

Culture Committee

Tuesday, 08 January 2013 at 10:30

County Hall, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7QP

AGENDA

- | | | |
|---|--|---------|
| 1 | Minutes of the last meeting held on 27 November 2012 | 3 - 6 |
| 2 | Apologies for Absence | |
| 3 | Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers:- (see note below)
(a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests
(b) Private Interests (pecuniary and non-pecuniary) | |
| 4 | Ten Years of Community Archaeology in Nottinghamshire | 7 - 10 |
| 5 | Service Update for the Period 5 November to 9 December 2012 | 11 - 14 |
| 6 | Nottinghamshire Olympic Legacy Fund Kick Start Rapid Award | 15 - 20 |
| 7 | Fees and Charges 2013-14 for the Country Parks and Green Estate Service | 21 - 26 |
| 8 | Work Programme | 27 - 30 |

Notes

- (1) Councillors are advised to contact their Research Officer for details of any Group Meetings which are planned for this meeting.
- (2) Members of the public wishing to inspect "Background Papers" referred to in

the reports on the agenda or Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act should contact:-

Customer Services Centre 0300 500 80 80

- (3) Persons making a declaration of interest should have regard to the Code of Conduct and the Council's Procedure Rules. Those declaring must indicate the nature of their interest and the reasons for the declaration.

Councillors or Officers requiring clarification on whether to make a declaration of interest are invited to contact Martin Gately (Tel. 0115 977 2826) or a colleague in Democratic Services prior to the meeting.

- (4) Councillors are reminded that Committee and Sub-Committee papers, with the exception of those which contain Exempt or Confidential Information, may be recycled.



minutes

Meeting

CULTURE COMMITTEE

Date 27 November 2012

(commencing at 10.30 am)

Membership

Persons absent are marked with 'A'

COUNCILLORS

John Cottee (Chairman)
Liz Yates (Vice-Chairman)
Fiona Asbury
Chris Barnfather
Barrie Cooper
Michelle Gent
John Knight
A Gail Turner
Wendy Quigley
Chris Winterton
Gordon Wheeler

Ex-officio (non-voting)

A Mrs Kay Cutts

OTHER COUNCILLORS IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Mel Shepherd

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Derek Higon – Service Director, Youth, Families and Cultural Services
Peter Gaw – Group Manager, Libraries, Archives and Information
Patrick Candler – Group Manager, County Parks and Green Estate
Sally Gill, Group Manager Planning
Sue Cullen – Sports and Arts Service Manager
Mark Dorrington, Team Manager, Archives and Local Studies
Nick Crouch – Nature Conservation Leader

Anna Vincent, Researcher
Dawn Lawrence, Democratic Services

Martin Gately – Democratic Services

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 30 OCTOBER 2012

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Gail Turner who is on other County Council business.

It was noted that Councillor Chris Winterton had replaced Councillor Darell Pulk on Culture Committee for this meeting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

SPORT AND ARTS GRANT AID

RESOLVED: 2012/021

That the report be noted.

SERVICE UPDATE FOR THE PERIOD 8 OCTOBER TO 4 NOVEMBER 2012

RESOLVED: 2012/022

That the report be noted.

PERFORMANCE REPORTING (1 APRIL – 30 SEPTEMBER 2012)

RESOLVED: 2012/023

- 1) That the report be noted and that intended process for reporting performance to Committee on a quarterly basis be approved

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ARCHIVES REVISED ACQUISITIONS POLICY

RESOLVED: 2012/024

That the revised Nottinghamshire Archives Acquisitions Policy be approved.

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2012

RESOLVED: 2012/025

That the report be noted.

THE ROBIN HOOD FESTIVAL 2013

RESOLVED: 2012/026

- 1) That the success of the 2012 Robin Hood Festival be noted
- 2) That the Robin Hood for 2013 takes place on 5-11 August organised by the Country Parks Service in conjunction with the operator of the new visitor centre
- 3) That the requirement for an advance sum from the Country Parks Service Reserve Account to help underwrite the organisational costs be noted
- 4) That the special event car parking fee, held at £5 for all visitors, be noted
- 5) That the road closure and local parking carried out this year be repeated in 2013

2012 VISITOR SATISFACTION SURVEYS IN COUNTRY PARKS

RESOLVED: 2012/027

That the report be noted.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A FIXED TERM PROJECT ARCHIVIST POST AT NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ARCHIVES WITH FUNDING FROM THE WELLCOME TRUST

RESOLVED: 2012/028

That the creation of a fixed term (18 months) full time post of Project Archivist at Nottinghamshire Archives, to be funded by a grant from the Wellcome Trust, be approved.

