

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE: **Education, Culture and Sport**

DATE: **20 September 2012**

ACTING DIRECTOR: **Charlie Penman**

TITLE OF REPORT **Renaming of Aulton Football Pavilion**

REPORT NUMBER: **ECS/12/040**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report presents for Elected Members for consideration a request from the Aberdeen and District Juvenile Football Association to rename the Aulton Pavilion and details the consultation undertaken on this request.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that Committee agree the change of name of the Aulton Pavilion, School Road, Aberdeen to "The Raymond Kelly Pavilion".

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications arising directly from this report are related to the installation of new signage at the facility. The cost of this is approximately £160 and will be met from existing budgets.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no additional legal, resource, personnel, property, equipment, environmental or health and safety implications arising from this report at this time.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

- 5.1 Aberdeen City Council successfully obtained £450,000 from **sportscotland** towards the cost of rebuilding the pavilion at Aulton to provide an energy-efficient building with much improved facilities. Opening in July 2007, it also houses a combined heat and power plant which provides energy not only to the pavilion, but also to a number of council-owned flats in the Seaton area and the Beach Leisure Complex. In July 2010 the facility at Aulton was transferred under license to be operated by Sport Aberdeen, a company limited by guarantee.

- 5.2 In June 2012, the Education, Culture and Sport Service received a letter from the Aberdeen and District Juvenile Football Association requesting that the sports pavilion at Aulton be renamed “the Raymond Kelly Pavilion”. Raymond Kelly was a much respected youth football ambassador who worked tirelessly to encourage the facilities at Aulton to be upgraded.
- 5.3 Raymond Kelly sadly passed away in March 2012 following a battle with cancer. This was Raymond’s twenty-sixth year in charge of the Aberdeen and District Juveniles Football Association. During his time involved he assisted in the amalgamation of two leagues in which he was secretary for both. This, in turn, resulted in an increase in the number of young people participating in the game and the number of teams rose from 153 to over 250. With the formation of the Scottish Youth Football Association in 1999, Raymond became an influential member on the executive committee, taking on the role of Vice President and more latterly President. During his time on this committee Raymond was the driving force of the launch of a joint initiative with the Scottish Football Association to set out a Player Pathway for all the young footballers in Scotland where the size of teams would be determined on an age appropriate basis. The youngest players would start at four a side and then move to seven a side, before eventually moving at age thirteen to the full sized adult version of eleven a side. The need for this approach had been identified for a number of years, but had never been implemented
- 5.4 Raymond was also an executive member and treasurer of the Aberdeen Sports Council. He was a recipient of the SALSC Award for Services to local sport. He was on the Scottish Football Association North Regional Youth Committee and a Scottish Football Association Council Member. Only last year he was also presented with the Scottish Football Association Sunday Mail Grassroots Volunteer of the Year Award for his services to youth football. He had recently taken up the post of Director with Sport Aberdeen
- 5.5 On receipt of the request, officers contacted the Lord Provost, Ward members and the Convener and Vice Convener of Education, Culture & Sport for their views on the naming proposal, as well as the Scottish Football Association, Scottish Youth Football Association, Sport Aberdeen, **sportscotland** and pavilion users.
- 5.6 At the time this report was submitted, responses to the renaming proposal have been received from two ward members, the Scottish Football Association; The North Region, Soccer 7’s Primary School League and the Scottish Youth Football Association. All responses were in favour of the proposal to rename Aulton Pavilion as “The Raymond Kelly Pavilion”.

6. IMPACT

This report relates to ‘Aberdeen – the Smarter City’:

- We will promote and improve opportunities for physical activity and sport to enable Aberdeen’s citizens to lead more active, healthier lives.

The report relates to the Arts, Heritage and Sport strand of the Community Plan, specifically in relation to the Sports, Leisure and Recreation vision of developing Aberdeen as an “Active City”.

The report relates closely to the objectives of “Fit for the Future, the sport and physical activity strategy for Aberdeen City (2009-2015)”. These objectives are:

- Promote and increase opportunities for participation in sport and physical activity for everyone in Aberdeen.
- Provide a comprehensive and high quality range of sports facilities in Aberdeen.
- Maximise social, educational, health and economic benefits of sport and physical activity in Aberdeen.
- Develop and sustain pathways which nurture local, regional and national sporting people to reach their potential.
- Raise the profile of sport in Aberdeen.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None pertaining to this report.

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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