



Minutes

TOURISM AND LEISURE COMMITTEE

Date:	Thursday, 12 November 2015
Venue:	Town Hall, St Annes.
Committee Members:	Councillor Cheryl Little (Chairman) Councillor Tim Ashton (Vice-Chairman) Councillors Jan Barker, Brenda Blackshaw, Maxine Chew, Peter Collins, Richard Fradley, Sandra Pitman, Vince Settle, Raymond Thomas.
Other Councillors Present:	Councillors Susan Fazackerley, Karen Buckley, David Donaldson
Officers Present:	Allan Oldfield, Paul Walker, Darren Bell, Mark Wilde, Lyndsey Lacey
Other Attendees:	Marion Coupe and Sue Cornah – Lytham St Annes Civic Society Simon Thorpe – Lytham Hall
Members of the public:	Approx 18 members of the public were present

Public Platform

Under the Public Platform arrangements, Mr Peter Taylor (Cuffe & Taylor) addressed the committee on the benefits and effects of Lytham Festival.

1. Declarations of interest

Members were reminded that any disclosable pecuniary interests should be declared as required by the Localism Act 2011 and any personal or prejudicial interests should be declared as required by the Council's Code of Conduct for Members. There were no declarations of interest.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Tourism and Leisure Committee held on 10 September 2015 as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

3. Substitute members

The following substitution was reported under Council procedure rule 24(c):

Councillor Peter Collins for Councillor Julie Brickles

Decision Items

4. Lytham Promenade Mussel Tank Improvement Project Progress Report

By way of introduction, Darren Bell (Head of Leisure and Cultural Services) provided an overview of the role of the Council in the Lytham Promenade Mussel Tank Improvement Project. He then invited Marion Coupe and Sue Cornah representatives of the Lytham St Annes Civic Society to brief members on progress to date by the Civic Society with the delivery of the project and provide an overview of the scheme details.

The report (as circulated) also provided an overview of the project and associated financial considerations. It also made reference to the Civic Society's request for the Council to act as the accountable body for the delivery of the project.

Various members commented on key aspects of the project including: the educational benefits, maintenance and security, lighting, value for money and other sources of funding.

After full consideration it was RESOLVED:

1. To note the progress to date by the Lytham St. Annes Civic Society with the Mussel Tank Improvement Project.
2. To agree in principle that the Council will act as accountable body on behalf of the Civic Society in delivering the proposed Mussel Tank Improvement Project.
3. To note that a further report will be presented to the Finance and Democracy Committee seeking approval for a fully funded addition to the capital programme, and a subsequent report will be presented to Tourism and Leisure Committee in due course detailing the full financial and management details of the project before any work is approved or commenced.

5. Lytham Hall Capital Grant Monitoring Report

Darren Bell (Head of Leisure and Cultural Services) introduced the second updated monitoring report on the expenditure of the capital grant awarded to Lytham Hall in August 2011. He then invited Simon Thorpe (Project Manager at Lytham Hall) to provide an overview (via PowerPoint) of the work undertaken with Heritage Trust for the North West since the last monitoring report in January 2014.

Full details of the progress that had been made in line with the project objectives was also set out in the report. In addition, the report made reference to the application submitted by Lytham Hall for a coastal revival fund of £47,000 (set up by Department for Communities and Local Government) to undertake the external painting of the hall, the creation of a joinery workshop and fund the production of a park conservation management plan. Lytham Hall had suggested that if successful in acquiring the funds they would be seeking the Council to act as the accountable body to administer the funding.

Various members commented on key aspects of the project and in particular, the commendable work that had been undertaken so far.

Following consideration of this matter, the Committee RESOLVED:

1. To note the capital grant awarded to Lytham Hall is being spent in accordance with the Heads of Terms as at April 1st 2012 on the restoration project and the required monitoring information has been made available.
2. To agree in principle that the Council will act as accountable body for the Coastal Revival Fund project should it be approved by the Department for Communities and Local Government.