STRATEGIC STONE STUDY OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

RESOLVED: 2012/029

That the financial contribution to the Strategic Stone Study be approved

LAW COMMISSION CONSULTATION – WILDLIFE LAW

RESOLVED: 2012/030

That the County Council's response to the Law Commission's consultation on the reform of wildlife law be approved

WORK PROGRAMME

RESOLVED: 2012/031

That the Committee's work programme be noted.

The meeting closed at 12:05 pm.

CHAIRMAN

REPORT OF THE GROUP MANAGER PLANNING**TEN YEARS OF COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE****Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide an update on Nottinghamshire County Council's Community Archaeology programme.

Information and Advice

2. Nottinghamshire had a strong tradition of community-led archaeology long before the term Community Archaeology was coined. Two of our earliest community archaeologists were Dr Robert Thoroton and Major Hayman Rooke. Dr Thoroton (1623 – 1678), a physician from Car Colston, published the first history of the County in 1677 under the title *Antiquities of Nottinghamshire*. Major Rooke (1723 – 1806) undertook archaeological investigations across the county, including excavating the Northfield roman villa at Mansfield Woodhouse and recording the ancient oak trees of Sherwood. The Major Oak or “Major’s Oak” in Sherwood was renamed by locals in his honour.
3. The Thoroton Society, named in honour of Dr Thoroton, is the County historical and archaeological society and was formed in 1897. Its annual *Transactions* reports on the research into local history and archaeology carried out by amateur enthusiasts and increasingly by professional archaeologists and historians.
4. Public interest in archaeology has grown rapidly in recent years and there are 74 local history and/or archaeological societies across Nottinghamshire, many of which are very active. With major advances in the protection of archaeological remains through planning policy over the last 25 years, however, and the need for archaeological investigations to work alongside (and within the time constraints of) development, the opportunities for communities to be actively involved have declined. Community Archaeology programmes are designed to help local people to reconnect with their heritage, working alongside and supported by professional archaeologists.
5. The Nottinghamshire County Council Community Archaeology programme started in 2002, and was set up to deliver the archaeological aspects of the Heritage Lottery funded Sherwood Initiative through a series of community projects and training programmes. It has since helped local people across the county to develop and deliver a wide range of heritage projects and has supported two further major Heritage Lottery funded programmes in Sherwood and Trent Vale. The programme employs two Community Archaeologists and these posts are entirely funded by the projects they help to deliver.

6. Nottinghamshire County Council's Community Archaeology programme is one of the most active in the country, delivering over 225 separate projects and events involving hundreds of volunteers over the last ten years, including:
- 45 family heritage events including Time Travel Trent Vale at Newark Castle, which attracted thousands of visitors;
 - 45 public workshops and training days, ranging from flint knapping and prehistoric pottery to training volunteers in archaeological survey techniques;
 - 9 geophysical surveys of sites such as King John's Palace in King's Clipstone;
 - Walkover surveys of 9 areas, ranging in size from Lowdham motte to the banks of the Trent through 16 parishes, and involving hundreds of miles of walking by staff and volunteers;
 - 9 topographic earthwork surveys to record upstanding archaeological features such as Willoughby deserted medieval village near Norwell;
 - 3 test pit excavations looking for evidence of, for example, the fire that destroyed Mansfield Woodhouse in 1304;
 - 4 field walking sessions, including Mattersey and Southwell;
 - 9 graveyard surveys, including North & South Clifton, Awsworth and Woodborough;
 - 12 large scale community excavations ranging from a Romano-British site at Raymoth Lane, Worksop in advance of a housing development, to the excavation of a medieval manor house at Kirkby Hardwick.

Other Options Considered

7. Not applicable.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

8. The County Council's Community Archaeology programme has been very successful in helping local communities and groups to understand and protect their historic environment, attracting significant amounts of investment into the Nottinghamshire and helping to make the County a more attractive place to live and work.

Statutory and Policy Implications

9. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equality duty, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) To note the success of the County Council's Community Archaeology programme.

Sally Gill
Group Manager Planning

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Heather Stokes, Conservation Team Manager (0115 969 6508)

Constitutional Comments (NAB 18.12.12)

10. The Culture Committee has authority to consider the matters set out in this report by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (DJK 18.12.2012)

11. The contents of this report are duly noted; there are no financial implications.

Background Papers

None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND CULTURE

SERVICE UPDATE FOR THE PERIOD 5 NOVEMBER TO 9 DECEMBER 2012

Purpose of the Report

1. To update the Committee on a range of initiatives being undertaken to improve and enhance the quality of life for Nottinghamshire people.

