

AT A MEETING of the CULTURE, COMMUNITIES AND RURAL AFFAIRS SELECT COMMITTEE of the COUNTY COUNCIL held at The Castle, Winchester on Thursday, 11 April 2013.

PRESENT

Chairman:
p Councillor Elaine Still

Vice-Chairman:
p Councillor Alan Rice, TD

Councillors:

p Alan Broadhurst	p Peter Mason
p Peter Chegwyn	a Alexis McEvoy
p Peter Edgar	p Frank Pearce
Michael Geddes	p Jenny Radley
Ron Hussey	p Thomas Thacker
p Roger Kimber	

Also in attendance: Councillor Keith Chapman, Executive Member for Culture and Recreation, and Councillor Andrew Gibson, Member Cycling Champion, invited in relation to the Item considered on the Olympic legacy.

139. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Alexis McEvoy.

140. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter considered at the meeting they must declare that interest at the time of the relevant debate and, having regard to the circumstances described in Part 3, Paragraph 1.5 of the County Council's Members' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Non-Pecuniary interest in a matter being considered at the meeting they considered whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 2 of the Code, considered whether it was appropriate to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

141. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Culture, Communities & Rural Affairs

Select Committee Meeting held on 21 January 2013 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

142. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman announced that Hampshire County Council, in partnership with Southampton City Council and Winchester City Council, had been awarded £625,000 by Arts Council England. This funding would enable museums in Hampshire to deliver a nationally significant programme of exhibitions and events during 2014 to mark the First World War Centenary. Some of the funding would also be used to develop digital technologies in the museums sector.

The Chairman also took the opportunity, as it was the last meeting prior to the County Council elections, to thank the Members of the committee for their hard work over the course of the administration. Particular thanks was given to those Members not re-standing (Cllr Peter Mason, Cllr Roger Kimber, Cllr Jenny Radley and Cllr Ron Hussey).

143. **LIGHT TOUCH REVIEW MONITORING: INCOME GENERATION IN CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES (EARNED INCOME PERFORMANCE ACROSS KEY CCBS SERVICES – QUARTERS 1-3 2012/13)**

The Director of Culture Communities and Business Services summarised the key points from the written report (see Item 5 in the Minute Book), providing an overview of income generation activity across cultural and community services over the 2012/13 financial year. A handout was provided at the meeting, providing income data by service for quarters one to three.

It was reported that most sites had increased their earned income (compared to the same period in 2011/12), and it was indicated that staff across the service had embraced the message around being customer focused and seeking ways to innovate.

Members asked questions to clarify points and comment on what they had heard. Members complimented County Council staff on their more business like approach, and wished to record their congratulations to staff for the good performance in generating income over the past year despite the difficult economic circumstances. Members also recognised the significant value of the volunteer hours services benefited from, and wished to record their thanks to the volunteers for their contribution.

Members commented on the opportunity to use cultural and community venues/sites for 'learning outside the classroom' opportunities. It was responded that all Hampshire County Council country parks had the national accreditation for providing learning outside the classroom. Cllr Radley enquired regarding use of the Runways End outdoor centre, and it was agreed to provide this information to her after the meeting.

The Chairman noted that this progress followed on from the work of a light touch scrutiny panel undertaken in 2011, and thanked the Members who had taken part in that work.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Select Committee endorse the efforts made to raise income performance across CCBS within a difficult trading environment both in terms of the financial and actual climate.

That the Select Committee recommends to the Executive Member for Culture and Recreation that the proposed actions for the coming financial year are supported, implemented and monitored with appropriate reports back to elected members at key points over the 2013/14 financial year.

144. **POLICY SCRUTINY: OLYMPIC LEGACY**

The Director of Culture Communities and Business Services gave a presentation to provide an update on plans to ensure a lasting legacy in Hampshire from the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

It was reported that the County Council supported individuals excelling in their sport through the Hampshire Talented Athlete Scheme of grants, and that it was planned to double the funding available via this scheme over the coming three years in the lead up to the 2016 Rio Olympics. Work was underway to identify how best to allocate this additional funding.

It was noted that Dani King, Olympic gold medal winning cyclist, was from Hampshire, and the County Council were working with her to help inspire the next generation. The officer who had been employed to work on Hampshire plans linked to the Olympics was being kept on for a further year, and would be spending 40% of his time in Hampshire schools developing work around the 'inspired for life' national initiative. The County was also looking to rise to the challenge of developing sporting opportunities for children with disability.

