

# Arts Leisure & Culture Select Committee

A meeting of Arts Leisure & Culture Select Committee was held on Wednesday, 31st March, 2010.

**Present:** Cllr Andrew Sherris (Vice Chair), Cllr Hilary Aggio, Cllr Dick Cains, Cllr Ken Dixon, Cllr Alan Lewis, Cllr Mick Womphrey

**Officers:** Richard McGuckin(DNS), Reuben Kench(CESC), Sarah Whaley, Graham Birtle(LD)

**Also in attendance:** Cllr Mary Womphrey

**Apologies:** Cllr Kath Nelson, Cllr Jean O'Donnell, Cllr Sylvia Walmsley

## **1 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Mary Womphrey declared a personal non prejudicial interest in relation to item 5 - Monitoring the implementation of previously agreed recommendations - Initial Progress Report - Review of Tees Active as she was a member of Tees Active.

Cllr Hilary Aggio declared a personal non prejudicial interest in relation to item 5 - Monitoring the implementation of previously agreed recommendations - Initial Progress Report - Review of Tees Active as she was a member of a group who attended fitness classes run by Tees Active.

## **2 Minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2010 to be considered for signature**

Consideration was given to the above mentioned minutes to be signed as a correct record.

Concluded that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2010 were signed as a correct record.

## **3 Draft Minutes of the meeting held on the 17th February 2010**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on the 17th February 2010.

Concluded that the minutes of the meeting held on 17th February 2010 were approved as a correct record.

## **4 Monitoring the implementation of previously agreed recommendations - Action Plan - EIT Review of Highways, Lighting and Network Management**

Members were asked to consider the Action Plan setting out how the agreed recommendations from the EIT Review of Highways, Lighting & Network Management would be implemented and target dates for completion.

The Acting Head of Technical Services presented the Action plan to the Committee and updated Members with the following:

Stockton Borough Council and Durham County Council had been short listed for PFI Street Lighting. An Outline business case was to be submitted to the Department of Transport for the next stage.

If this was successful Stockton would receive approximately £35 million worth of funding which in turn would allow any Street lighting Column over the age of seven years to be replaced with new energy efficient saving columns. Once funding was secured Stockton Council would then look to recruit a PFI Partner. The funding would also impact on other aspects of the Action Plan making them redundant as the funding would allow the authority to achieve its' goals within an agreed timescale.

If the Business case failed however the Action Plan would be re introduced and implemented as detailed in the report.

The Acting Head of Technical Services confirmed that a monitoring report would be presented to the Committee on a quarterly basis for updates and that there would be a further Cabinet Report on the 30th September 2010.

Members briefly discussed point 8 of the Action Plan in relation to Adshel Bus Shelters. The Acting Head of Technical Services confirmed that there were limited opportunities for Adshel shelters in Stockton, however TV major scheme bus funding had been secured enabling most bus shelters on core bus routes to be replaced over the next three years.

CONCLUDED that the Action Plan be noted and that monitoring reports would be received on a quarterly basis by this Committee for updates.

## **5 Monitoring the implementation of previously agreed recommendations - Initial Progress Report - Review of Tees Active**

Members were asked to consider the assessments of progress on the implementation of the recommendations from the Review of Tees Active.

The Head of Arts and Culture briefly went through each point of the report highlighting the following areas:

a) Tees Active to increase activity with harder to reach areas / groups. Stockton Borough Council was to continue to highlight the importance of harder to reach groups to be part of Tees Actives' Action Plan. Some Members felt the target date to get harder to reach groups on board was too far in the future, however the Head of Arts and Culture pointed out that Tees Active did not have the resource for dedicated staff to carry out specific work to enable them to achieve this action more immediately and would therefore need to be incorporated into Tees Actives' overall plan. Cllr Mary Womphrey informed the Committee that Sikh only womens' swimming had already started.

b) Members asked if Stockton Borough Council could influence Tees Active to improve any action's which had incurred slippage highlighted within the progress report, however the Head of Arts and Culture pointed out that Tees Active was a partner and not part of Stockton Borough Council's organisation and therefore there was only so much that could be done from the local authorities point of view. It was however highlighted that Stockton Borough Council were working closely with Tees Active especially when entering into

areas outside the normal remit.

- c) Tees Active were currently going through Charter Mark renewal.
- d) Tees Active had tightened recording and monitoring procedures for usage of facilities.
- e) Tees Active looking at joint venture with Stockton Borough Council's White Water Course and ancillary facilities
- f) Stockton Borough Council to push further the relationship with Tees Active and the Voluntary Sector.

Members also discussed 3f and agreed that a special meeting be arranged by the Scrutiny Officer to discuss further how to fully exploit the opportunities presented by the Olympic, Paralympic and Special Olympic Games for 2012 and 2013.

CONCLUDED that

1. the Progress report be noted.
2. a special meeting be arranged to discuss further the Olympics, Paralympics and Special Olympic Games for 2012 and 2013.

## **6 Work Programme**

The Scrutiny Officer informed the Committee of future meeting dates for the next set of reviews.

In Addition to the items discussed at this meeting Members had made a previous request at the Arts Leisure and Culture meeting dated the 11th January 2010 for further statistical information following a presentation relating to Culture and Leisure Services.

The Head of Arts and Culture provided the Committee with a supplementary report which gave various statistical and analytical information from SIRF 2009.

CONCLUDED that the information be noted.

## **7 Any Other business**

Members discussed and considered the possibility of changing the time of the Arts Leisure and Culture Select Committee meetings from 1.00pm to 1.30pm as the current timing of the meeting was proving difficult for some members to attend.

RESOLVED that the meeting time be changed to 1.30pm