



RUSHMOOR BOROUGH COUNCIL

LEISURE AND YOUTH POLICY AND REVIEW PANEL

*at the Council Offices, Farnborough on
Monday, 5th September, 2016 at 7.00 pm*

To:

Cllr Liz Corps (Chairman)
Cllr Mrs. D.B. Bedford (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr T.D. Bridgeman
Cllr P.I.C. Crerar
Cllr Sue Dibble
Cllr R.L.G. Dibbs
Cllr J.H. Marsh
Cllr M.L. Sheehan
Cllr L.A. Taylor

Enquiries regarding this agenda should be referred to the Panel Administrator: Adele Taylor, Democratic and Customer Services, Democratic and Customer Services, Tel. (01252) 398831 or Email adele.taylor@rushmoor.gov.uk.

A G E N D A

1. **MINUTES –** (Pages 1 - 6)

To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th June, 2016 (copy attached).

2. **THE EMPIRE –**

To receive a presentation from Mr. Justin Coll, General Manager, on the activities and working arrangements of the Empire and to carry out a tour of the facility.

3. **WORK PROGRAMME –** (Pages 7 - 14)

To review the Panel's current work programme (copy attached), and to agree priorities where necessary.

MEETING REPRESENTATION

Members of the public may ask to speak at the meeting on any of the items on the agenda by writing to the Panel Administrator at the Council Offices, Farnborough by 5.00 pm three working days prior to the meeting.

Applications for items to be considered for the next meeting must be received in writing to the Panel Administrator fifteen working days prior to the meeting.

LEISURE AND YOUTH POLICY AND REVIEW PANEL

Meeting held on Monday, 6th June, 2016 at the Council Offices,
Farnborough at 7.00 p.m.

Voting Members

Cr. Liz Corps (Chairman)
Cr. Mrs. D.B. Bedford (Vice-Chairman)

Cr. T.D. Bridgeman
Cr. P.I.C. Crerar
Cr. Sue Dibble

Cr. R.L.G. Dibbs

Cr. J.H. Marsh
Cr. M.L. Sheehan
Cr. L.A. Taylor

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN –

RESOLVED: That Cr. Liz Corps be appointed as Chairman of the Panel for the 2016/17 Municipal Year.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN –

RESOLVED: That Cr. Mrs D.B. Bedford be appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Panel for the 2016/17 Municipal Year.

3. MINUTES –

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th April, 2016 were agreed as a correct record.

4. APPOINTMENTS TO PANEL GROUPS –

(1) Mid-Cycle Group –

It was **AGREED** that the membership of the mid-cycle meeting group for the Municipal Year 2016/17 would be as follows, the Chairman (Cr. Liz Corps), the Vice-Chairman (Cr. Mrs D.B. Bedford) and Cr. T.D. Bridgeman.

(2) Lido Task and Finish Group –

It was **AGREED** that the membership of the Lido Task and Finish Group for the Municipal Year 2016/17 would be agreed by the Head of Democratic and Customer Services in consultation with the Group Leaders in due course. It was also **AGREED** that the name of the group would be changed to the Lido Review Working Group.

5. RUSHMOOR ARTS HUB –

The Panel welcomed Mr. Tony McGovern, Rushmoor Arts Hub (RAH) Project Manager, and Mr. Barney Jeavons, Hampshire Cultural Trust (HCT), RAH Steering Group Chair who attended the meeting to give a presentation on the work carried out so far on the project.

The Panel noted the background to the project. It was advised that Rushmoor had been listed in the bottom 20% of areas in the country for arts, making it eligible for funding from Arts Council England (ACE). In 2012, an unsuccessful bid had been submitted to the ACE South-east; however, after geographical changes within the ACE, this was followed in 2013 by a visit from ACE South-west. A consultation, carried out locally for ACE South-west, took place during 2014 to establish who required help and what help was needed in the area. The consultation findings had led to funds in excess of £39,000 being granted in spring 2015, to the Council and the HCT.

The consultation highlighted that 78% of respondents would like more arts provision in Rushmoor and 42% had stated that they would like to help develop it. Others identified that their organisation would benefit from a dedicated Rushmoor arts website and networking opportunities, and visits from high quality arts organisations.

