

To: GENERAL PURPOSES (LICENSING) SUB-COMMITTEE		Subject: SAFETY OF SPORTS GROUNDS: CERTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS – CLIFTONHILL STADIUM, COATBRIDGE
From: DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION		
Date: 17 June 2003	Ref: CA/GP/16 JM	

**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 Officer Working Group representing a variety of disciplines which assists the process of certification.
- 1.2 The Council has 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 Cliftonhill Stadium and have met with representatives from stadium management 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 matters have been identified as requiring attention, details of which have been passed to the General Manager:-
  - 2.1.1 a Periodic Electrical Installations Certificate to be submitted;
  - 2.1.2 Fire Door Keep Shut notices are missing from the Kitchen Door, Tea-Room Door and Door from main stair at Managers Office, and
  - 2.1.3 all emergency lights around the Main Stand and seating area failed to operate when tested.
- 2.2 In addition to the foregoing, the General Manager has submitted a Certificate of Structural Integrity, Risk Assessment and Fire Risk Assessment. Copies of these documents will be circulated to relevant members of the Safety of Sports Grounds Officer Working Group for consideration.
- 2.3 In relation to the Annual Certificate of Structural Integrity, a number of recommendations from the Certificate submitted during the 2002 Inspection process have yet to be carried out, these works primarily involve removal of loose and foreign matter from steel surfaces and the application of a protective treatment, to curtail further deterioration of the steelwork. The General Manager has advised the Council that although this remedial action has not been undertaken, the current Certificate indicates that "no noticeable further deterioration" has occurred. The General Manager has also indicated that as the Club are currently attempting to move to a new facility, the economic costs of painting the steelwork cannot be met from their current budget and would not prove cost effective at this time.

**3 Recommendation**

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Sub-Committee hear verbal updates on these outstanding issues by the appropriate officers and representations from Albion Rovers Football Club's General Manager and consider the renewal of the General Safety Certificate.

*J. Murray*

**Director of Administration**

Should any Member require further information please contact John Murray of the Department of Administration at extension 2259.