

MINUTES

Tourism and Leisure Committee

Date:	Thursday, 3 September 2020
Venue:	Remote Meeting Via Zoom.
Committee Members Present:	Councillor Cheryl Little (Chairman) Councillor Michael Sayward (Vice-Chairman) Councillors Peter Anthony, Tim Armit, Brenda Blackshaw, Sue Fazackerley MBE, Shirley Green, Gavin Harrison, Matthew Lee, Vince Settle, Elaine Silverwood.
Officers Present:	Paul Walker, Ian Curtis, Mark Wilde, Tim Dixon, Charlie Richards, Lyndsey Lacey-Simone.
Members of the Public:	There were no members of the public 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.

Councillor Elaine Silverwood declared a personal interest in Item 10 on the agenda in so far as it related to Lowther Gardens Trust- Annual Report.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Tourism and Leisure Committee meeting held on 18 June 2020 as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

3. Substitute Members

There were no substitute members.

Decision Items

4. Budget Setting - Fees and Charges 2020/2021 - Fairhaven Adventure Golf

Further to the Committee's approval (in March 2020) of capital expenditure for the new Adventure Golf course at Fairhaven Lake, Charlie Richards (Fairhaven Project Officer) presented the updated report. In doing so, he provided the committee with a brief overview of the background to the project and its current status on site.

In summary, approval was sought for the proposed fee levels to be adopted for the Adventure Golf and subsequently included within the schedule of approved fees and charges for 2020/21.

This report provided details of the proposed fees and charges, including background to how these were determined and an overview of the operation of the service.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the Chairman shared with the committee a slide detailing a comparison of fees and charges with other similar attractions nationally.

Following on from the above, the Chairman invited questions from members. In brief, these related to the pricing structure of the adventure golf; options available to the Council to offer an annual season/residents' ticket and whether comparisons had been drawn with other similar regional facilities. The questions were addressed in turn by Mr Richards.

Following consideration of this matter it was RESOLVED: To recommend to Council the proposed fees and charges for the Fairhaven Adventure Golf as detailed within the report to be adopted within the schedule of fees and charges for 2020/21.

5. Budget Setting - Fees and Charges 2020/2021 - Private Paddle Permit

Charlie Richards (Fairhaven Project Officer) introduced the report. In summary, the report provided details of the fees and charges associated with the proposed introduction of a Fairhaven Lake Private Paddle Permit in the sum of £60 per year to be included in the schedule of fees and charges for 2020/21.

At the conclusion of the presentation, clarification was sought on the following matters: enforcement of the facility; management of water quality checks and matters associated with liability/health and safety/ insurance issues. These were addressed in turn by Mr Richards and Mr Curtis as appropriate.

The Chairman suggested that if members have any queries outside the budget setting item that they email Mr Richards direct and that the response be copied/shared with committee members in due course.

It was RESOLVED: To recommend to Council the proposed fees and charges for the introduction of a private paddle permit at Fairhaven Lake as detailed within the report to be adopted within the schedule of fees and charges for 2020/21.

6. Fairhaven Lake - Heritage Lottery Project - Building Contract Drawdown

The Chairman invited Charlie Richards (Fairhaven Project Officer) to present the report. In doing so he reminded members that in December 2018, the Council was notified that it had been successful in securing the second-round capital grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund in the sum of £1,476,600 for the restoration of Fairhaven Lake & Gardens. It was reported that the grant had been awarded on the condition that match funding of a further £960,897 is provided by Fylde Council, through internal and external financial contributions, providing a total capital budget of £2,437,497.

Members were advised that the latest Capital Programme contains a remaining balance of £2,224,000 (£2,099,000 in 2020/21 & £125,000 in 2021/22) to deliver the approved purposes of the Heritage Fund grant, detailed within the second-round application documents.

Mr Richards reported that building works had now been tendered. This report set out the context and detailed the receipt of tenders, tender assessment and made recommendations to proceed with the project through the letting of the contract to complete the building works.

Following on from the presentation, the Chairman invited questions. Clarification was sought as to whether dementia friendly elements had been incorporated into the original bid. Members were advised that whilst there were no physical constructed elements within the project, the Fairhaven Activity Programme caters for vulnerable/targeted groups. The Chairman suggested that further information on this matter could be obtained from Julie Vale (Activities Officer) at Fairhaven Lake.