A Steering Group had been established involving Mr. Jeavons from the HCT, the SoCo music project, First Wessex Housing Association, the Council and Rushmoor Voluntary Services with Rushmoor Schools Plus who had taken the role of co-ordinating the project. The Group met monthly and had established terms of reference and an action plan; it was noted that Mr. McGovern dedicated 10 hours per week of his time to the project. The Group were also supported by a mentor from ACE South-west.

The Panel was then advised of the project activities, including: the provision of inspirational training and development opportunities; the delivery of a website and regular e-newsletters; the hosting of network events; and, the creation of a grant scheme for young people to develop their own skills.

It was explained that a number of learning visits had taken place, Mr. McGovern and Mr. Jeavons had made trips to Bristol, Basingstoke, Farnham, Eastleigh, Exeter, Torbay and Plymouth to experience their creative spaces and how the arts sat within a borough/district. The majority of these places were more established with the arts as part of their communities and the trips had been a productive insight into how the arts could become embedded in local society.

A number of training and development activities had also taken place, including mystery shoppers at the West End Centre and Princes Hall and West End Centre staff development through “learning as the customer”. This had been achieved by visiting venues and a planned visit for some staff members to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

It was reported that a RAH website was currently being developed and a Facebook and Twitter page had been established. The website would have information about arts organisations and events in Rushmoor and would give visitors to the site the opportunity to chat with each other, creating an online forum/networking facility. It was advised that the sites' content would be closely monitored. A networking session had taken place in March 2016, to which 54 organisations had been invited to attend but only fifteen had attended. Mr McGovern advised that it had proven difficult to get organisations involved in the project and a decision had been made that the next networking session, in September, would be opened up to a wider audience.

The Panel was informed of the Young Peoples Arts Grant. Grants of between £50 and £1,000 were available to young people between the ages of 13-25 who lived or studied in Rushmoor. The scheme had been promoted in the Arena magazine and the children of Fernhill School, poet Chris Redmond and Whitestone Media, had produced a promotional video. To date, five applications had been successful, with awards of between £350 and £950 to two animators, a filmmaker, a dancer and a drummer.

It was reported that the Arts Council had been provided with an interim report on the progress of the project and had stated that Rushmoor was now on the Arts Council's radar. The next stage would be to get together with the stakeholders to talk about the future of the project to determine how it could be developed.

The Panel discussed the possibility of partnership working with the University College of Arts (UCA), Farnham, which in the past had exhibited at the West End Centre. It was thought that this project might assist in creating a partnership between RAH and UCA. In addition, it was advised that the Sixth Form College held an art exhibition annually of works created by the students. It was noted that, due to cutbacks, funding was tight and the exhibition might need to be stopped in the future. It was suggested that a grant could be given to the college to enable the exhibition to continue.

A discussion was then held on embedding the arts in every part of the strategic plan and policy. It was felt important to encourage arts in schools and the possibility of utilising empty shop spaces to display art work could be investigated. It was also suggested that a Member of the Panel could be invited to join a stakeholder meeting.

The Panel **ENDORSED** the Rushmoor Arts Hub and requested an update on the project at a future meeting.

6. **LOCAL AUTHORITY SUPPORT FOR SPORTS –**

The Head of Community and Environmental Services, gave a presentation on the Local Authority Support for Sport. It was reported that Rushmoor was considered a stronghold for sport and had second to none facilities within its boundaries. The majority of the facilities within the

Borough were self-funded and ran on a voluntary basis. However, a small number provided by the Council were, in particular:

- Aldershot Indoor Pools
- Aldershot Lido
- Southwood Golf Course
- Farnborough Leisure Centre
- Connaught Leisure Centre

As part of the Council's 8-Point Plan, discretionary services were under scrutiny and it was important to try and make them as self-funding as possible. The Panel recognised that sports facilities were expensive to run and replace.

Over the past six years, it was noted that £27 million had been invested in the Borough's sports and play facilities. Funding had been provided from numerous sources including the Department for Children, Schools and Families, Sport England and the Military. The Borough had in the region of £100 million worth of sport/play assets within its boundaries.

Mr. Amies advised of the Council's strategic priorities, including health and wellbeing, community safety, economic development, social cohesion and inequalities, neighbourhood renewal and educational attainment. Sport played its part in addressing these priorities through: physical activity to help combat medical issues such as diabetes and obesity; the employment of 700 part/full time staff and 1,000 volunteers; and, Sport for All – tackling inequality and raising aspirations through the "Be the Best" initiative. The Panel viewed a short video titled the "Hampshire Youth Games – Mission Possible", which shared inspiring stories from young people involved in the games held in Aldershot.

