

# **CULTURE, LEISURE & TOURISM PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD**

19 April 2011

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

## **Present:**

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

Officers: Craig Thelwell, Waste & Environmental Services Manager  
Robin Daniels, Archaeology Officer  
Steve Hilton, Public Relations Officer  
Sarah Harrison, Democratic Services Officer

## **29. Allotments – Consultation Exercise** ( *Waste and Environmental Services Manager*)

### **Type of Decision**

Non key.

### **Purpose of Report**

To seek approval to consult with allotment holders, key stakeholders and the wider community to identify the main concerns on allotment sites throughout Hartlepool and prioritise remedial actions.

To seek approval to consult with allotment holders to ascertain whether current rental income is sufficient to address priority issues.

### **Issues for Consideration**

The Portfolio Holder was reminded that there are over 1000 allotments in the Borough on 16 sites, many of which are experiencing problems which varied from difficulties with infrastructure to antisocial behaviour and fly tipping. It was necessary to formulate an action plan to address and prioritise these issues. It was therefore proposed to consult with allotment holders and others directly involved including resident representatives, Neighbourhood Consultative Forums, Police and the Fire Brigade in order to elicit their views. The Authority's public relations department would be liaising with the press and there was to be an article in Hartbeat publicising the consultation. It was anticipated that significant investment would be needed to fulfil all issues raised which may in turn require an increase in rent. However the consultation itself would be funded within the existing

budget and was expected to last for 12 weeks.

The Portfolio Holder agreed that allotment holders would be pleased to be able to discuss issues of concern along with other stakeholders. She highlighted that although it was a sensitive issue, the outcome should indicate the level of income received and whether this was sufficient to pursue all issues raised.

### **Decision**

The Portfolio Holder approved:-

- I. the proposed consultations with allotment holders, key stakeholders and the wider community to identify issues on allotment sites and prioritise remedial actions.
- II. The proposed consultations with allotment holders in order to ascertain whether the current rental income is sufficient to address priority issues.

## **30. Hart Heritage Project 2010** *(Archaeology Officer)*

### **Type of Decision**

Non key.

### **Purpose of Report**

To report on the progress of the partnership to record the historic environment of Hart and to present reports on 'Smallholdings at Hart' and 'Hart in World War II' arising from the work carried out in 2010.

### **Issues for Consideration**

In Autumn of 2010 a partnership project took place to record aspects of the history of Hart. The project had been carried out by Hart History Group, local volunteers, Tees Archaeology, Hartlepool Borough Council's Landscape and Conservation and Museum Services and was financially supported by the Museum of Hartlepool through the Renaissance Scheme. Two reports had been produced, one in relation to smallholdings around the village that were established in 1938 by Durham County Council in order to provide employment for former miners, and the other in relation to aspects of the physical appearance of the village and surrounding area during the Second World War. The project had raised awareness of the historic environment of the area in the village and provided information to assist Tees Archaeology and Hartlepool Borough Council in documenting and assessing the historic environment of the area. These reports had been made available to Hart History group and the other participants in the project.

The Portfolio Holder commented that the reports were fascinating reading

and it was good to see the involvement of much of the community including the school and church as well as the people of the village. She added that the reports should encourage tourism to the area and thanked all those involved in producing these.

### **Decision**

The Portfolio Holder:-

- I. Noted the success of the partnership project between local people, Tees Archaeology and Hartlepool Borough Council to document and research the historic environment of the village of Hart.
- II. Noted the reports on the smallholdings and the Second World War in Hart

The meeting concluded at 10.14 am

**P J DEVLIN**

**CHIEF SOLICITOR**

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