



MINUTES

Tourism and Leisure Committee

Date:	Thursday, 9 September 2021
Venue:	Town Hall, St Annes
Committee Members Present:	Councillor Michael Sayward (Chairman) Councillor Gavin Harrison (Vice-Chairman) Councillors Peter Anthony, Tim Armit, Brenda Blackshaw, Sue Fazackerley MBE, Brian Gill, Shirley Green, David O'Rourke, Vince Settle, Elaine Silverwood.
Other Members:	Councillor Karen Buckley.
Officers Present:	Paul Walker, Marie Percival, Mark Wilde, Tim Dixon, Lisa Foden, Charlie Richards, Lyndsey Lacey-Simone.
Other Representatives:	Tim Lince - Chair, Lowther Gardens (Lytham) Trust

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 4 on the agenda in so far as it related to Lowther Gardens Trust- Annual Report.

Councillor Sue Fazackerley declared a personal interest in Item 4 on the agenda (Lowther Gardens Trust- Annual Report), in so far as she is the Council's representative on Lowther Trust.

2. Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Tourism and Leisure Committee meeting held on 10 June 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 Brian Gill for Councillor Matthew Lee.

Councillor David O'Rourke for Councillor Cheryl Little.

Information Items

4. Lowther Gardens Trust - Annual Report

The Chairman invited Tim Dixon (Tourism and Cultural Services Manager) to introduce the report

By way of introduction, Mr Dixon reminded members that the Council has in place a Service Level Agreement with the operating company of Lowther Gardens Trust, Lowther Gardens (Lytham) Management Ltd, to provide services at Lowther Pavilion. Mr Dixon explained that as part of the agreement, the Trust is required to provide a report to the committee each year, summarising the performance over the previous year.

A copy of the Annual Report was included as an appendix to the covering report.

The Chairman then went on to invite Tim Lince, Chair, Lowther Gardens (Lytham) Trust to present the Trust's 2020/21 Annual Report. In doing so, Mr Lince provided members with a summary of the performance over the previous year together with details of various challenges and achievements and other key points arising from the report.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the Chairman invited questions from members of the committee. Comments were made about support for 'Lytham Christmas' and the use of stage during the pandemic for filming purposes. Clarification was also sought on the operation of the free 'Silver Stream Service'; grounds-based SLAs within the Lowther Park and litigation matters. These were addressed in turn by Tim Lince and/or the relevant officer.

Councillor Sue Fazackerley, as Fylde's representative on Lowther Trust, endorsed the 2020/21 Annual Report and in doing so, she commended the personal commitment of Tim Lince in driving forward the Lowther vision. In addition, she went on to express her sincere thanks and appreciation to the wider Lowther Team for the work that they do.

Decision Items

5. Ashton Gardens Lighting Improvements

Marie Percival (Estates and Asset Manager) introduced the report.

Members were reminded that a request for improvements to the lighting in Ashton Gardens was approved by the Committee on 7 January 2021. It was reported that works are currently underway following a slippage in bringing the report to the scheduled June Committee date.

Included as an appendix to the report was a copy of the capital bid.

Following the presentation, the Chairman invited questions. Clarification was sought about the feasibility of producing a map of the lighting improvements at Ashton Gardens. An undertaking was given to circulate this to members in due course.

It was RESOLVED: To approve the retrospective draw-down of £25,000 already approved in the Council's 2021/22 capital programme.

6. North Beach Windsports Centre

The Chairman invited Paul Walker (Director of Development Services) to introduce the report which sought to brief members on proposals for the creation of a wind sports centre using the former Sand Yacht Club building and yard. Details regarding this matter including matters associated with breaches of the former lease were set out in the report.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the Chairman invited questions. These related to the details of the proposed facilities at the centre and anticipated timescales for the completion of the works. Paul Walker addressed this matter and in doing so, stated that given the condition of the building, it was hoped the facility would be open to the public next Summer.

Following consideration of this matter it was RESOLVED:

1. To note the terms of the Court Order in resolution of the breach of the terms of the lease of the tenant of the former Sand Yacht Club building.
2. To agree to officers working up a scheme to redevelop the former Sand Yacht Club building and yard as a wind sports centre as set out in the report and bring a further report on proposals for the creation of a wind sports centre to a future meeting.

7. Corporate Plan Progress Report

The updated report on progress against the actions scheduled for completion in the Corporate Plan relevant to the Tourism and Leisure Committee (for the second quarter of 2021/22) was presented to the Committee.

In summary, the actions related to work to pursue museum accreditation of the LSA art collection with Arts England; the delivery of an events programme that covers the coast and countryside; exploring opportunities for income generation from use of natural assets and works to develop coast and countryside walks and pathways, improving signage and incorporating ranger events.

Clarification was sought on the feasibility of introducing board walks/pathways (in a controlled environment) along the dune network. In addition, the availability /opportunities to provide additional toilets facilities in the locality was also raised. This was addressed by the Chairman and Lisa Foden.

Following consideration of this matter it was RESOLVED:

1. To approve and sign off the progress update for each of the actions from the Corporate Plan that are scheduled for completion by the end of quarter 2 (30th September).
2. To reschedule any actions that have not been completed including a date for a further progress update to the committee.

Information Items

8. Fairhaven Heritage Lottery Project Update

The Chairman invited Charlie Richards (Fairhaven Project Manager) to introduce the report.

The updated information report on the Fairhaven Heritage Lottery Project made specific reference to the building works contract, Lake work contract, the Activity and Events Programme and the Operational Boathouse.

In his presentation, Mr Richards highlighted various minor timescales changes that had occurred since the publication of the agenda.

Questions relating to the mound on the adventure play area; toilet facilities in the vicinity of the Lake area; maintenance of the embankments on the western part of the site; testing the speeds of the boats on the Lake, swimming in the Lake and the new café lease arrangements were raised at the meeting. These were addressed in turn by Charlie Richards, Marie Percival, Tim Dixon and Lisa Foden.

9. Capital Programme Monitoring Report 2021/22- Position as at 31st July 2021

The information report provided the committee with an update on the Council's approved Capital Programme as at 31st July 2021 with specific reference to those schemes under the remit of the committee.

Matters associated with an investigation relating to the Kiosk replacement at Stanner Bank, Fairhaven and the 'Better Care Fund' were raised at the meeting. These were addressed in turn at the meeting.

10. Reports of the Various Outside Bodies

The reports (where appropriate) from members appointed to the various Outside Bodies, within the remit of the committee were included as appendices to the covering report.

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