It was acknowledged a number of clubs had experienced significant demand as a result of the Olympics, and the County was seeking to help clubs develop their capacity, for example by training more coaches.

It was also reported that the Leader had made available a grant of £100,000 for the 2013/14 financial year for the Hampshire Olympic Legacy, and it was not yet decided how this would be spent. Suggestions were welcomed.

Members commented on what they had heard, and raised issues such as the need for school bus services to make provision for children attending after school sports clubs, and the engagement of Parish Councils who may own the venues sports clubs use.

The Chairman invited Cllr Gibson, Member Cycling Champion, to comment. He indicated that it was important to support those wishing to develop in their sport, and that a good legacy would be additional sports facilities for sports where there was demand e.g. a cycling circuit in north Hampshire.

RESOLVED:

That the Select Committee supports the progress made to date on developing a legacy from the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics in Hampshire.

145. **PRE SCRUTINY: ARTS AND MUSEUMS SERVICE – ACCREDITATION RETURN 2013 AND COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT POLICIES**

The Director of Culture Communities and Business Services summarised the report (see Item 7 in the Minute Book) regarding the revised collections management policies due to be submitted to the Executive Member for Culture and Recreation for approval, to be submitted as part of the Accreditation Return to Arts Council England.

It was reported that the national accreditation scheme set the standard for museums services, and the County Council had always received this accreditation in the past. It had been five years since the County Council was last assessed. It was highlighted that the revised policies put greater emphasis on joint working and the need to avoid competing or duplicating with other collections. It was noted that a project had been established looking at the opportunity for a joint collections centre in future.

The collections management policy was being revised so that in future, a panel would consider acquisitions to ensure sustainability (for example in terms of storage

requirements). Previously acquisitions had been authorised by individual members of staff. The revised policies provided an opportunity to focus on priorities for collection, and gave an increased focus to digitisation to increase access.

Members commented on the opportunity to display objects held by the museums service in other venues such as libraries or at Country Parks, to reach out to audiences who may not visit museums. Under 'key local collecting themes' for different museums, a Member from the Gosport area commented that it was disappointing the railway heritage of Gosport was not noted as a theme for the Gosport Discovery Centre.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Executive Member for Culture and Recreation approves the Hampshire County Council Arts and Museums Service collections management policies for Collections Development, Documentation and Care and Conservation.

That the Executive Member for Culture and Recreation approves the submission of an Accreditation Return to the Arts Council England national Museums Accreditation Scheme within the required timescale.

146. **OVERVIEW: WWI CENTENARY & D-DAY 70TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIONS**

The Director of Culture Communities and Business Services gave a presentation to update Members on the County Councils plans to mark the significant commemorations coming up in 2014; World War I Centenary and the 70th Anniversary of D-Day. A handout was also provided giving further details.

It was indicated that a range of activity was planned involving various Council services including exhibitions at museums, libraries promoting related material, arts venues using the theme of art and poetry inspired by war and planting of poppies at country parks. Links were being made with external organisations who would also be planning to mark the occasion to co-ordinate activity, including working with the Hampshire District and Unitary Councils.

It was noted that the County Council had allocated £100,000 for initiatives to support the World War I centenary and D-Day 70th Anniversary. It was planned to compile a timeline of known events taking place and to develop a webpage to host information on the plans. Ideas and links with external organisations not already covered

were welcomed.

Members commented that consideration could be given to using funding to support schools to take children to France to experience D-Day events and see locations first hand. It was also suggested that local history groups may be interested in holding talks in community venues like libraries.

RESOLVED:

That the Select Committee supports the pro-active approach being taken to commemorating World War One and D-Day in 2014 in Hampshire.

147. **WORK PROGRAMME**

The Chairman invited Members to comment on the Committee's work programme (Item 9 in the Minute Book). The Member for Church Crookham and Ewshot reinforced interest in the items on countryside access and an update on the Basingstoke canal.

The opposition spokesperson led thanks to the Chairman for her chairmanship of the committee.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee's Work Programme be approved, subject to any amendments raised at this meeting.

The Work Programme be updated

Chairman, 6 June 2013