Information and Advice

LIBRARIES

Amazing Pop Ups: Family workshop at Mansfield and Newark Libraries

2. Robert Crowther, author and creator of numerous pop-up book titles and a leading expert in paper engineering, joined families at Mansfield and Newark Libraries for a hands-on pop-up making workshop.
3. Robert talked briefly about his own books and then demonstrated the techniques he uses to create pop-ups before encouraging families to have a go. Everybody enthusiastically joined in and enjoyed making their own pop-up creations. Robert was always on hand to offer help and advice and able to demonstrate more advanced techniques. Lots of the finished pop-ups had a festive theme with a number creating beautiful pop-up Christmas cards to take home. Comments from children and adults were overwhelming positive.

"We had a really enjoyable time making pop –ups. An excellent activity which we loved to continue at home"

"The pop up workshop was fantastic. My daughter really enjoyed the activities".

RaceOnline 2012

4. Nottinghamshire Public library staff and volunteers have helped more than 40,000 people to get online in the past two years. Most of these people were completely new internet users, and some were tentative users who lacked confidence in their skills.
5. In September 2010 the Society of Chief Librarians pledged to get 500,000 people online by the end of 2012 as part of the Government's RaceOnline 2012. The national total now stands at over 2.5 million people helped to get online.

6. Nearly 30% of households in the UK do not have access to the internet at home and for many people the local library is an essential link for access to online resources.
7. Libraries continue to reach out to people without access to computers at home and play a key role in ensuring that individuals and communities are poised to make the most of the Government's super-fast broadband rollout across the UK, especially in isolated communities.
8. All Nottinghamshire libraries offer free computer training sessions called Try IT which introduce basic computer skills but also provide an introduction to job seeking online, health on the Web, Ancestry and family history and access to Government websites.

COUNTRY PARKS

Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre

9. During November, Discovery Attractions started their work to prepare for their planning application to Newark and Sherwood District Council. No submission date has yet been fixed.
10. Initial meetings have been held with Edwinstowe Parish Council, Edwinstowe Business Forum and with the County Council as part of the agreed liaison arrangements. Arising from this latter meeting, a temporary office and meeting base has been provided for the consortium at the Rufford Mill cottages.
11. On 29 November, Discovery Attractions also attended the Edwinstowe Christmas light switch on where they were able to show some of their current thinking to the community. This sparked a positive response from local people. On 17 December, Discovery Attractions made a presentation to the Sherwood staff.
12. A series of liaison meetings have now been established between the County Council and Discovery Attractions to plan and review progress to conclude the contractual arrangements which are now scheduled for sign off by the end of January 2013.

Aurora Christmas Illuminations

13. The Aurora Winter Illuminations at Rufford Abbey, now in their sixth year, again proved a highlight of the park's events calendar, with double the number of visitors in comparison to when this was first organised.
14. The 2012 event ran over three weekends before Christmas and in total some 6,200 people attended. The lighting arrangements and accompanying music were new for this year and on the dry but cold evenings were spectacular.
15. Notwithstanding the success of Aurora, it is a demanding event to organise in terms of set up time and volunteer input. Park rangers laid over three miles of electrical cable, and have to cope with the vagaries of an outdoor night-time event in unpredictable winter weather. On one evening, the show had to be cancelled owing to very wet weather.

16. The small car park capacity at Rufford also proved a challenge, with the final day of the event attracting more than 2,000 people within two hours with overflow parking limited by the wet ground conditions.

CULTURAL AND ENRICHMENT SERVICES

17. On Monday 10 December, the opening evening of the Talented Coaches Programme 2013 took place at County Hall with 30 coaches from around the County attending. The programme is in its fifth year and this year we have twice as many coaches compared to previous years, with new coaches all the way through to experienced ones. The aim of the scheme is to support the development of coaches through a variety of means including workshops, mentoring, seminars and funding over a twelve month period. This in turn will have a positive effect on the approx 1,000 participants the coaches work with and in turn hopefully attract more to their respective sessions.
18. The opening evening started off with Mick Newell, Director of Cricket at Nottinghamshire Cricket Club, talking to the coaches about his coaching philosophy and what he has put in place at Trent Bridge. The rest of the evening included the coaches getting to know each other through a couple of activities, former Talented Coaches speaking about their experiences and Pete Forster, the County Council Coaching lead and programme organiser, discussing what lay ahead for the coaches. The coaches represented 19 different sports and will meet up again in January for a session around coach mentoring.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) That the report be noted.

