

AT A MEETING of the CULTURE AND COMMUNITIES SELECT COMMITTEE of the COUNTY COUNCIL held at The Castle, Winchester on Thursday, 2 July 2015.

**PRESENT**

Chairman:

p Councillor Anna McNair-Scott

Vice-Chairman:

p Councillor Frank Pearce

**Councillors:**

p Phil Bailey	p Mark Kemp-Gee
p Zilliah Brooks	p Fiona Mather
p Peter Chegwyn	p Alan Rice
p Shaun Cully	p Tim Rolt
p Brian Gurden	p John Wall
p Rob Humby	p Chris Wood

**Also in attendance:**

Councillor Andrew Gibson – Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside

98. **BROADCAST ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Chairman announced that the press and members of the public were permitted to film and broadcast the meeting. Those remaining at the meeting were consenting to being filmed and recorded, and to the possible use of those images and recording for broadcasting purposes.

99. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies were received as all Members of the Committee were present.

100. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Members were mindful that, where they believed they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter considered at the meeting, they must declare that interest at the time of the relevant debate and, having regard to the circumstances described in Part 3 Paragraph 1.5 of the County Council's Members' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Personal interest in a matter being considered at the meeting they considered whether such interest should be declared, and

Items to be actioned on the Committee's work programme:

having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 4 of the Code, considered whether it was appropriate to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

101. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 19 January 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising: In relation to Minute 93 'Proposed Move of Emsworth Library' it was reported that the move was no longer going ahead. The costs of the move had been investigated in greater detail and been determined to be higher than expected. The lease on the current building runs until 2018 and consideration was being given to alternative locations that would be cheaper to move the library to by then.

102. **DEPUTATIONS**

No deputations were received.

103. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Andrew Gibson, as new Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman also expressed congratulations to Councillor Keith Chapman (the previous Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside) on becoming Vice Chairman of the County Council, and thanked him for his support to the Select Committee over the years.

The Chairman highlighted that a funding bid had been successful to the Heritage Lottery Fund to contribute to a project relating to the story of Netley Military Hospital at Royal Victoria Country Park. The £1.7m funding would be part of a £2.8m project to undertake conservation work to the Chapel, access improvements, and activities to bridge the gap between today and the site's past.

The Chairman reported that on 19 June 2015 over 2,200 young people from Hampshire and the Isle of Wight took part in the Sainsbury's Hampshire School Games in Aldershot.

The Chairman also reported that a community project had taken place in Waterlooville to commemorate 200 years since the battle of Waterloo, supported by Heritage Lottery funding. Workshops were run locally on the town's links to soldiers returning from the Battle of Waterloo, culminating in a day of celebration in the town on 20 June 2015.

104. **FINALISING 'HAMPSHIRE COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS PLAN 2015-2025'**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services, item 6 in the Minute Book, regarding the Countryside Access Plan 2015-2025.

Members recognised that a cross party Working Group of the Select Committee had been involved in the development of the Plan and thanked the Members who took part and the officers who had worked on the Plan.

It was noted that the improvement of rights of way would be prioritised so that available funding was targeted at strategic, most well used routes. It was an action in the Plan to identify the strategically important routes. It was reported that plans in relation to rights of way were being discussed with other departments, in particular Highways, to ensure this Plan linked up with other related work, for example the cycling and walking strategies the Economy Transport & Environment Department were leading on developing.

Members commented that the use of rights of way classified as 'Byways Open to All Traffic' (BOATs) by different user groups, such as cyclists, walkers and motor vehicles, often results in conflict. It was responded that the County Council works with the different user groups to address issues of conflict, and in some cases uses traffic regulation orders.

The recommendations in the report were proposed and agreed.

RESOLVED:

That the Culture and Communities Select Committee recommend that the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside

- Notes the public consultation responses
- Approves the final Hampshire Countryside Access Plan 2015-2025 for publication

105. **NEW GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SPORT HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT TEAM**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services, item 7 in the Minute Book, regarding New Governance Arrangements for the Sport Hampshire and Isle of Wight Team, supported by a presentation.

Members heard that the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside had considered the future

governance arrangements for the Sport Hampshire and Isle of Wight County Sports Partnership in September 2014, and at that time agreed that further work be undertaken on the preferred governance model. It was now proposed that the Executive Member be recommended to agree for the Sports Partnership to be transferred to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation model.

The background to the Sports Partnership was explained, and press clippings were circulated demonstrating the work of the partnership in supporting participation in sport throughout Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. It was noted that the majority of the funding for the partnership came from Sport England, with only a small proportion of the budget from the County Council. It was reported that half of the County Sports Partnerships across the country were now run independently of Local Authorities. The proposed model would involve a Board, similar to that established for the Hampshire Cultural Trust. It was planned that the set up costs be met from ring fenced reserves, and that the ongoing revenue commitment to the partnership from the County Council reduce over the course of the coming three years.

There were currently thirteen staff working for the Partnership who would transfer to the new organisation. It was noted that some staff were on contracts related to specific grants whose contracts would come to an end within the next year. It was agreed to confirm to Members following the meeting the detail of the staffing situation anticipated at the time of the proposed handover.

