

3 May 2023, 11:44

to Jack, Wadiah, siraj.slamang, Cllr, Abubakr.Momath, pinelandstrust, Dean, Marc, Moir, moir.scholtz, Paul, pgrist1960, coll\_owen, David, Angus, Mike, Mike, twahle, Carol, Ju-Anita, Primary, me, Graedon, chairman, treasurer, Kaare, chris, steve, secretary

**TO ALL ATTENDEES INVITED TO THE MEETING SCHEDULED FOR 3 MAY 2023**

Please receive the response from the Pinelands Athletic Club:

- 1 We affirm the Pinelands Athletic Club (PAC) Committee's initial decision that we cannot endorse the current plan as it stands but we support the concept of Pinelands Community Sports Club and are committed to negotiation towards a mutually acceptable alternative
- 2 We acknowledge the work Mr Thonissen has put into investigating alternatives and recognize the passion he has for promoting hockey in Pinelands and surrounding areas.
- 3 However, we wish to place the following on record:
  - 3.1 Minutes of the PAC Committee meeting of 6 June 2016 reflects that informal discussions on a possible Pinelands Community Sports Club were held with Kaare James and Damian Will
  - 3.2 At no time in the intervening 6 years to December 2022 was any further approach made to PAC to discern the needs of the Athletics community or share any potential ways in which the present facilities could be utilized optimally by the various sporting codes
  - 3.3 Nevertheless, PHC entered into ongoing discussions with Cannons Creek School over a number of years and then engaged with CoCT – without ever consulting with PAC
  - 3.4 PAC has responded to the original proposal but none of these concerns have been deliberated or resolved
- 3.5 The above leaves PAC with the impression that our needs and wishes are irrelevant to the process, and does not inspire confidence going forward that the Athletics community will be taken seriously. The statements in the PHC proposal that the PAC clubhouse is used only once a week and that PAC does not use the lower Oval Field are both false: while we do not make use of the entire field we do use at least part of it for coaching on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings and as part of our Time Trial every Thursday. In addition 12-week "Couch to 10km" programmes offered to residents of Pinelands and neighbouring suburbs (involving between 50 and 120 people) also make use of the field on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. The clubhouse is then available to all who participate in these activities. The PAC clubhouse is also used on occasion for other

training purposes eg by Frontline Emergency Care for First Aid training (generally over 2 or 3 consecutive days from 08:00-16:00) while other athletic clubs who do not have their own clubhouse facilities occasionally make use of the PAC clubhouse for either evening or day time meetings

- 4 A project of this magnitude with such far reaching implications for PAC cannot be forced through with such haste. At present the only clubs to really benefit from the proposals are PHC and CUF, both of whom will not be required to give up anything of their own history and culture and do not have a particularly large constituency to consult before committing to this project.

The PAC Committee is not mandated to sign the resolutions listed in Addendum D without first calling a Special General Meeting (which requires a minimum of 21 days notice prior to the meeting.) A final decision can therefore only be taken, and Addendum D completed once a Special General Meeting has been held

- 5 At the meeting of 27 February 2023, PHC was instructed to present an amended proposal and the date 12 April was set for a follow up meeting. No further mention on this meeting was made until an enquiry was received from one of the attendees and the meeting was called off on 11 April. The new date 3 May was suggested by the attendee in question, but not confirmed at that point. [L] [SEP] We note that the stated completion date of the revised Proposal was 5 April 2023, but it was only emailed out on 24 April with the date for the upcoming meeting scheduled for 3 May. Given the Public Holidays between 24 April and 3 May, this effectively allowed Committees just 4 working days to consider the proposal (in fact really only 3 days as many members had already made arrangements to take advantage of the additional school holiday and long weekend.)

We therefore wish to lodge a formal objection to this meeting and urge all parties invited NOT to attend as there has been insufficient time to prepare an informed response to the draft proposal. Should this request not be agreed to, PAC reserves the right to seek appropriate remedies within the law and city legislative policies and by-laws.

We respectfully request that this meeting be postponed to 31 May 2023

Kind regards

Ruth Leverton [L] [SEP] Secretary: Pinelands Athletic Club