



RUSHMOOR BOROUGH COUNCIL

LEISURE AND YOUTH POLICY AND REVIEW PANEL

*at the Council Offices, Farnborough on
Monday, 1st February, 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 K. Dibble
Cllr J.H. Marsh
Cllr A.R. Newell
Cllr M. Staplehurst
Cllr B.A. Thomas

Enquiries regarding this agenda should be referred to the Panel Administrator: Adele Taylor, Democratic and Customer Services, Email: adele.taylor@rushmoor.gov.uk
Tel: 01252398831.

A G E N D A

1. **MINUTES – (Pages 1 - 4)**

To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th November, 2015 (copy attached).

2. **HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL LIBRARY SERVICES –**

Ms. Sara Teers, Head of Libraries and Registration Services, Hampshire County Council, will provide an update on the Hampshire County Council Library Strategy Consultation.

3. **LIDO REVIEW UPDATE –**

To provide an update on the ongoing work of the Lido Task and Finish Group.

4. **LEISURE AND YOUTH BUDGET PORTFOLIO –**

To review the Panel's portfolio of budgets (papers attached) to assist in identifying future items for the work programme.

5. **WORK PROGRAMME – (Pages 5 - 12)**

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, 9th November, 2015 at the Princes Hall, Aldershot 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. K. Dibble

Cr. J.H. Marsh

Cr. A.R. Newell
a Cr. M. Staplehurst
Cr. B.A. Thomas

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Cr. M. Staplehurst.

11. MINUTES –

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th September, 2015 were agreed as a correct record.

12. PRINCES HALL -

The Chairman welcomed Mr. David Phillips, Town Centre and Cultural Manager, who had been invited to the meeting to give a presentation on the Princes Hall Annual Report 2014/15 and an overview of the future opportunities and potential developments at the site.

Mr. Phillips reported on events held at the Princes Hall during 2014/15, and advised that, for the first time ever, over 1,000 events had been held at the theatre. This figure comprised 407 promotions, such as 56 professional shows, 39 performances of the Pantomime and 232 Youth Theatre sessions, and 639 hirings, including 85 concerts and shows, 318 business meetings and 90 dance classes. It was explained that whilst “hirings” were risk free, a fixed fee was paid by the hirer for use of the room, profit on promoted events was dependent on ticket sales. It was noted that the Youth Theatre sessions had increased from four sessions a week in 2010/11 to seven per week in 2014/15, which were attended by over 100 young people.

It was advised that the number of professional shows and their attendance figures had remained consistent over the past few years; data showed there were 50-60 shows on average a year, attended by around 20,000 people. Increases to ticketing prices, in the past twelve months, had resulted in an increase in gross box office figures and profit on professional

shows. The Panel was informed of the ten most profitable professional shows, these included shows by comedians Lee Mack and Jason Manford, Sing A Long A Frozen, Psychic Sally, That'll be the Day and Milkshake Live! It was noted that if a show ran for more than one night/performance profits increased, as set up costs were reduced.

Mr. Phillips reported on the data collected from performances of the Pantomime. It was noted that attendance figures had remained between 17,000 and 19,000 per year over the last six years, with Snow White and Peter Pan being two of the most popular Pantomimes. Gross box office figures had risen steadily over the years, with takings in excess of £250,000 in 2014/15, resulting in a profit of £123,000 (a £3,329 profit per show). When benchmarked with ten other venues in England, it was noted that the Princes Hall ranked fourth on profit per pantomime performance, beaten only by three venues with significantly larger seating capacities.

It was noted that, compared with thirteen other civic theatres in England, the Princes Hall ranked top on average percentage of tickets sold per professional show, (including the Pantomime). 39% of all Princes Hall's tickets were now sold online, (fifth out of twelve venues), the installation of a new ticketing system, "Spektrix", enabled a target figure to be set of 50% by 2017.

It was advised that income from the Tichbourne and Princes suites had reduced since 2006/07 but income from the main auditorium had almost tripled. It was a priority to address the fall in hiring income of the ground floor suites or find alternative uses for them

The Panel was informed of the budget for the Princes Hall and noted that the venue had operated at a subsidy of £3.05 per person in 2014/15. It was also noted that some capital works had been carried out, in particular replacement flooring at £15,000, a replacement stage extension at £12,000 and installation of wi-fi throughout the building. It was explained that the subsidy of nearly £400,000 for the Princes Hall was very competitive compared to that of other local theatres.

