

Extract from Meeting of Council 19 July 2012

NOTICE OF MOTION

CONSERVATIVE GROUP

SUPPORTING BRIGHTON & HOVE'S BOWLS CLUBS

“This Council recognises that the sport of bowls is enjoyed by many residents of Brighton & Hove, particularly older residents for whom it is an important way of keeping physically and mentally fit and of maintaining social interaction in later life.

Therefore, this Council notes with concern proposals by the Administration to reduce the budget for the maintenance of bowling greens and other costs associated with running the city's 14 bowls clubs by 60%, or £94,000, in 2013/14. A reduction in funding on this scale will make it virtually impossible for many clubs to survive. Furthermore, putting up membership fees to cover the increased costs would simply make bowls unaffordable for many older residents who are already struggling financially due to, amongst other things, the prolonged low interest rates on savings.

Therefore, this Council urges the appropriate Committee to:

- (i) Withdraw its proposals for drastic across the board cuts in support for the city's bowling clubs;
- (ii) Seek a compromise solution that enables all clubs that wish to do so to continue operating, whilst exploring ways in which they can become more autonomous and less reliant on Council funding in the future;

And

- (iii) Requests officers to bring forward a report to the Economic Development & Culture / Policy & Resources Committee(s) later in the year with concrete proposals about how this can be achieved.”

Proposed by: Cllr Vanessa Brown

Seconded by: Cllr Mary Mears

Supported by: Cllrs G. Theobald, Peltzer Dunn, Cobb, C. Theobald, Cox, A. Norman, K. Norman, Wealls, Janio, Barnett, Simson, Wells, Hyde, Smith, and Pidgeon.

