

## SPORTS GROUND ADVISORY WORKING GROUP

ABERDEEN, 22 September, 2011. - Minute of Meeting of the SPORTS GROUND ADVISORY WORKING GROUP. Present:- Eric Anderson and Jacqui Wallace (Licensing), Mike Mitchell, Bruce Milne (GFRS), John McCullough (Scottish Ambulance Service), David McIntosh (Emergency Planning), Ivor Churcher, Alex Venters (Environmental Health), Adrian Watson, Salter Watson (Grampian Police), Grant Tierney, Kenny Simpson (Building Standards), John Morgan, Gordon Ritchie and David Johnston (AFC). Also Attending:- Bill Fraser (Barr Limited, Stadia Director) and Gareth Yule (The Millar Partnership).

### INTRODUCTION

1. This extra meeting had been requested by Aberdeen Football Club so that the Group could meet representatives of the main contractors for the new stadium who would provide details of the building project. David Johnston, AFC, introduced Gareth Yule and Bill Fraser to the Group. They represent the companies tasked with designing and building the new stadium.

### ARENA PROPOSAL

2. With the aid of site plan drawings, Gareth Yule gave a presentation on how the proposed stadium would look. The stadium will be all seated and will have a capacity of between 20,000 and 21,000, with the principal access being from Wellington Road. Car parking spaces will be restricted by planning legislation to 1,400. The South stand will be the main stand and will include, amongst other things, corporate hospitality, the players area, corporate boxes, the club shop and offices. The Match control room will also be in the main stand. The number and location of wheelchair spaces will be based on the Green Guide and the Accessible Stadia Guide. Toilet facilities will be on an 80:20 split, male to female; however, in the main stand it will be an 80:50 split to take account of events being held on non-match days.

### DESIGN PRINCIPLES

3. Gareth Yule circulated a schedule of design proposals, which highlighted the areas which deviate from the Green Guide. Mike Mitchell, GFRS, stated that the Fire Authority has its own guidelines, against which the proposal would have to be assessed. Bruce Milne, GFRS, raised the issue of traffic management and asked for clarification of access proposals to the ground for emergency services. Gareth Yule explained that supporters would be encouraged to use public transport. Transport modelling exercises had been performed with Council officials and planning restrictions meant that no evening game would be allowed to start before 7.45pm, thus avoiding peak traffic times. David McIntosh, Emergency Planning, stated that a steering committee had been set up and will take forward traffic management issues.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

**4.** It was suggested that if there are to be more meetings than those already scheduled it may be advisable to form a sub-group. However, it was agreed that during the early stages at least, Building Standards and GFRS were most likely to be involved in the discussions and that therefore these services would liaise with each other and meet as and when required. If at a later date it was considered appropriate for other members of the group to be involved the working group could meet to ascertain the frequency of those extra meetings.