

CABINET MEMBER FOR CULTURE, LEISURE & SPORT

THE RECORD OF DECISIONS taken by Councillor Lee Hunt, Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure & Sport, at his decision meeting held at 1.00pm on Friday 29 June 2012 in the Executive Meeting Room, Floor 3 of the Guildhall.

Councillor Hunt welcomed Councillor David Horne, labour group spokesperson, officers and guests to the meeting.

26. Apologies (AI 1)

No apologies had been received.

27. Declaration of Members' Interests (AI 2)

Councillor David Horne declared non prejudicial interests in the following items as they affected his ward (Paulsgrove):

Agenda Item 5 – Portsmouth Libraries Annual Update Report
Agenda Item 6 – Improving Community Centre Utilisation

Councillor Lee Hunt altered the order of business so that officers and guests could be heard at their convenience.

The following report (Agenda Item 4 – Literature Development Strategy) was for information only. No decisions were taken and it was not, therefore subject to call in.

28. Literature Development Strategy (AI 4)

(TAKE IN INFORMATION REPORT BY THE HEAD OF CULTURAL SERVICES)

Dominic Kippin, Literacy Officer, introduced the report and answered questions from members including about funding issues. Councillor Lee Hunt commented on the progress being made to exploit literature opportunities and the writing heritage of the city.

Councillor David Horne warmly supported the report commenting that literature development was linked to the economic development and success of the city.

Councillor Lee Hunt, Cabinet Member for Culture Leisure and Sport made decisions on the following items:

29. Improving Community Centre Utilisation (AI 6)

(TAKE IN REPORT BY THE HEAD OF CULTURAL SERVICES)

Rod McLean, Community Support Officer, introduced the report stating that its aim was to increase the use of, and value of, centres to communities. Councillor Lee Hunt stressed the importance of strong partnership working. Councillor David Horne added that community centres provided a vital 'hub', that there were budgetary challenges ahead and that the size of the site in Paulsgrove was a particular challenge. He offered his thanks to Mr McLean for his support to the Paulsgrove Community Centre.

DECISIONS:

- (1) That work is undertaken with the three community associations: Buckland, Stamshaw & Tipner and Paulsgrove and to support them to better utilise their buildings with individualized targets and strategies for each particularly focussing on use by the local community.**
- (2) That the implementation of these strategies be supported under the Service Level Agreement (SLA) which could result in a reduction in grant support to individual associations not taking these strategies fully on board. Should this situation arise, a further report would be brought to the Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Sport.**

30. Cultural Services – Business Plan (AI 3)

(TAKE IN REPORT BY THE HEAD OF CULTURAL SERVICES)

Jo Dalling, Business Support Manager gave a short powerpoint presentation on the 3-year business plan, highlighting some past achievements and confirming that the 7 objectives were unchanged. Cultural services are a mixed model of delivery, some services are provided directly by Portsmouth City Council, whilst others are delivered, supported or facilitated through a range of community, private, voluntary sector partners and trust models. The way forward is to further develop this mixed model and tailor provision that allows the services to best respond to the needs of local communities.

Steve Pitt, chairman of Portsmouth's Cultural Consortium was present, asked questions and expressed concern at the continued budget cuts facing cultural services in the city. Councillor Lee Hunt endorsed the importance of partnership working and suggested that the delivery of cultural services would need to change in the coming years.

Councillor David Horne suggested that the 'best country in the world' posters be produced as car stickers and officers undertook to suggest this to the Destination Marketing Partnership for consideration.

DECISION: The Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure & Sport approved the Business Plan and the key objectives for the service.

31. Update on Portsmouth Air Festival – 18 & 19 August 2012 (AI 8)

(TAKE IN REPORT BY THE HEAD OF CULTURAL SERVICES)

Heather Todd, Assistant Events Manager, presented the report and informed members that the Festival would now take place on Saturday 18 August only. She asked the Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Sport to note that there would be a commensurate reduction in the costs to the council detailed in the report and outlined in the recommendations.

Chief executive of Portsmouth Air Festival, Steve Lawrence was present to answer questions including those on traffic management, insurance, sponsorship, assets attending and marketing. He confirmed that it was intended that the Festival become an annual event and that the organisers were seeking charitable status and were a not-for-profit organisation.

Councillor Lee Hunt asked that a 'debrief' session take place after the event and confirmed his support for this exciting opportunity. He also offered his thanks to council officers who had already given considerable support to the Festival.