The Panel was then apprised of the numerous other activities available around the Borough, these included walking groups, couch to 5k and Park Run, cycling and walking football and basketball, specifically aimed at the older generation. It was noted that Rushmoor had reached the top ten authorities nationally in the "Active People's Survey", for participating in 30 minutes or more activity a week. It was also noted that 100% of its junior football clubs had been awarded with Charter Mark status and several clubs, across different disciplines, had produced Olympic athletes.

It was important that the sporting clubs throughout the Borough remained sustainable by developing opportunities to generate income, investing to save, reducing running costs and securing funding opportunities. Some clubs rented space to other organisations in their facilities during the day when buildings would not normally be in use and others had links with prestigious clubs or sports providers. Some benefitted from sponsorship from local or national companies and others supported charities, such as "Race for Life".

The Panel discussed the presentation and the issues around sporting facilities and it was noted that some residents still believed that there was nothing available for young people in the Borough. It was also mentioned that the Rushmoor Gymnastics Academy had trouble funding coaches as its finances were tight. In response to a query, it was explained that funding was still available from the likes of Sustrans, which had previously contributed £130,000 for improvements to the Cove Brook Greenway.

The Borough's two football clubs were mentioned and it was advised that an update could be given at a future meeting. A discussion would take place at the next mid-cycle meeting to determine the way forward.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Amies for his presentation.

7. **CONNAUGHT LEISURE CENTRE –**

The Head of Community and Environmental Services reported on a proposal for operational changes at the Connaught Leisure Centre.

The Panel noted that the Borough had a number of community schools, most of which were self-funding and were being run with little or no financial assistance from the Council. However, it was advised that Connaught Leisure Centre, currently managed by the Council and situated within the grounds of Connaught School, was running at a deficit of approximately £30,000 per annum. Mr. Amies advised that the school had some concerns over safeguarding as the gym area was only accessible through the school, allowing adults to walk through the corridors unaccompanied.

It was advised that an average of fifteen people were using the gym facilities on a weekly basis during school opening hours (8.30 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.). It was proposed that following consultation with the users, the gym opening hours could be amended to 5.00 p.m. - 10.00 p.m., Monday – Friday. Displaced daytime users could be re-located to the Aldershot Indoor Pools gym facilities. This proposal would result in a potential saving of around £40,000 per annum.

In response to a query it was noted that to create separate access to the facilities would be costly and users would still need to access the building via playground areas where children may be present.

It was **AGREED** that the Head of Community and Environmental Services would consult with the daytime users and their views would be taken into account in the decisions on the Leisure Centre's future.

Action to be taken	By Whom	When
The Head of Community and Environmental Services be requested to consult with daytime users of the Connaught Leisure Centre on the proposals set out above and ensure their views are taken into account.	Head of Community and Environmental Services.	September, 2016

8. **WORK PROGRAMME –**

The Panel **NOTED** the current work programme.

It was advised that a visit to the Military Sports Facilities had been scheduled for a meeting of the Panel. However, it was felt that, if Members were still keen to visit the facilities, a date would be set outside of the cycle of meetings. This would be discussed further at the next mid-cycle meeting.

A number of items were raised for consideration at future meetings, these were noted and would be discussed at the next mid-cycle meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.03 p.m.

CR. LIZ CORPS
CHAIRMAN

LEISURE AND YOUTH POLICY AND REVIEW PANEL - WORK PROGRAMME

Set out below are the key issues which form the Panel's on-going work programme. The topics covered reflect the following:

- the development of a new policy for recommendation to the Cabinet
- scrutiny of the process of the way in which decisions have been or are being made
- reviewing issues of concern to local people or which affect the Borough
- review of performance and delivery of specific services
- monitoring and scrutinising the activities of others
- items raised by Members and agreed by the Panel for consideration
- review of policies and proposals developed by others

The purpose of the work programme is to identify the way in which topics are being dealt with and the progress made with them. An update will be submitted to each meeting of the Panel. New issues are highlighted in the programme.