In response to a query regarding the jump in the number of events by 18%, it was advised that one regular booking of 100 meetings, ie. Slimming World, would make a huge difference to the number of hirings, increasing the figures considerably.

It was noted that SNAP discos had once had attendance figures of 500-600 young people but had dipped about 18 months ago to 200 – 250. A relaunch had taken place making the disco cheaper to put on and attendance had increased to 300+. It was noted that the Police were no longer involved in SNAP.

The Panel discussed the parking facilities near the Princes Hall, and was assured that the demolition of the Warburg Car Park had not had a detrimental effect on attendance at the venue. However there were some

issues with the Westgate/Morrisons car park, and staff aimed to divert theatre goers to the High Street Car Park at all times.

A discussion was then held on the future of the Princes Hall. A number of areas needed to be considered to ensure a sustainable future for the facility, these included, income from the suites, the staffing structure, booking fees, secondary spend, competition from other venues in the town centre and the long term use of the building. The Westgate site had been identified as a key site in the Aldershot Prospectus; the site included the Princes Hall, Police Station and Magistrates Courts as well as the Westgate development. Possible developments for the Princes Hall included an enhanced ground floor area, which could include a café area and space for office co-location opportunities and flexible meeting rooms.

The Panel discussed the two venues in the town, which may have an impact on the Princes Hall, The Empire and The Palace. It was noted that The Empire had a capacity of 1,600 but required a lot of work and the view from the seating at the top was obscured; it was thought that the plan would be to have an auditorium on the ground floor and a restaurant with a place for worship on the upper level. It was advised that work was currently taking place on The Palace and the property still held a licence to operate as a nightclub. The future plans were still unclear.

In response to a query, it was advised that the Council would continue to monitor the site adjacent to The Empire, which currently housed Gala Bingo and a car wash facility.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Phillips for his presentation.

13. **WORK PROGRAMME –**

The Panel **NOTED** the current work programme and were advised that a presentation on the Playground Review and an update on the Lido Review would be given at the next meeting

The meeting closed at 8.00 p.m.

CR. LIZ CORPS
CHAIRMAN

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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	<p>The Lido Review Working Group identified five options for the Lido consultation exercise, which were endorsed by Cabinet in October 2013.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>The Cabinet recommended that the Task and Finish Group consider, in more detail, a number of issues raised at the meeting. This work is ongoing and an update is being made at the meeting on 1st February, 2016.</p>	<p>Peter Amies, Head of Community and Environmental Services, Tel: (01252) 398750, Email: peter.amies@rushmoor.gov.uk</p>
08.12.14				
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>	<p>The operation of the Golf Course is continuing to be monitored.</p>	<p>Peter Amies, Head of Community and Environmental Services, Tel: (01252) 398750, Email: peter.amies@rushmoor.gov.uk</p>

14.11.11	Runways End	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.	The arrangements at Runways End would continue to be monitored.	Peter Amies, Head of Community and Environmental Services, Tel: (01252) 398750, Email: peter.amies@rushmoor.gov.uk
08.09.14		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.		

14.08.13	Football Clubs	<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 Ryman League Premier Division respectively.</p>	<p>The working arrangements at the Clubs are being monitored and further reports made to the Panel as appropriate.</p>	<p>Andrew Lloyd, Chief Executive Officer, Tel: (01252) 398396 Email: andrew.lloyd@rushmoor.gov.uk</p>
08.06.15		<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>Arrangements at the Aldershot Town Football Club would continue to be monitored.</p>	
09.11.15	Princes Hall	<p>A meeting was held at the Princes Hall, Aldershot where Members received a presentation on the Annual Report 2014/15 and held a discussion on future opportunities and potential developments at the facility.</p>	<p>Working arrangements and plans for the future of the Princes Hall would continue to be monitored and further reports made to the Panel as necessary.</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 – 2015/16

1st February, 2016	Monitoring and Scrutiny <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library Strategy Consultation - Update • Lido Review – Update • Budget Portfolio 	
4th April, 2016	Monitoring and Scrutiny <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West End Centre - Trust 	
6th June, 2016	Monitoring and Scrutiny	
5th September, 2016	Monitoring and Scrutiny	
7th November, 2016	Monitoring and Scrutiny	
23rd January, 2017	Monitoring and Scrutiny	
27th March, 2017	Monitoring and Scrutiny	
Dates/Items to be confirmed	Monitoring and Scrutiny <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Empire • Farnborough Town Football Club • Playgrounds • Alpine Snowsports • Army Sports Facilities • Southwood Golf Club 	Panel Projects