

## **Arts Leisure & Culture Select Committee**

A meeting of Arts Leisure & Culture Select Committee was held on Wednesday, 3rd June, 2009.

**Present:** Cllr Hilary Aggio, Cllr Alan Lewis, Cllr Mrs Jean O'Donnell, Cllr Andrew Sherris, Cllr Mrs Sylvia Walmsley, Cllr Mick Womphrey

**Officers:** S Chaytor (Managing Director of Tees Active) J.Higgins, S.Keetley (DNS) R.McGuckin, N.Russell (CESC) S.Whaley, G Birtle (LD)

**Also in attendance:**

**Apologies:** Cllr Dick Cains, Cllr Ken Dixon, Cllr Mrs Kath Nelson

### **1 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Hilary Aggio declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in relation to item 4, 'Actions from Review of Tees Active' as she was a member of Tees Active

### **2 Minutes of the meeting held on the 31st January 2009 and 4th March 2009**

CONCLUDED that the minutes of the meeting held on the 31st January 2009 and the meeting held on the 4th March 2009 were signed as a correct record.

### **3 Minutes of the meeting held on 20th March 2009**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on the 20th March 2009.

CONCLUDED that the minutes of the meeting held on the 20th March 2009 be agreed as a true record.

### **4 Actions from Review of Tees Active**

#### **- Tees Active Staff Survey**

Members were asked to consider the results of the TAL Staff Survey which was presented by the Managing Director of Tees Active in accordance with the recommendation from the review of Tees Active.

The Managing Director of Tees Active presented the results to the Committee and highlighted the main points as detailed below:

a) the questions which were contained within the survey were similar to those which Stockton Borough Council had used in a staff survey they had carried out as Tees Active had not conducted this type of a survey previously.

b) the survey was aimed at permanent members of staff and the results reflected views from a total no. of 95 staff members

c) the majority of the results were positive and members heard about particular areas of satisfaction contained within the report. The Committee also heard that any adverse results could have been due to the timing of the survey as the survey was carried out during a time of unrest when Stockton Sports Centre had just closed and also during the announcement of the closure of Billingham Forum for refurbishment where staff were unsure of their future.

d) Training and Development was highlighted as an area for improvement and issues surrounding assaults on staff from the general public (mostly verbal) needed addressing.

Finally the Managing Director of Tees Active highlighted the results surrounding job satisfaction and benefits with only a small number of staff dissatisfied.

The Committee heard that a 'Next steps programme had been devised and would be reported back to the Tees Active Limited Management Board. Members were also informed that it was the intention of Tees Active to carry out a similar survey in approximately two years to monitor the measures put in place for improvement and to see if any new areas of concern were identified.

CONCLUDED that the information from the staff survey be noted.

## **5 Monitoring of Previously Agreed Recommendations**

### **- Progress Updates – Review of Festivals and Review of River Based Leisure Facilities**

Members were asked to consider the assessments of progress against previously agreed recommendations contained in the attached progress updates. There were outstanding recommendations from the reviews of Festivals, and River Based Leisure Facilities.

The Committee discussed the updates and amended any assessment they felt necessary.

It was discussed and felt that more coverage/promotion of events was required, and although Stockton News was one of the best forums for such promotion due to its vast distribution sometimes the publication could be later than the events in question.

Members were informed that the North Shore Development was still on schedule and that the masterplan would be available in the next few weeks.

CONCLUDED that the assessment of progress contained in the report be agreed with amendments as detailed above and that further updates on those actions not signed off as complete be received as appropriate.

## **6 Efficiency, Improvement and Transformation Reviews**

**- to consider the project plans for the following reviews:**

**- Adult Operations**

**- Highways, lighting and network management**

**- Property and Facilities Management**

The Committee were asked to consider and agree the scope and project plan for the EIT Review of Adult Operations / Highways, lighting and network management / Property and Facilities Management.

The Scrutiny Officer explained to Members the process of the review and the input and challenges members could present. The Officers role was also explained where they would identify improvements and Members would be advised and shown detail of investigations to support this.

The Built and Natural Environment Manager gave the Committee a brief overview of the Highways, Lighting and Network Management review and what the Highways department involved. Members were also introduced to the baseline document as background information.

A brief discussion took place with initial thoughts on how to save energy in respect to street lighting where a number of ideas were debated.

The Consultancy Practice Manager introduced to Members the team which would be involved in the Property and Facilities Management review. Also highlighted were the links required with other departments and personnel to enable the review to be a success.

Members learned that Stockton Borough Councils assets would be under scrutiny and that the review would be looking at what assets were owned by Stockton Borough Council and what was actually required. The review would also look at building maintenance and using buildings to their best potential.

**CONCLUDED that:**

the scope and project plan be agreed.