Derek Higton
Service Director, Youth, Families and Culture

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Derek Higton
Service Director, Youth, Families and Culture
T: 0115 9773498
E: derek.higton@nottscc.gov.uk

C0149

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND CULTURE

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE OLYMPIC LEGACY FUND (KICK START RAPID) AWARDS

Purpose of Report

1. To inform Members of the applications received for the Kick Start Rapid strand of the Nottinghamshire Olympic Legacy Fund.
2. To seek approval for award recommendations.

Information and Advice

3. At Policy Committee on 17 October 2012, approval was given to establish a £1 million grant fund to respond to the legacy challenge created by the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.
4. The scheme is designed to support local sports clubs to retain and grow membership and focuses on supporting them to buy much needed equipment and/or to support small/medium sized capital improvements to facilities. There are two strands to the overall scheme:

Kick Start - grants between £500 and £10,000

Game Changer - grants between £10,001 and £50,000

5. In both schemes sports clubs will need to be able to demonstrate how the funding will be used to support increased participation and/or improve the performance of club members. As well as providing direct financial support, the grants scheme will also support club efforts to lever in additional matched funding from other sources.
6. Application forms and guidance notes for prospective applicants have been established as has a useful frequently asked questions document to assist sports clubs in the process. To support bids for Game Changer funding a template business plan has also been made available to clubs.
7. The scheme has been widely promoted using local media sources and the County Council website. Officers in the Council's sports development team have also used their links to local clubs, including a sports club database, to promote the scheme.

8. The closing date for all applications is 31 December 2012 and following the assessment process applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application no later than 20 March 2013. Recommendations for approval of Kick Start and Game Changer awards will be brought to Culture Committee meetings in February and March 2013.

Kick Start Rapid

9. To ensure momentum a Kick Start “Rapid” award option was made available to registered, constituted sports clubs providing funding from £500 up to a maximum of £2,000. Applications received up to 20 December 2012 have already been assessed using a fast track process and are being recommended for approval (see **Appendix 1**).

Other Options Considered

10. None.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

- 11, The applications recommended for approval meet the criteria set as part of the application process for Kick Start Rapid awards.

Statutory and Policy Implications

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

13. The cost of the Olympic Legacy Fund is to be met from the corporate contingency.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) To approve the recommendations for Kick Start Rapid awards, as listed in **Appendix 1**.

Derek Higton
Service Director, Youth, Families and Culture

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Steve Bradley
Group Manager, Cultural and Enrichment Services
T: 0115 977 4206
E: steve.bradley@nottsc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments (NAB 11/12/12)

14. Culture Committee has authority to approve the recommendations set out in this report by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (NDR 19/12/12)

15. Whilst the intention behind the Fund is to distribute all funding within the current financial year, any unspent funding will be set aside in an earmarked reserve at the year end to fund any continuing commitments.

Background Papers

£1 Million Olympic and Paralympic Legacy Fund – report to Policy Committee, 17 October 2012
Kick Start and Game Changer Application Forms
Kick Start and Game Changer Criteria
Kick Start and Game Changer Frequently Asked Questions Sheet
Eligible sports listing

