. Officers have reviewed the clubs accounts for the 2016/17 and the club have submitted a request for a further £30,000 in lost income for the 2016/17 season.

9. Walton Casuals will move in to the Sports Hub on 4 September 2017 and will play their 2017\18 Ryman league south matches at the Sports Hub. Arrangements have already been put in place for the early season matches in August to be played at Cobham FC. This will be met from existing budgets and will be secured through a temporary ground share agreement.

Financial implications:

Funding up to a maximum of £30,000 in 2016/17 can be met from the New Homes Bonus.

Environmental/Sustainability Implications:

None

Legal implications:

As contained within the report

Equality Implications:

As contained within the report

Risk Implications:

As contained within the report

Community Safety Implications:

None

Principal Consultees:

Council Management Board
Head of Finance
Head of Leisure and Cultural Services
Head of Asset Management and Legal Services
Head of Legal Services

Background papers:

None

Enclosures/Appendices:

None

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