

# **MINUTES** Tourism and Leisure Committee

Date:	Monday, 4 November 2019
Venue:	Town Hall, St Annes.
Committee Members Present:	Councillor Cheryl Little (Chairman) Councillor Jayne Nixon (Vice-Chairman) Councillors Peter Anthony, Tim Armit, Brenda Blackshaw, Gavin Harrison, Matthew Lee, Roger Lloyd, Vince Settle, Roger Small.
Other Members Present:	Councillors Karen Buckley, Sue Fazackerley.
Officers Present:	Paul Walker, Mark Wilde, Tim Dixon, Andrew Mills, Lyndsey Lacey-Simone.
Members of the Public:	1 members of the public was in attendance.

# Public Platform

There were no requests to speak under the Public Platform arrangements.

# Procedural Items

## 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 meeting held on 5 September 2019 as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

## 3. Substitute Members

The following substitution was reported under Council procedure rule 23(c):

Councillor Roger Lloyd for Councillor Elaine Silverwood.

## North West in Bloom Awards

Prior to the consideration of the decision items below, the Chairman made reference to Fylde's achievements in last week's North West In Bloom Awards. In doing so, she stated that it had been a pleasure to see various

organisations, groups and volunteers in the community working together to achieve such success. She added that it was a huge achievement in all categories and the enthusiasm by all groups received a well-deserved recognition. Members of the Committee applauded the achievement.

## **Decision Items**

## 4. Fylde Sand Dunes Improvement Scheme

The Chairman invited Mark Wilde (Head of Parks, Leisure and Cultural Services) to introduce the report.

By way of introduction, Mr Wilde provided an overview of the background to the scheme together with the associated aims and objectives/funding arrangements. He went on to report that the open space improvement scheme comprised three elements covering the Fylde Sand Dunes Site of Special Scientific Interest/Local Nature Reserve which included: dune re-profiling and stabilisation works; design and installation of new dune signage and the design and installation of attractive dune entrance features.

Further to the introduction, Andrew Mills (Area Conservation Ranger- Sand Dunes) was invited to further expand on the details of the scheme.

Members were also invited to consider recommending to the Finance and Democracy Committee a fully-funded addition to the Capital Programme for 2019/20 in the sum of £52,000 and approval for the Council to act as the accountable body for the Fylde Sand Dunes improvement scheme.

Included as appendices to the report were: details of the signage and access control design proposals and information on the dune re-profiling and stabilisation works profile plans.

Following on from the presentation, the Chairman invited questions from the committee. These included: the timings of the proposed works; developer contributions; the feasibility of introducing QR Code (for smart phones) on the signage boards which can be linked to the website for data purposes; clarification of other committees' involvement of the project together with information relating to the lowering of the dunes/environmental impacts of the works. Mr Mills addressed each question in turn.

Following consideration of this matter, it was RESOLVED:

1. To recommend to the Finance and Democracy Committee approval that the Council may act as the accountable body for the Fylde Sand Dunes Improvement Scheme in the total sum of £52,000;

2. To recommend to the Finance and Democracy Committee approval to a fully-funded addition to the Capital Programme for 2019/20 in the sum of £52,000 in respect of the Fylde Sand Dunes Improvement Scheme to be met from a combination of external grants and Section 106 contributions received for this purpose as detailed within the report.

(Councillor Brenda Blackshaw arrived at the meeting prior to the consideration of the information items below)

## Information Items

The following information items were received by the committee.

## 5. Enforcement of PSPO Controlling Barbecues and Outdoor Cooking 2019 Season Review

The information report provided an initial part season review of the recent introduction and operation of the PSPO and the associated effectiveness of the enforcement undertaken.

Members commented on various aspects of the review including: the feasibility of lifting the restriction of *no barbecues* on the beach area in the future; beach cleansing issues; matters associated with the procurement of the proposed mobile branded vehicle; feasibility of zoning the beach for BBQ purposes; and policing/ enforcement matters generally. Each point was addressed in turn by Mr Walker.

Following discussion, the Committee RESOLVED: That a further report be brought back to a forthcoming meeting of the Committee detailing the option/feasibility (including the associated risks and potential security issues) of reviewing the scope of the PSPO to look at allowing barbecues and outdoor cooking on the beach.

## 6. Splash 2019 Season Review

Further to the official launch of the Splash water play facility (within a former paddling pool on the Promenade Gardens, St. Annes), the information report provided members with findings from the first season of operation. It also provided a summary of required improvements for 2020 following consultation with staff, visitors and residents.

Members sought clarification on a number of areas including: the feasibility of introducing fixed CCTV in the area and the option of introducing corporate charging for group usage of the facility. There were addressed in turn by Mr Wilde.

An update on the proposed toilet provision for the Splash facility (for the new season) was given by Councillor Small.

## 7. Annual Tourism Statistics (STEAM)

The information report provided the Committee with an update on the latest official tourism statistics for Fylde covering the period between January to December 2018.

Members commented on various aspects of the report including: the interpretation of various tourism figures/statistics; information relating to 'Airbnb; seasonal jobs and the importance of tourism in the area and the associated economic impacts. These were addressed in turn by Mr Dixon.

Councillor Tim Armit brought the attention of the committee the fact that 2022 marks the centenary of the formation of the Borough of Lytham and St Annes and suggested it would seem fitting to commemorate this in some way.

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