LEISURE AND YOUTH PORTFOLIO ACCOUNTABILITY AND AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

The terms of reference of the Panel will include all these issues contained in the Leisure and Youth portfolio. The functions set out in the Scheme of Delegation are:

<p>Leisure and Recreation Facilities</p> <p>To deal with all matters relating to the provision and management of leisure facilities and the improvement, repair and maintenance of all buildings and equipment in relation to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • parks, woodlands, recreational grounds, open space and play areas • allotments <p>sports and recreation initiatives (including childcare and play)</p> <p>To deal with matters relating to the management and operation of major leisure facilities owned and/or operated by the Council and to consider initiatives for the provision of new leisure facilities in the Borough. In particular, to examine issues in relation to:</p>	<p>To deal with all matters relating to leisure marketing, heritage and tourism.</p> <p>To deal with issues relating to the letting and monitoring of contracts relating to the functions in the portfolio.</p> <p>To develop, maintain and promote those services and facilities provided for the Borough and the wider area, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basingstoke Canal • Blackwater Valley Countryside Management Service
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aldershot Pools Complex and Lido • Alpine Snowsports Centre • Farnborough Leisure Centre • Princes Hall • Southwood Golf Course <p>To carry out the Council's functions in respect of consultative arrangements on library services and community schools.</p>	<p>To carry out the Council's functions relating to grounds maintenance, subject to contractual issues where the function is provided jointly with other services being dealt with through the Environment Portfolio.</p>
<p>Town Twinning</p> <p>To deal with the social and cultural aspects of town twinning.</p>	<p>Other Matters</p> <p>To deal with all matters relating to the administration and enforcement of the Council's byelaws relating to the functions of the portfolio.</p>
<p>Rushmoor in Bloom</p> <p>To deal with all matters, in consultation with the Rushmoor in Bloom Forum, relating to the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The annual Rushmoor in Bloom Competition, including promotion, publicity and sponsorship, programme of events and presentation of prizes; • participation in and arrangements for the Council's entry to the Southern England in Bloom Competition; • applications for commemorative floral displays. 	<p>To develop, implement and monitor the Council's strategies for addressing youth issues and the needs of young people in the Borough.</p> <p>To work with education providers to promote Life-long learning.</p>

WORK PROGRAMME – OBJECTIVES AND PROJECTS

INTRODUCTION

At the mid-cycle meeting held on 23rd August 2004, there was a preliminary discussion on developing the work of the Panel in context of the recent review of overview and scrutiny carried out by South East Employers. The meeting examined how to structure the future work and specifically dividing the Panel's work programme into three main types of issues:

- Ongoing items for monitoring and scrutiny including regular performance management information
- A limited number of projects for in depth investigation
- Items for information

In addition, requests can be made to discuss key decisions shown on the forward plan in advance of the relevant Cabinet or Council meeting.

PROJECTS DEVELOPED BY THE PANEL

The Panel agreed to identify 3 – 4 issues which would form major projects for the Panel. For each, a task and finish group has been established and the Panel was asked to agree the following:

- The objective of the project
- When it would be completed
- A lead member drawn from the Panel
- Members making up the task and finish group

There is also a regular discussion at the mid-cycle meeting on some of the major leisure developments that are being considered for the future.

SCRUTINY & PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

These items will be discussed on a regular basis by the Panel in order to monitor progress and identify any specific issues. It is proposed to develop a range of performance information which will then be reported to the Panel on a regular basis, i.e. every 4 – 6 months.

DATE RAISED	ISSUE AND DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC	PROCESS AND TIMETABLE	CURRENT POSITION	CONTACT (SERVICE MANAGER)
25.11.13	Lido Review	The Lido Review Working Group identified five options for the Lido consultation exercise, which were endorsed by Cabinet in October 2013.	This work is ongoing and an update is being made at the meeting on 7th November, 2016.	Peter Amies, Head of Community and Environmental Services, Tel: (01252) 398750, Email: peter.amies@rushmoor.gov.uk
10.02.15		The Cabinet considered the report from the Head of Community and Environment on the work of the Lido Task and Finish Group and the recommended actions at its meeting on 10th February, 2015.		
01.02.16		The Panel were updated on the ongoing work of the Lido Review Working Group and noted the way forward.		
08.06.09	Southwood Golf Course	<p>A review of the contract was carried out in 2009/10 together with a tender process. As a result, Mack Trading, have been awarded an initial contract for nine years.</p> <p>As part of the agreement the Council is examining the longer term issues in conjunction with Mack Trading.</p>	The operation of the Golf Course is continuing to be monitored.	Peter Amies, Head of Community and Environmental Services, Tel: (01252) 398750, Email: peter.amies@rushmoor.gov.uk

