

CULTURE, LEISURE & TOURISM PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD

21 JUNE 2011

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 and Community Manager
Steve Hilton, Public Relations Officer
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

1. The Proposed Mary Hoban Centre for Local Studies *(Director of Child and Adult Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the proposal to name the refurbished local studies area in the Central Library as the Mary Hoban Local Studies Centre

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Library and Community Manager reported that a dedicated local studies area had been created as part of improvement and refurbishment at the Central Library. Mary Hoban began working for Hartlepool Libraries in 1959 and was Reference Librarian of the town from 1967 to the time of her sudden death in 2004. It is proposed that the refurbished area should be named as the Mary Hoban Centre For Local Studies as a way for the town to remember and thank Mary for her unique contribution to many aspects of life in Hartlepool.

The Portfolio Holder welcomed the suggestion as a fitting tribute to a dedicated and popular officer.

Decision

That the refurbished local studies area in the Central Library be named the Mary Hoban Local Studies Centre.

2. 2012 Olympic Legacy Event for Hartlepool *(Director of Child and Adult Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the Sport and Recreation and Cultural Services Olympic celebratory event ('Celebration Village...Let the Games Begin') which will mark the one-year anniversary to the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director, Community Services reported that the Olympic Legacy was a three-year programme which showcased the marriage between the arts and sport. The July celebratory event, taking place in year two of the legacy programme, was scheduled for 24th July this year. The report illustrated the main plans for the event, the programme of activities confirmed and the partners involved. The celebratory event was listed as one of the London Olympic Organising Committee's open weekends.

The Portfolio Holder commented that the programme appeared to be very good value for money. The Assistant Director, Community Services commented that the event would form part of the normal work of a number of staff and there were a number of volunteers involved in other aspects of the event.

The Portfolio Holder commented that it was rewarding to see so many inspirational sportswomen in Hartlepool involved in the events. The Portfolio Holder welcomed the wide range of bodies and groups involved in the event and wished it every success.

Decision

That the report be noted.

3. Proposed Redesign of Summerhill BMX Track *(Director of Child and Adult Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To update the Portfolio Holder on proposed future developments at Summerhill in relation to its BMX track.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director, Community Services reported that BMX cycling was

an Olympic sport and would feature in the London 2012 Games. Summerhill had been home to the North East BMX club since 2005 and with the track being constructed to national standards, the club had produced three British Champions all of which continued to have high hopes of climbing national and international rankings. However, the track has deteriorated over time and no longer meets national standards – due to a change in the standards, and required a redesign as well as essential maintenance and repair work.

The report outlined these issues in detail and the costs associated to bring it back up to the required standards. The report also gave details of the opportunities this development would bring in being able to attract future national events, the establishment of a regional coaching centre as well as providing excellent local opportunities for young people.

Estimated costs for the improvements were in the region of £75,000 and with a reliance on securing external grant funding to undertake the work, the report gave details of a successful Stage One funding submission to BIFFA for a grant £50,000 and a Stage Two submission requirement by July. Further funding continues to be sought and the Assistant Director commented that even though they were only a small group, the Northeast BMX club had indicated that it would raise £5000 towards the scheme.

The Portfolio Holder hoped that the additional funding streams and applications for funding could be attained to contribute to this very important facility for Hartlepool and the Northeast. The Portfolio Holder also particularly welcomed the input from the BMX Club.

Decision

That the report be noted.

4. Progress and Achievements of the Sports Development Service *(Director of Child and Adult Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

The purpose of the report was to inform and update the Portfolio Holder on progress of the main areas of work of the Council's Sports Development Team and achievements made to date.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director, Community Services reported on the achievements of the service and highlighted progress and outcomes associated with several areas of work including the GP Referral Programme (Hartlepool Exercise For Life Programme), Outdoor Adventurous Activities, and the core sports development work. The Assistant Director particularly highlighted that the 'Women's Begin 2' scheme was being promoted by

Sport England as a national exemplar.

The Portfolio Holder congratulated all the staff in the Sports Development Service for the excellent service provided to the people of Hartlepool which was reflected in the many accolades they received.

Decision

That the report be noted and that the Portfolio Holder's comments be forward to the staff in the Sports Development Team.

5. Queen's Diamond Jubilee Event 2-5 June 2012
(*Director of Child and Adult Services*)

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To request the endorsement of the Portfolio Holder to hold a 1950's Festival to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee 2-5 June 2012.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director, Community Services reported that all local Authorities had been contacted by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport outlining the government announcement to create a four day special Jubilee weekend from the 2nd to the 5th June 2012.

In addition to initiatives such as the bidding for new City status, the people's Millions Lottery programme, the Lord Lieutenants network coordinating ideas etc. there was a desire to ensure celebrations reflect the current economic climate and as such there is an expectation that everything would be funded from existing budgets and through various income generation sources.

On this basis some consideration has been given to take advantage of the profile of the national event and particularly the extended public holiday to the development of an inclusive festival in Hartlepool. The idea for Hartlepool is to run an event celebrating everything 1952 and the 50's in general.

- The event to be run instead of a Maritime Festival for 2012 using the net budget of around £64,000.
- The event to take place in existing HBC venues such as Borough Hall, Hartlepool Maritime Experience car park and at the Town Hall Theatre 1st June – 5th June 2012 (taking advantage of the fact that there will be Bank Holidays on Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th June).
- The event should celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee from a 1950's perspective and involve communities throughout Hartlepool.

The Portfolio Holder requested that following the comments made following

the Tall Ships event, local traders should be invited to bid for the concessions at the festival. The Assistant Director indicated that local traders would be invited as in previous years to the Maritime festival and will have every opportunity to participate.

The Portfolio Holder supported the proposal to transfer the Maritime Festival funding to the proposed event.

Decision

That the Portfolio Holder endorsed the 1950's Festival to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee using the budget allocated for the bi-annual Maritime Festival.

The meeting concluded at 10.55 a.m.

P J DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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