

REPORT

To: GENERAL PURPOSES (LICENSING) SUB-COMMITTEE	Subject: THE SAFETY OF SPORTS GROUNDS - CERTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS, FIRPARK, MOTHERWELL	
From: DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION		
Date: 22 June 1998	Ref: TG/CW	

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Council has, at a series of earlier meetings, adopted practices in relation to its responsibilities for the certification of "designated grounds" in North Lanarkshire and agreed to the establishment of a Safety of Sports Grounds Officers' Working Group representing a variety of disciplines which assist the process of certification.
- 1.2. The Council also agreed that a programme of annual inspections be established and, over the past few months, Officers of the Working Group have carried out a series of inspections at Firpark and have met with the representatives of the Club to discuss a number of issues relating to the General Safety Certificate for the stadium.

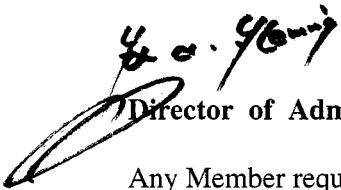
2. Current Position

- 2.1. As a result of these inspections the undernoted issues have been identified which require attention. Details of these have been passed to the General Manager of the club for his attention and a copy of his reply dated 30 April 1998 is attached to the rear of the report which addresses a number of these issues:-
 - 2.1.1. There is a requirement that ambulance cover should be provided at matches where it is anticipated that the estimated attendance will be in excess of 5,000.
 - 2.1.2. A direct telephone line is required to be installed in the first aid room allowing the Ambulance Service internal and external communication in the event of an incident/accident.
 - 2.1.3. The brick boundary wall at the south entrance/exit of the East Stand is showing signs of movement and requires attention.
 - 2.1.4. The fire protection to the structural steelwork in the South Stand is showing further signs of deterioration and additional repairs are required.
 - 2.1.5. A Building Warrant is required for the store in the gymnasium.
 - 2.1.6. The bases of the columns of each end of the Main Stand are showing signs of corrosion and should be treated.
 - 2.1.7. The space frame roof in the Davie Cooper stand is showing signs of corrosion and should be treated.
 - 2.1.8. The space frame roof in the Motorola stand is showing signs of corrosion and requires to be treated.

- 2.1.9. The brick boundary wall behind the Motorola stand is out of plumb and requires attention.
- 2.1.10. Deterioration in the concrete lintel above the entrance at the Main Stand has occurred and requires attention.
- 2.1.11. In compliance with the Green Guide a video “crammer” is required to supplement the existing CCTV system in order that all CCTV images can be recorded.
- 2.1.12. An annual risk assessment of barriers, handrails and boundary walls is outstanding and should be carried out by a competent person and submitted to the Certifying Authority.
- 2.1.13. An annual risk assessment of fire safety is outstanding and should be carried out by a competent person and submitted to the Certifying Authority.
- 2.1.14. The Annual Certificate of Structural Adequacy is outstanding and should be submitted to the Certifying Authority.

3. **Recommendation**

- 3.1. That the Sub-Committee hear verbal updates on these outstanding issues by the appropriate officers and representations from the General Manager of Motherwell Football Club and consider the renewal of the General Safety Certificate.



Handwritten signature of T. Gaffney in black ink, appearing as 'T. Gaffney' with a large flourish underneath.

Director of Administration

Any Member requiring further information should contact Mr. T. Gaffney on extension 2342.

The Motherwell Football & Athletic Club Ltd.

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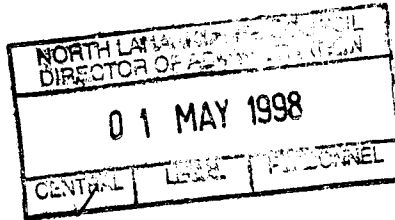
Directors:
William H. Dickie, R.I.B.A., A.R.I.A.S. (Chairman)
James H. Chapman, Alan C. Dick,
Matthew H. Thomson, M.B.E.
Manager: Alexander McLeish
General Manager/Secretary: Alan C. Dick

Company Registration No. 5702 Scotland
VAT Registration No. 260 5344 79

Your Ref: CA/GP/15/2 CON/EH

Our Ref: ACD/MM

30th April, 1998



Department of Administration
North Lanarkshire Council
PO Box 14
Civic Centre
MOTHERWELL
ML1 1TW

Dear Sir,

Annual Inspection Report, 1998

I refer to your letter dated 28th April, 1998 in connection with the above and note everything that you write.

The findings of the Working Group will be duly considered by the Board of Directors and I can confirm that, where necessary, remedial works will be carried out at the conclusion of the current season in approximately two weeks' time. Any missing records, certificates etc. will be available for scrutiny at your Annual Inspection visit of Fir Park on a date yet to be agreed. In addition, there may be one or two points on your list which require clarification prior to work being carried out. Again, discussion can take place during the Inspection visit.

Yours faithfully,

ALAN C DICK
Director/General Manager.