14.11.11	Runways End	<p>A meeting was held at Runways End to tour the new facility and to discuss the operational arrangements. The facility had only recently opened and it was agreed that further work should be undertaken by the Panel once it had been in operation for a while.</p>	<p>The arrangements at Runways End would continue to be monitored.</p>	<p>Peter Amies, Head of Community and Environmental Services, Tel: (01252) 398750, Email: peter.amies@rushmoor.gov.uk</p>
08.09.14		<p>A further meeting was held at Runways End where Members had a tour of the facility and received a presentation from the Centre Manager on the operational arrangements and plans for making the facility more accessible to the public in the future. Performance information was also provided to the Panel.</p>		

<p>14.08.13</p> <p>08.06.15</p>	<p>Football Clubs</p>	<p>The Panel has previously met with representatives of both Aldershot and Farnborough Football Club. At the end of the 2012/13 season both clubs went into administration and since that time briefings have been provided to members on the work being done to assist in securing the future of both clubs. The Clubs are now playing in the National League and Southern League Division One Central respectively.</p> <p>A meeting was held at Aldershot Town Football Club where Members had a tour of the facility and received a presentation from the current owners on working arrangements and activities. The presentation also included the Club's plans for the future.</p>	<p>The working arrangements at the Clubs are being monitored and further reports made to the Panel as appropriate.</p> <p>Arrangements at the Aldershot Town Football Club would continue to be monitored.</p>	<p>Andrew Lloyd, Chief Executive Officer, Tel: (01252) 398396 Email: andrew.lloyd@rushmoor.gov.uk</p>
<p>21.04.16</p>	<p>Academies</p>	<p>At the Council meeting on 12st April 2016 the following Notice of Motion was referred to the Panel for consideration:</p> <p>"This Council supports the stand taken by all groups at the LGA over the academisation of all schools sought by Government as being neither relevant nor appropriate to the education, community involvement and educational outcomes for students at primary or secondary level in Hampshire and in Rushmoor and represents a manifest interference in the running of said schools."</p>	<p>A Member briefing on the consultation on the failure of Connaught School has been arranged for 19th September, 2016.</p> <p>A briefing paper is being prepared on the issue and this will examine the options of the school which includes the move to an academy.</p>	<p>Karen Edwards, Corporate Director Tel; (01252) 398800 Email: karen.edwards@rushmoor.gov.uk</p>

INFORMATION ITEMS / ISSUES TO BE KEPT UNDER REVIEW

These following items are provided for the information of the Panel. They have been considered in the past and will be monitored from time to time to consider whether specific work is required:

- **Cultural Strategy** – The Panel has a monitoring and review role.
- **Southwood Community Centre** – The future of the Centre is being kept under review although in the short term the future of the Centre is assured. A report is to be made to the Panel when required.
- **Princes Hall** –The Panel will receive regular reports on performance and activities.
- **Farnborough Leisure Centre/ Aldershot Pools Complex/ Southwood Golf Course** – The Panel receives the Annual Service Reports from DC Leisure on these facilities to enable it to monitor activities and performance.
- **Southwood Woodland** – The Panel has been monitoring progress with the project and a report will be made once the planning process has been completed.
- **Alpine Snowsports** – The Panel will monitor performance and activities from time to time.
- **West End Centre** – The Panel will monitor operations at the centre and consider any changes if they are proposed.
- **Aldershot/Farnborough Libraries** – A report will be made to the Panel if any changes are proposed to the Libraries.

LEISURE AND YOUTH POLICY AND REVIEW PANEL

SCHEDULE OF AGENDA ITEMS – 2016/17

5th September, 2016	Monitoring and Scrutiny <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Empire 	
7th November, 2016	Monitoring and Scrutiny <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and Young Peoples Partnership • Leisure Contracts • Lido Review – Update • Football Clubs 	
23rd January, 2017	Monitoring and Scrutiny <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism • Allotments • Town Twinning 	
27th March, 2017	Monitoring and Scrutiny <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Halls and Community Centres • Playgrounds 	
Dates/Items to be confirmed	Monitoring and Scrutiny <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alpine Snowsports • Southwood Golf Club • Community Leisure • Academies 	Panel Projects