

# Report

Report to:	<b>Community and Enterprises Resource Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>21 August 2018</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>Proposed Renaming of Forth Sports and Community Centre and Erection of Willie Waddell Memorial Plinth</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ seek approval to rename Forth Sports and Community Centre and for the erection of a commemorative plinth within its grounds.

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that Forth Sports and Community Centre be renamed 'The Willie Waddell Sports and Community Centre'; and
- (2) that a commemorative plinth to Willie Waddell be erected and placed in the grounds of the Centre.

## 3. Background

- 3.1. In September 2017, the Willie Waddell Memorial Committee contacted the Council to request permission to change the name of the Forth Sports and Community Centre to the "Willie Waddell Sports and Community Centre" and to have a memorial erected within the Centre's grounds in recognition of his football achievements.
- 3.2. Willie Waddell was born in Forth in 1921 and began his football career by playing with Forth Wanderers. He went on to have a long and successful career playing for Glasgow Rangers and Scotland before becoming the manager of Kilmarnock, then Rangers with whom he won the European Cup Winners Cup in 1972. Thereafter, he became General Manager and a Director of Rangers.
- 3.3. He died in 1992 and the Willie Waddell Memorial Committee was formed on the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death with the purpose of erecting a fitting tribute to his achievements.
- 3.4. The Council advised the Willie Waddell Memorial Committee that it would consider renaming the Sports Centre provided it could be assured that what was being proposed had the broad agreement of the residents of Forth and its surrounding area.

- 3.5. The proposals will be in line with existing naming conventions for sports centres as South Lanarkshire has already recognised the achievements of locally born footballers through the Alistair McCoist Sports Centre in East Kilbride, the John Cummings Stadium in Carluke and the Jock Stein Centre in Hamilton.

#### **4. Proposal**

- 4.1. The Willie Waddell Memorial Committee has now conducted this wider consultation and is able to demonstrate broad local support for their proposals including from Willie Waddell's surviving family, namely his daughter and two sons, and the three elected members of Ward 2 (Clydesdale North). South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Ltd (SLLC) are also aware of the proposals and have advised that they have no objections.
- 4.2. The Willie Waddell Memorial Committee has committed to fully funding all works required to rename the sports centre and erect the memorial plinth. The associated costs have yet to be fully determined, however, costs of between £4,000 to £8,000 are considered a reasonable estimate at this stage, depending on design.

#### **5. Employee Implications**

- 5.1. There are no employee implications associated with this proposal.

#### **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1. There are no financial implications for the Council as the Memorial Committee has committed to fully fund the initiative.

#### **7. Other Implications**

- 7.1. There are no risk or sustainability implications associated with this proposal.

#### **8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

- 8.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.
- 8.2. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken.

**Michael McGlynn**

**Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

10 July 2018

#### **Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives**

- ◆ Fair, Open and Sustainable

#### **Previous References**

- ◆ None

#### **List of Background Papers**

- ◆ None

**Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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