

## **Culture Committee CC 17-02 p1a**

**Date:** 6 November 2002

**Time:** 9.00 - 12.30 pm

**Venue:** Committee Room 1, National Assembly for Wales

### **Llandarcy Park Ltd - A proposal for a new indoor sports facility**

Llandarcy has had a long association with sporting activity based on the sporting facilities provided by BP at its former refinery site. As well as being home to local teams involved in a wide variety of sports, the BP Club has provided facilities for many visiting rugby and soccer teams, including national sides.

The closure of the refinery in 1998 saw a decline in the use of the BP Sports Club and the old indoor facilities have now been replaced by a range of new, high quality facilities at the Glamorgan Health and Raquets Club owned and operated by Invicta Leisure Ltd. The site of the former Club is now being redeveloped by Six Continents Plc. (formerly Bass) for a hotel, comprising 75 twin bedded rooms and a Harvester restaurant, completed by October 2002 and following staff training will formally open 1<sup>st</sup> January 2003. The former BP playing fields were acquired by Llandarcy Park Ltd. and following an investment of circa £750k, a new pavilion has been opened providing a small bar/restaurant, conference room and 8 changing rooms. In addition, match floodlights, an all weather training surface, a 250 seater stand and peripheral fencing have also been installed.

The proposal put forward in this document seeks to build on the existing sports facilities to provide an indoor training facility situated alongside a major regional development that can meet both local and regional sporting needs. The development can be viewed as the creation of a Sports Village concept to mirror the Urban Village concept currently being proposed for the site of the former BP Llandarcy refinery. In addition to the benefits associated with developing at a location that already has high quality sports facilities, the site has a number of significant locational and other advantages:

- excellent accessibility within the South Wales region and from the Midlands;
- the availability of land;
- a range of potential partners from the fields of sport, education and training
- the desire of the proposers to establish and run the facility;
- full support of the County Borough Council.

Terry Harvey

Manager Llandarcy Park Ltd.