

CULTURE, LEISURE & TOURISM PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD

19 October 2010

The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor Hilary Thompson (Culture, Leisure & Tourism Portfolio Holder)

Officers: John Mennear, Assistant Director – Community Services
Graham Jarritt, Library & Community Manager
Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

9. Tees Valley Sport – Launch of ‘Future Champions’ Programme – Assistant Director – Community Services

Type of Decision

Non key.

Purpose of Report

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the launch of ‘Future Champions’ by Tees Valley Sport, the sub-regional County Sports Partnership, as part of their London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics Legacy Action Plan.

Issues for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games provides an opportunity to inspire participation in sport, physical and cultural activities. Tees Valley Sport partners (Tees Valley Local Authorities and Teesside University) have worked together to develop an action plan ‘The Lasting Legacy’ to deliver a series of joint initiatives in the Tees Valley around the themes of participation, performance sport and leadership, coaching and volunteering. This had been launched at the end of August 2010.

A ‘Future Champions’ programme is to be launched by all partners designed specifically to support Tees Valley’s talented athletes and players aged 12 – 18 years who are participating in regional and national squads, but are not currently being offered support from other programmes. Teesside University’s high performance

programme would offer up to 80 young people and their coaches, bespoke physiological testing, strength and conditioning advice and training programmes and support. Tees Valley Sport local authority partners have been asked to provide specific support by offering free or subsidised access to local sports facilities. It was proposed that Hartlepool offer free casual use of the pool facilities at Mill House Leisure Centre and the Fitness Rooms at Mill House and the Headland Sports Hall. Other facilities and activities would be made available at the concessionary charge rates. There would be no cost implications to the Authority above the £11,412 per year which the Authority already contributes towards the Tees Valley Sports Partnership.

The Portfolio Holder commented that this brought Hartlepool in line with other Tees Valley Authorities and removed cost and access barriers to young sports persons in the area. She also noted Teesside University's contribution in providing advice, coaching and training at no cost.

Decision

The Portfolio Holder approved:-

- Free casual swimming and fitness room use to those young people selected as part of the Future Champions Programme
- To also offer the use of other facilities and activities managed by the Sport and Recreation service at the concessionary rate of charge applicable.

10. Wellbeing and Preservation of the 15th Century Italian Antiphoner held by Hartlepool Libraries – *Assistant Director – Community Services*

Type of Decision

Non key.

Purpose of Report

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the history and current position regarding the 15th Century Italian book of religious music (antiphoner) held by Hartlepool Libraries to enable an informed local decision as to the future holding and storage of the document to be made.

Issues for Consideration by the Portfolio Holder

The antiphoner originates from Italy and is a 15th Century manuscript

volume of religious text and music. It was donated to the Museum and Library Service in 1920 and has remained in the Library collection since that time. Whilst the Authority recognises the significance of the document, it has no cultural or historic links to the town or region and does not fall under the remit of the Teesside Archives collection. With current resources, neither the library nor the museum has the facilities to display the document to the public in a suitably protected environment.

Enquiries had been made with Durham Cathedral Library which already has a collection of mediaeval religious manuscripts, to elicit whether they would be willing to have the antiphoner deposited with them, thereby enabling scholars and interested parties to access the document which would be stored under approved conditions.

The Portfolio Holder commented that this was a beautiful manuscript which had been kept in good condition by the Museums and Library Service. She appreciated the lack of facilities for public viewing whilst with Hartlepool Borough Council and considered the Cathedral Library an appropriate home for the antiphoner where it would be more accessible to scholars and researchers. She suggested that there be some form of handing over ceremony.

Decision

The Portfolio Holder:-

- Agreed that the Antiphoner be offered to Durham Cathedral Library to be transferred on the basis of a deposit.

11. Community Pool 2010/2011 – Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre – – Assistant Director – Community Services

Type of Decision

Non key.

Purpose of Report

To advise and seek approval for the level of grant award to the Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre from the Community Pool for 2010/2011.

Issues for Consideration

The Community Pool budget for the 2010/2011 financial year has been set at £494,658. After Round 1 the total balance available for distribution in Round 2 is £92,102.

An application for funding had been received from Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre. This had initially been an item for the Grants Committee but two Members had declared an interest in this item, so it was unable to be considered. It was subsequently referred to Cabinet for decision but because Members had declared an interest, this had rendered Cabinet inquorate for the item and so a decision was not possible at that time. It had subsequently been referred to the Portfolio Holder for decision. Officers recommended that an award of £22,603 was approved as a contribution to the core costs of the group including a 50% contribution to the salary costs of a Centre Manager and a Finance Officer for the remainder of the financial year.

The Portfolio Holder appreciated the valuable work carried out at Belle Vue in supporting, encouraging and enabling many families and young people.

Decision

The Portfolio Holder approved:-

Grant aid to Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre of £22,603 for 2010/2011 as recommended and detailed in paragraph 4 of the report.

Any allocation of grant aid to groups known to be experiencing financial difficulties to be released in monthly/quarterly instalments as appropriate, in order to safeguard the Council's investment and minimise risk

The balance of the Community Pool £69,499 to be considered for allocation against bids at future meetings within the 2010/2011 financial year.

The meeting concluded at 10.21 am.

P J DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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