



# MINUTES

## Tourism and Leisure Committee

<b>Date:</b>	Thursday, 4 November 2021
<b>Venue:</b>	Town Hall, St Annes
<b>Committee Members Present:</b>	Councillor Michael Sayward (Chairman) Councillor Gavin Harrison (Vice-Chairman) Councillors Peter Anthony, Tim Armit, Brenda Blackshaw, Shirley Green, Matthew Lee, David O'Rourke, Vince Settle, Elaine Silverwood, Ray Thomas.
<b>Other Members:</b>	Councillors Karen Buckley, Paul Hayhurst, Michelle Morris.
<b>Officers Present:</b>	Allan Oldfield, Ian Curtis, Mark Wilde, Tim Dixon, Lisa Foden, Phil Edmundson, Andrew Mills, Fraser Monteath, Geoff Willetts, Lyndsey Lacey-Simone.

### 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 interests on this occasion.

#### 2. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Tourism and Leisure Committee meeting held on 9 September 2021 as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

#### 3. Substitute Members

The following substitutions were reported under Council Procedure Rule 23(c):

Councillor Ray Thomas for Councillor Sue Fazackerley.

Councillor David O'Rourke for Councillor Cheryl Little.

### Decision Item

#### 4. Larbreck Avenue Play Area Elswick

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

In summary, the report concerned a small play area located in Elswick which is currently maintained by Fylde Council as part of the schedule of parish playgrounds but is neither in the ownership of the borough council nor the parish council.

Four options for dealing with the situation were set out in the report for members' consideration. The report proposed making an adverse possession claim to the Land Registry on behalf of the parish council and if successful, the land would then be transferred to Elswick Parish Council. Further details about this matter were set out in the report.

A location /site plan was included as an appendix to the report.

Councillor Paul Hayhurst (in his capacity as representative of Elswick Parish Council) was invited by the Chairman to comment/ expand on the parish council's position and provide further local information on the matter.

Clarification was sought on any likely issue/risks relating to the proposed course of action in making an adverse possession claim including the approach the Council would take if a valid claim was made on the land. Mr Curtis addressed these points.

Following consideration of this matter, it was RESOLVED:

1. To authorise officers to make an adverse possession application for the play area at Larbreck Avenue provided that Elswick Parish Council confirm its acceptance of the land if the application is successful.
2. If the application is successful, the land then be transferred to Elswick Parish Council.
3. If the application is successful, that the Tourism and Leisure Committee consider a capital bid that would assist Elswick Parish Council in replacing missing items of equipment and repair surfacing. On the agreement that Elswick Parish Council contribute £10,000 to the required works.
4. If the application is unsuccessful that officers bring a further report to committee outlining the implications of pursuing a Compulsory Purchase Order to acquire the site.

#### Information Items

##### 5. Ranger Service Presentation

The Chairman invited Lisa Foden (Parks and Coastal Services Manager) to introduce this item and in doing so, she stated that the presentation was designed to raise awareness of the Ranger Service day-to-day activities/roles and responsibilities and highlight the numerous successful environmental schemes delivered during the past 4 years.

Members were advised that the Ranger Service fulfil both operational and development functions relating to coast, environment, community engagement and education. They deliver a number key aims within the Fylde Coastal Strategy, Park Management Plans and the Corporate Plan 20-24 goals linked with the Environment, Economy and Tourism.

Phil Edmundson, Andrew Mills and Fraser Monteath of the Ranger Service jointly presented the matter.

In summary, the presentation covered the following elements: an overview of the team; key priorities of the service; conservation matters; outdoor education work; the events and activities programme; work undertaken with volunteers; visible patrol arrangements; the Fylde sand dunes project including practical conservation and future goals.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the Chairman invited questions from members of the committee. Members generally acknowledged/congratulated the excellent work undertaken by the Ranger Service and suggested that its work be promoted more widely in schools and beyond.

##### 6. Corporate Plan Progress Report

The information report provided members with an update on progress against the corporate actions relevant to the remit of the committee.

It was reported that the actions /outcomes due for completion by December 31st, 2021 related to the following areas: work to pursue museum accreditation of the LSA art collection with Arts England; promotion of parks development to partnerships across the borough and the delivery of an events programme that covers the coast and countryside.

7. Fairhaven Heritage Lottery Project Update

The information report on the Fairhaven Heritage Lottery Project provided an update on the building works and landscape works contracts, Interpretation scheme and the Activity and Events Programme.

8. Annual Tourism Statistics

The information report provided the Committee with an update on the latest official tourism statistics for Fylde covering the period between January to December 2020.

A copy of Fylde's Visitor Economy 2020 profile/statistics was included as an appendix to the report.

9. Arts Service Review Working group

The information report provided the Committee with an update on the work of the Arts Service Review Working Group.

The report referred to the last meeting of the Working Group held on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021 whereby progress towards accreditation was noted and supported. The report also advised that a workshop to include members of the Arts Service Review Working Group, relevant officers and representatives from the Friends of the Collection is proposed to be arranged for Autumn 2021, to explain the Spectrum guidelines and how these will affect the future management of the art collection.

10. General Fund Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2021/22 - Position as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021

The information report provided an update on the General Fund Revenue Budget of the Council as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021 with specific reference to those areas under the remit of the Committee.

11. Capital Programme Monitoring Report 2021/22 - Position as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021

The information report provided an update on the approved Capital Programme of the Council as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021 with specific reference to those schemes under the remit of the Committee.

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