DECISIONS:

- (1) It was noted that the event will take place on Saturday 18 August 2012 only.**
- (2) That it be agreed to waive the hire fees for the use of Southsea Common as part of Portsmouth City Council's contribution towards the event.**
- (3) That it be agreed that the costs for staff time of Council officers working to support the event be absorbed by Portsmouth City Council at no cost to the event organisers**
- (4) That it be agreed that the loss of parking income resulting from the unavailability of parking spaces be met from Portsmouth City Council budgets.**

32. Portsmouth Libraries Annual Update Report (AI 5)

(TAKE IN REPORT BY THE HEAD OF CULTURAL SERVICES)

Lindy Elliott, Library Service Manager, presented the report and stated that plans to deliver an online audio download service had been launched already and that this and other initiatives, such as a universal library card for children and re-opening the Central Library each Friday, were designed to increase accessibility.

Councillor David Horne mentioned the report on Library opening hours which was to be considered at the Cabinet meeting on Monday 2 July, adding that this was of interest to Paulsgrove residents as many worked in the south of

the city. He also expressed concern at the plans to relocate the library in Paulsgrove.

Lindy Elliott referred to plans to ensure that the universal library card would be used and that these plans would include discounts available to card holders. Steve Pitt proposed that discount partners could jointly market a leaflet to promote discounts to card holders and suggested that the Cultural Consortium could help facilitate this. Councillor Lee Hunt welcomed this proposal and indicated his support for the plans outlined in the report. It was also suggested that discounts could be promoted on the reverse of the RFID receipts and officers undertook to investigate this.

DECISIONS:

- (1) That the updates on the agreed actions from the Portsmouth Library Development Report 2011/12 be noted.**
- (2) That the following recommendations be carried forward from the 2011/2 report for ongoing action in 2012/13:**
 - a. That the Book Fund be protected from disproportionate cuts through the management of library budgets within the existing cash limits.**
 - b. Delivery and development of the BookFest Book Festival in line with the actions agreed with the Arts Council Library Development bid.**
 - c. Implementation of a Library Audio Downloads service.**
- (3) It was noted that the following actions for 2012/13 will also be undertaken on the basis of the permissions indicated.**
 - a. Relocation of Paulsgrove Library to the Allaway Avenue shopping area as agreed in the report to CL&S “Reloaction of Paulsgrove Library 23 March 2012.**
 - b. Explore options to develop a new library facility in the Drayton area of the city, as agreed in the report to CL&S “Drayton Library” 23 March 2012.**
 - c. Implement Friends Groups at Central, Paulsgrove and Beddow Libraries, as agreed in the report to CL&S “Friends of the Library Service” 10 February 2012.**
 - d. The installation, promotion and development of a IT Learning Zone and Youth Space in the room to the left of the main entrance at Carnegie Library within existing Culture Services budgets. This was agreed in the report “Carnegie Library Development” 30 September 2011.**
- (4) That the following recommendations for action be added to the Library Development Report in respect of changing opportunities, pressures and service needs in the forthcoming year:**
 - a. Explore options to relocate Cosham Library into the shopping precinct.**
 - b. Delivery of a schools universal library membership offer providing all children in local school with a Portsmouth Library**

Ticket. This is the first such scheme in the UK.

- c. The development of the Central Library Administration block as a public access area including the relocation of the IT Learning Zone.**
- d. Explore options and identify storage and workspace to enable the relocation of the remaining archive currently held at the City Museum site.**
- e. Deliver and promote an on-line magazine service.**
- f. Identify and deliver an e-books service.**
- g. Conduct a review of all library opening hours.**
- h. Deliver a library satisfaction survey in the autumn.**

33. London 2012 Olympic Torch Relay update (AI 7)

(TAKE IN REPORT BY THE HEAD OF CULTURAL SERVICES)

Craig Willcock, Cultural Development Officer, presented the report and provided additional details relating to activities on 15 and 16 July.

Councillor Lee Hunt welcomed the report.

DECISIONS: The Cabinet Member for Culture Leisure and Sport noted the contents of the report and the estimated value added equivalent of the event to the city.

34. 2012/13 meeting dates (AI 9)

DECISION that Cabinet Member for Culture Leisure and Sport decision meetings take place at 1.00pm on the following dates in 2012/13:

**3 August 2012
12 October 2012
14 December 2012
8 February 2013
22 March 2013**

The meeting concluded at 2.45pm

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Councillor Lee Hunt
Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure & Sport