The benefit of the proposed model was that a charitable organisation would be able to apply for other funding streams and sports contracts from other local authorities, which a local authority run service could not do. Risks had been considered, and it was noted that Sport England were in the process of reviewing their investment plans and would be launching a new approach in 2016. However, while this posed a risk compared to the continuation of existing funding mechanisms, it was considered that funding from this source was likely to continue for the proposed new organisation. If approved, it was planned to transfer the partnership to the new arrangement on 31 March 2016.

It was noted that there were examples of other Charitable Incorporated Organisations, and these had been looked into, and were all currently working well. Consideration had been given to the operating models used by other county sports partnerships, and there was no evidence of difference in performance between those hosted by a Local Authority and other models. It was confirmed that supporting the sports partnership was not a statutory responsibility and many other

Confirmation of anticipated staffing numbers following contracts ending to be emailed to Members

local authorities do not host their local partnership.

It was noted that the Sport Hampshire & Isle of Wight partnership works in collaboration with local district councils, and it was not anticipated this would be affected by the change in organisational arrangements.

Members asked questions to clarify points and debated the proposals.

Members expressed concerns that the report indicated Sport England were asking Sports Partnerships to reduce their reliance on their funding, to constitute 50% of their budgets by 2017. It was explained that the intention was to encourage partnerships to generate increased funds from other sources, however it was not anticipated that funding levels from Sport England would reduce if partnerships struggled to meet this target. Funding levels up to 2017 were already agreed by Sport England.

Some Members expressed concerns that moving the partnership away from a democratic organisation posed a risk, as elected Members would have less influence over service delivery in future.

Some Members expressed concerns that the report indicated the partnership would need to seek funding from other sources, but did not provide much detail about how this would be achieved. Other Members recognised that the risk regarding the Sport England funding remained if the partnership stayed hosted by the County Council, however changing the governance arrangements opened up additional funding opportunities that would otherwise not be an option.

It was requested that a recorded vote be taken against each recommendation, with the results as follows:

**RESOLVED:**

That the Culture and Communities Select Committee recommend that the Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside:

- 1) Approves the transfer of services and funding of SHIOW from its current HCC hosting relationship to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation to be fully operational from 1 April 2016.

Carried by majority vote:

For (8): Cllr Zilliah Brooks  
Cllr Rob Humby  
Cllr Mark Kemp-Gee

Cllr Fiona Mather  
Cllr Anna McNair-Scott  
Cllr Frank Pearce  
Cllr Alan Rice  
Cllr John Wall

Against (6): Cllr Phil Bailey  
Cllr Peter Chegwyn  
Cllr Shaun Cully  
Cllr Brian Gurden  
Cllr Tim Rolt  
Cllr Chris Wood

2) SHIOW continues to deliver certain elements of Hampshire County Council's sports development programme.

Carried unanimously

3) Authorises the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services to undertake any other steps that are reasonably required to finalise and implement the above recommendations including agreeing the final terms of the documentation required.

Carried by majority vote:

For (8): Cllr Zilliah Brooks  
Cllr Rob Humby  
Cllr Mark Kemp-Gee  
Cllr Fiona Mather  
Cllr Anna McNair-Scott  
Cllr Frank Pearce  
Cllr Alan Rice  
Cllr John Wall

Against (6): Cllr Phil Bailey  
Cllr Peter Chegwyn  
Cllr Shaun Cully  
Cllr Brian Gurden  
Cllr Tim Rolt  
Cllr Chris Wood

4) Recommends to the Executive Member for Policy and Resources a closed LGPS pass-through agreement and approval of the final detailed terms of the transfer.

Carried by majority vote:

For (8): Cllr Zilliah Brooks  
Cllr Rob Humby  
Cllr Mark Kemp-Gee

Cllr Fiona Mather  
Cllr Anna McNair-Scott  
Cllr Frank Pearce  
Cllr Alan Rice  
Cllr John Wall

Against (4): Cllr Phil Bailey  
Cllr Peter Chegwyn  
Cllr Shaun Cully  
Cllr Brian Gurden

Abstained (2): Cllr Tim Rolt  
Cllr Chris Wood

106. **WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee received a report from the Director of Policy & Governance - Corporate Services, item 8 in the Minute Book, which set out the Committee's work programme.

RESOLVED:

That the Work Programme be noted, subject to any amendments arising from items considered at this meeting.

107. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The Committee agreed the following:

RESOLVED:

That the public be excluded from the meeting during the following item of business, as it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during these items there would be disclosure to them of exempt information within 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, being information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings, and further that in the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons set out in the report.

108. **NEW GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SPORT HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT TEAM (EXEMPT APPENDIX)**

The Committee received an exempt appendix to the report from the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services, regarding the New Governance Arrangements for the Sport Hampshire and Isle of Wight Team (item 7 in the Minute

Book).

RESOLVED:

That the information in the Appendix is noted by the  
Committee.

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Chairman