

Leisure and Culture Policy Development Advisory Group
14 MARCH 2018

Present: Councillors: Jonathan Chowen (Chairman), Christine Costin, Billy Greening, Tony Hogben, Nigel Jupp, Adrian Lee and Christian Mitchell

Apologies: Councillors: Matthew French, Michael Willett and Tricia Youtan

Also Present: Councillors: Kate Rowbottom

19 **NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The group received the notes of the previous meeting, held on 17/01/18.

20 **FORWARD PLAN EXTRACT FOR THE LEISURE AND CULTURE PORTFOLIO**

There was no relevant Forward Plan extract for the Leisure and Culture Portfolio.

21 **YEAR OF CULTURE UPDATE**

The Community Development Manager & Year of Culture Officer provided the group with an update on the progress of The Year of Culture.

GRANTS:

Out of the original 150 Expressions of Interest 55 projects were asked to complete and submit funding applications. 45 of these were in the under £5k bracket and 10 in the over £5k bracket, 35 of these had been approved so far.

6 further projects had been submitted and passed to Economic Development as they were more focused on infrastructure.

All of the submitted projects were of multiple, different genres and spread across the district.

SPONSORS:

Gatwick had recently sent an agreement to become the headline sponsor to join Leonardslee who came on board last year.

Freeman Bros funeral directors had also recently been welcomed as a sponsor.

The group were informed of ongoing discussions with Chestnut Treehouse, Nyetimber, Everyman and Berkeley Homes about sponsorship.

LARGE SCALE PROJECTS:

The group were apprised of progress for multiple large scale projects.

NEXT SIX WEEKS:

The Year of Culture Team's focus would be on securing and confirming the programme of projects while confirming the details of other large scale projects.

Their other focus would be on a major marketing drive to increase awareness of the Year of Culture. This will include 10 short films (edited versions of the original 9 min one), and a concentrated advertising campaign across smaller titles in the district such as BN5 mag and Horsham Publications, for the next 6 months, to increase awareness.

After 6 months the ad campaign will evolve to more of an informative campaign to encourage people to book tickets.

22 **BRIDGE UPDATE - INCLUDING PAVILION PROGRESS**

The Director of Community Services provided the group with an update on the Bridge leisure centre.

Regular progress meetings were being held with Neilcott to continue to monitor the construction of the centre. Although a two week delay was reported the centre was still on track for an October 2018 opening. The demolition of the old building and construction of the new car park was still on track for April 2019.

Work had been completed to remove graffiti from the external walls of the Indoor Bowls Centre and further security measures would be implemented.

23 **REACHING HIGHER - DISABILITY SPORTS PROGRAMME UPDATE**

The Sports Development Officer gave a presentation to the group about disability sport within the district.

The presentation began with a history of the subject from the Leisure Link being established in 1988 (now Horsham Sports Development) and detailed all Disability Sports sessions provided over the years to with the Reaching Higher Project beginning in 2017.

It was noted that all the participation in the project had been higher than originally estimated and that participants had come from across the whole of West Sussex, not just from within the district.

The group were pleased with the progress being made and were excited to see the project grow.

The meeting closed at 7.28 pm having commenced at 5.30 pm

CHAIRMAN