Following consideration of this matter, it was RESOLVED:

1. To approve the proposed capital expenditure in 2020/21 in respect of the scheme outlined in the report of £1,236,980;
2. To approve the letting of the contract to John Turner Construction Group Limited for £1,236,980 to carry out the scheme as outlined in the report.

7. Fairhaven Lake - Heritage Lottery Project - Landscape Contract Drawdown

The Chairman invited Charlie Richards (Fairhaven Project Officer) to present the report (previously circulated).

In summary, the report reiterated the funding position as outlined in paragraphs 2 and 3 of item 6 above.

Mr Richards reported that the landscape works had now been tendered. This report set out the context and detailed the receipt of tenders, tender assessment and made recommendations to proceed with the project through the letting of the contract to complete the landscape works.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the Chairman invited questions. Members sought additional information on the budget elements of the project and matters associated with the resilience /costs/management of the proposed new horticulture/planting arrangements. Mr Richards and Mr Wilde addressed these points.

Following consideration of this matter, it was RESOLVED:

1. To approve the proposed capital expenditure in respect of the scheme outlined in the report of £158,245 in 2020/21;
2. To approve the letting of the contract to Horticon Ltd for £158,245 to carry out the scheme as outlined in the report.

8. Access Control Measures

The Chairman invited Tim Dixon (Tourism and Cultural Services Manager) to introduce the report. The report set out the details of a scheme to provide access control measures for two parks namely: Blackpool Road North Playing Fields and Ramsgate Road, St Anne's. It was reported that within the Council's agreed capital programme in 2019/2020 there is budget for installing access controls for Blackpool Road North Playing Fields and King George V, St. Annes.

The report advised members of an emergency decision that has been taken by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairman of Tourism & Leisure Committee together with the Leader of the Council to commence the installation of access control measures on Ramsgate Road and Blackpool Road North Playing Fields, St Anne's, where recent occurrences of Travellers have been experienced.

The Chairman then went on to invite questions from the committee. Various members sought further information on other identified vulnerable park areas within the borough and matters associated with any proactive work undertaken to prevent such occurrences as outlined in the report. Mr Dixon addressed these points.

It was RESOLVED To note that the Chief Executive has taken an emergency decision to approve expenditure in respect to the scheme as outlined in this report in consultation with the Chairman of Tourism & Leisure Committee together with the Leader of the Council. The approved Capital Programme for 2020/21 includes funding for a scheme for access controls in the sum of £15,000. The decision was made to progress the work in response to three recent unauthorised encampments on these sites.

9. Appointments to Outside Bodies and Working Groups

The Committee was invited to recommend nominations to the various outside bodies/working Groups (within the remit of the committee) for consideration at Full Council on 19 October.

Following consideration of this matter it was RESOLVED:

1. To recommend the following nominations to the outside bodies within the remit of the Tourism and Leisure Committee for consideration by Council:
 - Lowther Trust - Councillor Sue Fazackerley.

- Lytham Town Trust - Councillor Ray Thomas.
 - Fylde Coast YMCA Partnership Board - Councillor Gavin Harrison.
 - Fylde Arts Association - Councillor Michael Sayward
 - St George's Day Festival Committee - Councillor Cheryl Little.
 - Arts Partnership for Fylde - Councillor Michael Sayward
 - Arts Working Group - Councillor Vince Settle.
 - Fairhaven Lake & Gardens Restoration Project Board - Councillor Cheryl Little.
 - Lytham Hall Partnership - Councillor Shirley Green.
 - Park View 4U Group - Councillor Michael Sayward
2. To confirm the membership of the following working groups that relate to the terms of reference of the committee:
- (i) Arts Service Review Working Group comprising: Councillors Cheryl Little, Michael Sayward, Peter Anthony, Sue Fazackerley, Gavin Harrison, Roger Lloyd, Vince Settle and Ray Thomas;
- (ii) Island Regeneration Working Group comprising: Chairmen of Tourism & Leisure, Planning, Operational Management and Finance & Democracy Committees and the Leader of the Council and;
- (iii) Coastal Explorers Project comprising: Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Tourism & Leisure and Operational Management Committees.

Information Items

The following information item was received by the Committee.

10. Lowther Gardens Trust Annual Report

This Information report provided a copy (included as an appendix) of 2019/2020 Annual Report for Lowther Gardens (Lytham) Trust summarising its performance over the previous year.

The Chairman suggested that any further questions on the report should be directed by way of email to officers of the Trust.

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