

CULTURE, LEISURE & TOURISM PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD

13 December 2011

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

Present:

Councillor Cath Hill (Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio Holder)

Officers: John Mennear, Assistant Director, Community Services
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

8. Tees Archaeology Monograph: Late Prehistoric Settlement in the Tees Valley and North East England *(Director of Child and Adult Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To obtain consent for publishing the above volume as part of the Tees Archaeology Monograph series.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director, Community Services reported that it was proposed to publish 'Late Prehistoric Settlement in the Tees Valley and North East England' as the sixth Tees Archaeology Monograph. The volume had been written by Stephen Sherlock, a freelance archaeologist who had carried out many years of research in the area. Tees Archaeology would project manage the publication.

The publication examined Iron Age settlement in the area drawing together the results of excavations over many years and placing them in a regional context. The work had been accepted as a PhD at Leicester University and has been examined by leading national experts in the field.

Publication of this volume would continue the purpose of the Tees Archaeology Monograph Series in making archaeological research from the area generally available.

The text and illustrations for the volume had already been produced by Stephen Sherlock who would also manage a number of aspects of the

publication of the volume. It was proposed to print 250 copies of the volume and Tees Archaeology which would fund the production costs of around £4,500. The funds would come from money already accrued from previous publications and income from the sales would then be put towards funding the next volume in the monograph series. Publication of the volume is estimated for Spring 2012.

The Portfolio Holder welcomed the publication and indicated that she would write to Stephen Sherlock thanking him for his work and the achievement of his PhD.

Decision

That the publication of 'Late Prehistoric Settlement in the Tees Valley and North East England' as part of the Tees Archaeology Monograph series be approved.

9. Carlton Outdoor Education Centre – Update on Service Review Action Plan *(Director of Child and Adult Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

The purpose of the report was to advise and update the Portfolio Holder of the progress made with the revision of the operation at Carlton Outdoor Education Centre since the service review was completed as part of the Council's Business Transformation Programme. The report also set out the proposed revision of the hire fees and charges, which would be reported to the Children's Services Portfolio Holder for approval.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director, Community Services reported that the management of the site moved to Community Services, specifically Sport and Recreation, from Children's Services in February 2010 as part of the Business Transformation departmental reorganisation and as part of that programme of work, went through a service review which was completed and presented to Cabinet in December 2010. Planned changes to the operation have therefore been implemented since April 2011 to make the future operation of the Centre more sustainable going forward.

The operation is still overseen by a Steering Group comprising Local Authority representatives, the Trustees, HeadTeacher representation and Officers from Child and Adult Services who remain involved in the decision making process relating to the management of the site.

The report updated the Portfolio Holder on progress made to date in relation to the funding review, staffing restructure, administration and procurement of goods and services. The steps being undertaken to attract

new schools to the centre and explore new markets were outlined together with details of the recent improvements to the centre to meet Health and Safety requirements. The capital improvements were also highlighted which had utilised the majority of the capital budget. There were, however, some recently identified electrical works that may be required at the centre.

Detailed in Appendix 2 to the report were the proposed charges for the 2012/13 academic year. It was highlighted that while maintaining the number of allocated weeks for Hartlepool primary schools at nineteen, there needed to be an increase in the subsidised price to £30.00 as well as increases in the prices for non-Hartlepool school charges. The formal decision on the charges would be made by the Children's Services Portfolio Holder.

The Portfolio Holder questioned the role the Centre was playing with the community and the comments in relation to revised maintenance costs. The Assistant Director indicated the costs of the maintenance contract had been revised providing a reduced costs to the Centre overall. The Centre did employ one member of staff from the local village but the majority still travelled some way to work there. There had been an increase in the use of local suppliers for many of the goods and services for the Centre which had also reduced costs.

Decision

That the report be noted.

10. Sport and Physical Activity Team – Six Month Progress Report *(Director of Child and Adult Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

The purpose of the report is to inform and update the Portfolio Holder on the work of the Sport and Physical Activity Team which is part of the Council's Sport and Recreation service. This area includes Summerhill Outdoor Centre and Country Park, the Outdoor Activities service, GP Referral Programme, Sports Development and also the Learn to Swim Programme which includes the Primary School provision.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director, Community Services reported that the team's aim was to increase participation in sport and physical activity within Hartlepool, encouraging people to 'Get Active and Stay Active'. The report highlighted the team's achievements in relation to the Learn to Swim Programme, Summerhill, the GP Referral Programme, the Outdoor Activities Team and Sports Development.

The service continued to seek out further opportunities to increase

participation in sport and physical activity during the remainder of this year and some of the proposed areas of development were set out in the report. This would be undertaken through the developing of new partnerships, designing innovative approaches to encourage people to participate as well as seeking to improve the service and the range of facilities and activities it offers.

The Portfolio Holder welcomed the report and congratulated the staff involved in delivering the high quality services reported. The Portfolio Holder commented on the GP Referral Scheme and considered that with the forthcoming demise of the Primary Care Trust that officers needed to be marketing the service to the new GP Commissioners and GP's in general highlighting the excellent feedback the service received. The Assistant Director commented that officers were already looking at such marketing.

Decision

That the report be noted and the Sports Development Team congratulated on their excellent work.

11. London 2012 Olympic Torch Relay (*Director of Child and Adult Services*)

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

In the summer of 2012, London would host the Olympic and Paralympic Games. This report updated the Portfolio Holder on details that had been made available to date by The London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games (LOCOG) in relation to the Olympic Torch Relay for the North East of England and specifically Hartlepool. Details for the Paralympic Torch Relay were not yet available.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director, Community Services reported that the Olympic Torch Relay would signal the start of the London 2012 Olympic Games and the flame for the Torch would begin its journey in Olympia, Greece on May 10th 2012, prior to its arrival in the UK on 18 May 2012 at an undisclosed location. The Torch would then embark on a journey that would see it taken through towns and cities across the UK prior to its arrival at the Olympic Stadium in London on 27 July 2012.

The report set out the details of the overnight stops for the torch in the Northeast between 14 and 17 June 2012. The Torch Relay would travel through Hartlepool Sunday 17 June 2012, though the exact route would not be known for some time.

The Portfolio Holder welcomed the news that the Torch Relay would be travelling through Hartlepool.

Decision

That the report be noted.

The meeting concluded at 10.45 a.m.

P J DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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