



Email: committeeservices@horsham.gov.uk
Direct line: 01403 215465

Leisure and Culture Policy Development Advisory Group

Wednesday, 3rd March, 2021 at 5.30 pm
via Remote Video Link

The Access to Information Procedure Rules are not applicable to Policy Development Advisory Groups and members of the public may not attend. Members of the Council who are not members of the Policy Development Advisory Group may attend to observe the proceedings, seating for which will be provided, subject to providing advance (by noon of the day of the meeting) written notification to the Chairman of the meeting and committeeservices@horsham.gov.uk

Councillors: Jonathan Chowen (Chairman)

Chris Brown
Christine Costin
Ruth Fletcher
Billy Greening
Lynn Lambert

John Milne
Roger Noel
Bob Platt
Josh Potts
Kate Rowbottom

You are summoned to the meeting to transact the following business

Glen Chipp
Chief Executive

Agenda

	Page No.
1. Apologies for absence	
2. Notes of previous meeting	3 - 6
To receive the notes of the meeting held on 20 January 2021	
3. Athletics Track	
To receive an update from the Head of Leisure & Culture on the future of the Athletics track at Broadbridge Heath	
4. Drill Hall and Highwood update	
To receive an update from the Director of Community Services on the Drill Hall and Highwood Community Centre	

5. **Grounds Maintenance Contract**

To receive an update from the Head of Leisure & Culture on the Grounds Maintenance and Arboriculture contracts

6. **Forward Plan Extract for the Leisure and Culture Portfolio**

7 - 10

To note the Forward Plan extract for the Leisure and Culture Portfolio

Leisure and Culture Policy Development Advisory Group
20 JANUARY 2021

Present: Councillors: Jonathan Chowen (Chairman), Chris Brown, Ruth Fletcher, Billy Greening, Lynn Lambert, John Milne, Roger Noel, Bob Platt, Josh Potts and Kate Rowbottom

Apologies: Councillors: Christine Costin

12 **NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The notes from the previous meeting on the 11th November were received.

13 **HORSHAM MUSEUM**

The Curator and the Assistant Curator briefed the Group on the planned Museum refurbishment. In the downstairs galleries, visitors would be taken on a journey of the whole Horsham district, following a chronological approach, including the exhibitions:

- Discover Horsham District
- Geology, Palaeontology and Archaeology
- Crime and Punishment
- Medieval Horsham
- Horsham district in 18th to 20th century
- Town changes in 20th & 21st century.

In the upstairs galleries, each room would cover an aspect of Horsham life. The Museum has been working with a number of community groups to co-curate some features of the refurbishment. There would be an increased use of digital technology throughout, including touchscreen videos, QR codes and film.

The Museum's barn and outbuilding would introduce some new large objects, digital projections, a pop up café and a refreshed workshop for volunteers.

The Museum & Heritage Officer also gave an overview of other projects, such as the completion of the district's Heritage Trails.

14 **COVID 19 - UPDATE ON LEISURE AND CULTURE SERVICES**

The Head of Leisure and Culture gave an update on the directorate's services and the impact of Covid-19.

Leisure Centres

The Council had worked closely with Places Leisure (PL) throughout the pandemic. PL & Council Officers had estimated customer appetite and the level

of support needed. The Head of Leisure & Culture noted October was the peak in customer confidence, as customers were visiting consistently with all sites open.

The group noted the financial forecast for the Leisure Centres. The predicted loss for the Leisure Centres had been reduced through Central Government support schemes and recovery funding. However financial support would still be needed going forward. The Head of Leisure & Culture had a goal of returning to earning an income from PL as soon as possible.

There was still uncertainty around the impact of Covid-19, specifically in relation to any potential increase in restrictions throughout the year. Other future challenges were the possible renegotiation of contracts and the need for investment in the medium term for key sites like the Pavilions.

Parks and countryside

The service had seen increased pressure related to the pandemic, as more people has been accessing green spaces across the district. This contributed to an increase in repairs, refurbishments and increasing access to all the sites. In the long term, the Head of Leisure & Culture noted the positive opportunities which had arisen due to the pandemic, as it highlighted the importance of the spaces within the district.

The Head of Leisure & Culture briefed the group on developments to the Warnham Discovery Hub, and presented changes to the inside and outside of the building. There were plans for the Hub to be open by autumn.

The Capitol

The Capitol Operations Manager presented an update on The Capitol. The overwhelmingly positive customer feedback was highlighted and the importance of the theatre in the community reinforced. The Capitol had seen an increase in followers across their social media channels.

It was noted that due to significant changes to the Film Industry, live theatre was now the offer which attracted the largest audiences. This new focus on live theatre had seen new Comedians and West End stars come to The Capitol, and they had been received positively. The Capitols Christmas Offer included two very popular live shows: Santa's new sleigh and A Christmas Carol. The majority of shows were sold out. There had been challenges for the Capitol, like the social distancing measures that meant 25% of seats were available. The nature of recent uncertainty meant the team had been reactive and taken a creative flexible approach.

Moving forward, the venue would likely remain closed in the short term. Future challenges around capital investment needed in the medium term and uncertainty in the film industry and cinema were also noted.

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

There were no items on the current Forward Plan for the Leisure & Culture portfolio.

The meeting closed at 7.00 pm having commenced at 5.30 pm

CHAIRMAN

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FORWARD PLAN – Leisure & Culture portfolio

This notice sets out details of key decisions that the Cabinet or a Cabinet Member intend to make, and gives 28 days' notice of the decision under the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012. The notice also includes details of other decisions the Council intends to make.

The reports and any background documents that have been used to inform the decisions will be available on the Council's website (www.horsham.gov.uk) or by contacting Committee Services at the Council Offices.

Whilst the majority of the Council's business will be open to the public, there will be occasions when the business to be considered contains confidential, commercially sensitive or personal information. This is formal notice under the 2012 Regulations that part or all of the reports on the decisions referred to in the schedule may be private because they contain exempt information under Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

If you wish to make representations about why part or all of the papers should be open to the public, please contact Committee Services at least 10 working days before the date on which the decision is to be taken.

If you wish to make representations to the Cabinet or Cabinet Member about the proposed decisions, please contact Committee Services to make your request.

Please note that the decision date given in this notice may be subject to change.

To contact Committee Services:

E-mail: : committeeservices@horsham.gov.uk

Tel: 01403 215123

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What is a Key Decision?

A key decision is an executive decision which, is likely –

- (i) to result in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- (ii) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the District.

	Subject/Decision	Decision Taker	Date(s) of decision	Is all or part of this item likely to be dealt with in private	Contact Officer Cabinet Member (NB include name, title and email address)
12.	Grounds Maintenance Contract Award	Cabinet	23 Sep 2021	Part exempt	Vicky Wise, Head of Leisure and Culture Vicky.Wise@horsham.gov.uk Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Leisure and Culture (Councillor Jonathan Chowen)

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