

1. Extract from the report to the Finance and Property Advisory Board of 21 May 2008

“Rochester Indoor Skatepark Club, Unit 1B, 1 Laker Road, Rochester Airport Industrial Estate, Rochester ME1 3QX. Rateable Value £33,000.

The applicant is a registered charity and the Director of Finance has therefore granted 80% mandatory rate relief. It is for Members to decide whether discretionary relief should be granted.

The club's objects are to advance in life and help young people in Rochester and the surrounding district through:

- the provision of educational, recreational and leisure time activities provided in the interests of social welfare, designed to improve their conditions of life; and
- providing support and activities which develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society, as mature and responsible individuals.

The property is used mainly for skateboarding, although some sessions are allocated to 'BMX' and 'Inline'. There is also a youth club which is mainly used on Friday nights.

Opening times of the park are as follows:

Monday	- 6pm - 8pm (for lessons)
Tuesday	- 5pm to 9pm
Wednesday	- 5pm to 9pm
Thursday	- 5pm to 9pm
Friday	- 5pm to 10pm.
Saturday	- 10am to 8pm
Sunday	- 1pm to 9pm.

During school holidays, the park is open from 10am each day (except on Sunday).

On average, approximately 45 young people attend the park during the week, and 70 on the weekend. Friday night is the busiest night of the week. A two hour session costs £3.50, and this is used to cover the rent payable on the property (£40,000 this year, rising to £43,000 in subsequent years).

As the property is situated on the boundary with Medway, the applicant has been liaising with Kent Youth to encourage the youth of Tonbridge & Malling to attend. Adverts have been distributed in the Chatham &

Aylesford constituency, and £4,000 funding has been obtained to help transport young people to the park. The Director of Finance has been advised that Burham youth club will be utilising some of this money so that children from the club can attend on a regular basis.

Were Members minded to grant discretionary relief, the cost in a full year for each 5% awarded would be £571.72.

Members are **REQUESTED** to **RECOMMEND** an appropriate level of relief to Cabinet, time-limited to 31 March 2011.”

2. Extract from the report to the Finance and Property Advisory Board of 9 July 2008

“Rochester Indoor Skatepark Club, Unit 1B, 1 Laker Road, Rochester Airport Industrial Estate, Rochester ME1 3QX. Rateable Value £33,000.

Members will recall that this application was postponed at the last meeting of the Board on 21 May 2008 to allow the Director of Finance to ask Medway Council and Kent County Council if they were prepared to assist the Council in funding the cost of any relief that may be awarded. In the case of Medway Council, a verbal indication of a potential contribution to costs had previously been received.

As no reply has been received from either authority at the time of writing this report, we are not bringing this application back to your Board today.”