

At a meeting of the CULTURE AND LEISURE REVIEW COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on TUESDAY, 17TH MARCH, 2009 at 5.30 p.m.

Appointment of Chairman

At the request of Councillor J.B. Scott, it was moved and duly seconded that Councillor Mordey be appointed Chairman for the duration of the meeting due to the absence of the Vice-Chairman.

It was:-

1. RESOLVED accordingly.

Present:-

Councillor Mordey in the Chair

Councillors Ellis, Foster, P. Gibson. T. Martin, J.B. Scott and Wares.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the Committee on behalf of Councillors Errington, G. Hall, Howe, Symonds and Wake.

Minutes of the last Meeting

2. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 17th February, 2009 be confirmed and signed as a correct record subject to:

Item 17 – Sport and Leisure Update

Information provided in response to Councillor Ellis' query, that Officers had advised that lessons had been learned in relation to the Newbottle Play Area, be included in the minute.

Members noted that Councillor T. Martin's comments referred to the Skate Park in Roker, not Hendon, and how it could have been more visible to the public.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Cabinet Report – Councillor Call for Action Guidance

The Chief Executive and the City Solicitor submitted a joint report (copy circulated) for Members' comments on the draft guidance relating to new powers for Councillors designed to help them solve problems in their wards which was presented to Cabinet on 11th March, 2009 and looks at the new powers known as the Councillor Call for Action (CCfA).

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Nigel Cummings, Review Co-ordinator, presented the report and Rhiannon Hood, Assistant City Solicitor, also advised that there would be two workshops for Members in April, one during the day and one in the evening.

Councillor Wares welcomed having the two separate workshops to accommodate Members who work during the day.

In response to Councillor T. Martin's query, Ms. Hood advised that a call for action would not go to full Council for consideration, but would be addressed by Members at a meeting of the relevant Committee in the community where the issue arose.

3. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Heritage Development Report

The Director of Community and Cultural Services submitted a report (copy circulated) to update Members on the work ongoing within Culture and Tourism with regard to the Heritage agenda across the City.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Jane Hall, Assistant Head of Culture and Tourism, presented the report and was on hand to answer Members' queries.

Councillor P. Gibson commented that he was delighted to see that Northumbria Water had agreed to install a marked-out footprint of the monastic buildings at St. Peter's and enquired in relation to the World Heritage Site status and why it would take until 2011 to find out if our nomination had been successful.

Ms. Hall advised that the further time was required because of the number of nominations to be considered.

Councillor Ellis asked for further details in relation to the fact sheets on Bernard Gilpin as referred to in paragraph 3.3

Ms. Hall advised that she would look into the matter and provide Councillor Ellis with the information.

Councillor Ellis also enquired if the six page booklet promoting Local History Month would be provided to Members.

Ms. Hall advised that copies of the booklet would be sent to Members.

4. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Policy Development and Review 2008/09: Draft Report

The City Solicitor submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided Members with the first draft report from the evidence gathered in relation to this year's policy review on music venues.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Nigel Cummings presented the report and requested Members' feedback and comments.

Councillor P. Gibson commented on the visit made by Members to the Cluny venue in Newcastle, and the reasons for its recommendation, made by several of the bands that attended the Committee.

Members having considered the attributes of the venue and remarked on the variety of reasons which lay behind its success and popularity, it was:-

5. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) Members pass any further comments or recommendations to Nigel Cummings to be included in the final review report to be presented at the April 2009 meeting; and
- (ii) the report be received and noted

Work Programme 2008-09

The City Solicitor submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide for Members' information the current Work Programme for the Committees' work during the 2008/09 Council year.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman advised that Northumbrian Water and the Environment Agency had agreed to attend a meeting of the Committee in April and requested an Extraordinary meeting to discuss the Blue Flag status/water quality.

Nigel Cummings, Review Co-ordinator, agreed to arrange a date for the Extraordinary meeting of the Committee

Rhiannon Hood, Assistant City Solicitor, advised that if Policy and Co-ordination proposals for changing the remit of Review Committees were to proceed then items remaining on the current Work Programmes would be referred for consideration by the relevant Committee.

6. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) an Extraordinary meeting be arranged in April to discuss Blue Flag status/water quality with Northumbrian Water and the Environment Agency;
- (ii) the report be received and noted for information.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.

(Signed) M.MORDEY,
Chairman