

**WORKING ARRANGEMENTS GROUP  
10 MARCH 2009**

Present: Councillors Daniel (in the Chair), Fawthrop (as the duly appointed substitute for Councillor Finch), Lock, Roberts, Silverson, Stevens and Wilson

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Finch.

**9. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following councillors and officers declared an interest in the minutes as follows:

<u>Councillor/Officer</u>	<u>Minute</u>	<u>Interest</u>
Lock	11	Personal – Member of the William Parker Community Athletics Arena Management Committee
Stevens	11	Personal – Member of the William Parker Community Athletics Arena Management Committee

**10. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 29 January 2009 be approved as a true record.**

**11. OUTSIDE BODIES – REPORT BACK ON CONSULTATION**

Jayne Butters, Borough Solicitor, presented a report to the Group, advising them of the outcome of the consultation with outside organisations regarding the proposal to cease to nominate members to sit on those bodies. The report noted that the consultation response indicated that overall organisations value the contribution from elected members, and felt that this contribution outweighs the disadvantage of lack of representation at Council.

The report also noted that the response from William Parker Community Athletics Arena Management Committee confirms previous discussions in

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WAG that this Committee should be treated as a Cabinet appointment. The Group agreed that as the Councillor's role is representative it should be a Cabinet appointment for the new municipal year.

The Group discussed the response to the consultation, noting that councillors involvement with outside bodies is valued, and feeling that maintaining links with the community continues to be important.

Councillor Stevens proposed that the current system of nominating members to sit on an outside body be maintained, rather than implementing a system whereby those bodies request a member. Members felt that a pro-active approach should be taken to involvement in outside bodies, noting that implementing a system whereby members only involve themselves at the request of these bodies could weaken links. The Group considered issues that could arise relating to potential conflicts of interest in both scenarios.

**RESOLVED (unanimously) that the William Parker Community Athletics Arena Management Committee be appointed to by Cabinet in the new municipal year.**

**RESOLVED (by 4 votes to 3) that the Group recommend to Council that the Council Appointments Committee continue to nominate to outside bodies, and that further advice be provided to members on declarations of interest.**

**8. FUTURE AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION**

Jayne Butters, Borough Solicitor presented a verbal report to the Group outlining some of the items that may be discussed at future meetings of the Group. These included the procedure for electing a committee Chair when the Chair and Vice-Chair of that committee are unable to fulfil the role; amendments to motions; and issues surrounding the Museums Committee.

Members discussed the procedure for bringing items up for discussion at meetings of the Group. They also requested additional items to be added to the agenda, including issues involving the presentation of petitions; and procedure for councillors declaring an interest at committee meetings.

**RESOLVED that the report be noted.**

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at 5.22pm)