

Leisure and Culture Action Group

Minutes of a meeting held on 8th May 2007

Market Room, Grosvenor Hotel, Stockbridge

Present:

Madeline Edmonds, (Chair) Test Valley Arts Foundation
Derek Jeffrey, Chief Executive, Valley Leisure
Jenny Stevens, Curator, Andover Museum
Ian McKie, Head of Leisure, TVBC
Tony McGovern, Community Manager, Mountbatten School
Euan Russell, Broadlands
Dave Tasker, TVBC Leisure Services
Richard Watson, Test Valley Youth Service
Jane Selby, HCCL Library Service

1. Apologies

Christine Cole, Town Centre Manager
Heather Whittam, Director - The Lights
Lisa Mitchard, Tourism Officer, TVBC
Paul Gardner, Romsey and District Society
Charlotte Malyon, Business Development Manager, TVBC Leisure Services
Mike Wickenden, Hampshire County Council, Recreation and Heritage Dept
Robert Turner, HCCL Library Service
Janet Blann, Chief Executive, Test Valley Community Services
David Kane
John Barrell

2. Minutes of the last meeting

Agreed as accurate.

3. Matters Arising

LSP - Children's Officer appointed - Lin Penny

Planting of Mulberry trees to celebrate the Quarter Centenary Year of the Romsey Charter is to be around the town - not just the town centre.

4. Reviewing the Leisure and Culture Chapter of the Community Plan

CM has been involved in talks regarding the content of the chapter and redrafting has taken place. IM and ME felt it was important that the Leisure and Culture should be seen as something to be invested in, and that the chapters should be coherent and well placed in the document as a whole. ME explained that problems had arisen due to a redraft of the L&C chapter and important content being left out. CM will be trying to resolve these issues as soon as possible.

5. Review of web based information in Romsey

Aim is to help more people have access to sport, recreational and cultural activities by improving access to information, reviewing what's currently available and filling in the gaps for both web based and hard copy information.

Tony feels a starting point is to create 'Romsey Contact' website for Romsey area families in an attempt at signposting useful information to local people. This could be widened to include the rest of Test Valley - linking to the Test Valley Leisure and Culture Pages - and including external links to improve them.

Agreed that TVBC website could be improved and that Andover and Romsey Websites need to point to each other. Jean Lannie is the lead for the Andover information and signposting project.

DT mentioned that all the information is on the TVBC website, just not very easy to find. JS added that in future other Borough Councils will use TVBC website to draw info from in their customer service centers. Tony McGovern suggested that The Lights website should have useful links to related sites.

6. Sport and Physical Activity Alliance

The 'Get Active' Sports Fair was a highly successful day with 4-4.5k people attending, now need to keep the enthusiasm for physical activity up and the clubs are going to food back on achievements for many in respect of new memberships. DVD of Mike Bushel's news report to be shown at next meeting. Sports Fair need to be made sustainable for next year - Ambassador for Sport Andover needed - DT chairing at the moment - any ideas or suggestions welcome.

ME felt that as we work towards the Olympics it is very important to have an ambassador to drive things forward.

7. AOB

Jane Selby - has new role as group manager for New Forest and Test Valley - managing Library managers. Andover Library foyer has been redecorated - the rest of building to follow.

Jenny Stevens - Touring exhibition of ancient African artifacts from the British Museum coming to Andover Museum until 21st July.

Ian McKie - the economic value of leisure and culture is being looked into by Experian, who are developing an Economic Development Strategy for the Borough. The Lights have had 28 thousand visitors so far. Education and Outreach program going well. Andover Hockey Club has won the National Cup.

Richard Watson - now 2 weeks into post as youth worker. Andover Youth Forum's event 'The Big Thing' being held 7th July. Bid for funding submitted for 'Go for it', which will be a two week program. Duke of Edinburgh going extremely well - 2 gold's to be collected from

the palace at the Garden Party. There are changes within Children's Services regarding the position of the Youth Forum.

Euan Russell – the varied programme of events for 2007 has started at Broadlands.

Derrick Jeffries – Andover Swimming programme – Duncan Goodhugh visiting. The Rapids have had 60 thousand more visitors in first year since its refurbishment.

Tony McGovern – All day programme in school holidays for 11+ was very successful. Romsey Youth Council 'gig' this Friday for youth bands. Looking at event for young people at Romsey Arts Festival.

Madeline Edmonds – St Mary's Chapel, Andover is soon to become a mini Arts Centre. An application has been made for Arts Council Funding. 3 artists are to run workshops and outreach projects alongside their own work.

7. Dates for 2007-2008 Meetings

Tuesday 2 October 6.15 for 6.30pm King John's House