6. Provision of a new Toddlers Play Area at Fairhaven Lake

Mark Wilde (Head of Parks and Greenspaces) was invited to provide details of a scheme included in the council's agreed capital programme for 2015/16 for the provision of a new toddlers play area at Fairhaven Lake & Gardens.

In brief, the report summarised the context and details of the scheme, information on the receipt of tenders/ tender assessment (following the procurement process for the construction of the new play facility) and sought the agreement of the Committee to allow officers to award the contract and manage the project.

Members were advised that the proposal is to award the tender to construct a new toddler play facility at Fairhaven Lake and Gardens (as per the agreed tender specification) to Playdale Playgrounds to the value of £66,886 for completion before 31st March 2016.

Included as appendices to the report was a copy of the landscape restoration masterplan for Fairhaven Lake and Gardens and the proposed toddler play area design.

Following consideration of this matter, the Committee RESOLVED:

1. To approve the proposed expenditure in respect of the scheme to construct a new toddler's play area at Fairhaven Lake and Gardens. The approved Capital Programme for 2015/16 includes funding for a scheme for this purpose in the sum of £67k.
2. To approve the letting of the contract for the design and build of a toddlers play area to Playdale Playgrounds in the sum of £66,886.

7. Budget Setting – Consideration of Revenue Bid

Darren Bell (Head of Leisure and Cultural Services) introduced the report. In doing so, he stated that that consideration of revenue growth is a key component of the budget setting process. The committee was asked to consider any revenue bids for 2016/17 which fell within its remit for consideration by Budget Working Group.

Mr Bell went on to summarise the context and details of the revenue growth bid for consideration which related to the proposed engagement of an Art Development Officer. Two options were presented to the committee: Option One - the engagement of a part- time Arts Development Officer to solely manage and maintain the Lytham St Anne's Art Collection and Option Two, the engagement of a full-time Arts Development Officer which would enable the post holder to take on a wider role in terms of the arts and creative industry offer across the Borough including management of the Lytham St Anne's Art Collection. Full details were set out in the report.

The Committee RESOLVED: to recommend to the Budget Working Group (Option 2) the engagement of a full-time Arts Development Officer as outlined in the report.

8. Budget Setting – Prioritisation of Capital Bids

Paul Walker (Director of Development Services) introduced the report. He advised that as part of the budget setting process, the committee recommended capital bids, which fell within its remit, to the Budget Working Group for inclusion in its budget proposals.

Mark Wilde (Head of Parks and Greenspaces) summarised the proposed capital bids that had been put forward for consideration and prioritisation and these related to: the construction of a new water play area, Promenade Gardens, St Annes; resurfacing of paths in Hope Street park and the refurbishment of the recreation area at Bridges Playing Field, Warton.

Members sought clarification on the criteria used for judging the bids made and details of the various 'Friends groups' that had been established to support the proposals. The recently adopted Capital Strategy was referred to which identified the criteria to be taken into account in the consideration and prioritisation of capital bids.

A copy of the relevant bids were included as an appendix to the report.

After full consideration it was RESOLVED:

1. To support the proposed capital bids for Hope Street footways and the water play area project at the Promenade Gardens, St Annes in that priority order for further consideration by the Budget Working Group; and
2. the bid relating to Bridges Playing Fields, Warton be not supported by the committee.

Information Items

9. Budget Setting- Revenue Budget 2016/17 First Draft

This information report provided a link to the first draft of the revenue budget for 2016/17. It had been prepared on a continuation basis and has been updated to reflect all Committee and Council decisions made to date, the outcome of the budget-rightsizing exercise and all virements.

10. The Corporate Plan 2016 -2020

This information report provided a copy of the revised Corporate Plan which outlined the key achievements that the Council will deliver between 2016 and 2020.

11. Outside Bodies

This was an updated six monthly information report on elected member attendance on Outside Bodies.

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