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C0137

Nottinghamshire Legacy Fund Kick Start

Organisation	Project	Award £	Match Funding £	Existing Participants	New Participants	Volunteers	Cash-in-kind £
Calverton & Bingham Swimming Club Water Polo	Our junior section continues to grow. We need essential equipment so they can play safely and progress to the middle section of the pool before joining the senior players. Rebound nets will enable all players to improve technique. We need new balls for seniors and stop watches for match timings.	729	0	30	10	8	0
Hucknall Sports Youth Football Club	To replace our ageing Mini Soccer equipment which has been used for 10years and is in urgent need of replacement. With the increased focus on mini soccer plus the increase in children means that we need to do something quickly to update our equipment.	768	0	40	40	12	0
Newark Town Bowls Club	To replace defective furniture and bowls equipment, plus provision of new equipment Store. As the majority of our bowls members are over 65 years of age, the provision of the furniture and equipment detailed in this application will be of great benefit to those users.	1,418	0	40	10	10	0
Nottingham Boccia Club	We are asking for funding to purchase equipment for new players and to replace old equipment for existing players, we would like to purchase 5 new Boccia sets at the cost of £1630. We would also like to purchase other equipment like cones, target mats and skittles cost £150.	1,989	0	15	9	18	360 p/w
Priory Celtic Football Club	Priory Celtic FC are hold after school training sessions at local primary schools (Larkfields and Giltthill) the funds will ensure that our volunteer coaches can provide quality training with safe kit and equipment such as balls, bibs, cones. The sessions have a high "pass-through" rate for children joining sports clubs.	330	0	0	30	4	15 p/h
Retford Swimming Club	We have old and un-usable equipment for club members which needs to be replaced, we have 4 club sessions a week with over 200 members and currently can not supply them with basic training equipment e.g. Floats, Pull Buoys, Fins etc. The equipment will help increase performance and also increase numbers.	1,008	0	220	80	20	0
Rolls Royce Bowmen of Sherwood	After an increase of interest following the Olympics our intake of membership and interest in the sport has grown and we now need additional coaches and training equipment to be able to offer the sport to new members.	1,000	0	4	20	12	0
Worksop Harriers Athletics Club	JOG Group and SENIORS2 UKA coaching bags containing range of equipment for strength and conditioning , resistance bands and medicine balls etc.	1,990	0	220	40	22	0
TSCA Swords Fencing Club	A kick start award would be used to enhance the training and playing experience for all members and especially for gifted and talented juniors by providing more recording apparatus and practice weapons. That way all fences will be able to train under more realistic competition conditions.	1,978	0	37	24	6	720
Retford Bowling Green Ltd	To encourage bowling within local community. Give free taster sessions for prospective new bowlers. Encourage all age groups to try bowling as a sport. Buy new equipment suitable for all ages.	1,900	0	120	23	15	0

Organisation	Project	Award £	Match Funding £	Existing Participants	New Participants	Volunteers	Cash-in-kind £
Carlton Forum Swimming Club	Having higher-tech and additional wetside equipment will enable us to increase participation and allow our 18 volunteer coaches to offer a varied programme, improving technique, stamina and overall performance for the new and existing 200+ swimmers. The dryside equipment will provide vital strength and conditioning training supplementing our wetside programme.	1,887	0	200	40	18	0
Newark Basketball Club	To develop a central venue league in the north of the county and to increase participation in all age groups from primary to veterans. We will renovate and upgrade an existing facility and purchase equipment to suitable for primary school children. To train more volunteers.	1,900	800	50	60	20	3,100
Kimberley Netball club	To purchase much needed new netball equipment to enable new members to participate in our club, and to also acquire specialist equipment to improve the performance of our athletes, thus developing the club and making it accessible to everyone in the community.	1,900	0	60	30	10	0
Newark shooters Netball Club	The equipment will be used primarily to develop High 5 netball sessions for girls and boys aged 9-11, open to children from all primary schools in the area. The equipment will also be used by current club members; helping to ensure quality training sessions can continue resulting in membership retention.	539	0	12	20	6	120
Rushcliffe Squash Club	As a very proactive club, having achieved Silver Accreditation, and Runner Up in Club of the Year in 2012 we are looking to increase participation and new member levels while creating sustainable activity. We wish to carry out an outreach program to attract more juniors and ladies to the club.	320	0	7	13	4	250
Polly Bowls Club CIC	To provide short mat bowls facilities.	1,732	0	50	50	10	500
Southwell Brincliffe United Ladies Hockey Club	To purchase a solid, secure flameproof outdoor storage container. This will be kept pitchside so that all the essential equipment is in one place, accessible to coaches, managers and captains	575	0	70	18	18	0
Nottingham Knights Netball Club	We gained netball CAPS accreditation this year and want to expand our junior section. Our aim is to deliver High 5 netball courses in primary schools within Lady Bay & West Bridgford to attract new players. We need extra equipment which we can take with us when coaching in schools.	1,300	0	15	25	7	750
Rolls Royce Leisure JFC	New training equipment across a range of age groups and with our plan to provide portable dugouts for match days.	2,000	0	160	30	25	0
Babworth Rovers FC	We intend to upgrade the electrics in the changing rooms and kitchen to comply with current Health and Safety and Electric Regulations. At the same time the current fixed heaters in the changing rooms have been condemned and require renewing and re-fitting to provide warmth and safety.	2,000	65	150	13	5	0
Nottingham Playball	Provision of equipment (balls, gloves, bat, safety helmets, catchers protective gear) This is x2 as the equipment sizes for the team are different.	600					
Trowell Football Club	Equipment - balls, bibs, cones.	250					
		28,113	865	1,500	585	250	5,440

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND CULTURE**FEES & CHARGES 2013/14 FOR THE COUNTRY PARKS AND GREEN
ESTATE SERVICE****Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek approval for the proposed fees and charges for the Country Parks and Green Estate Service for the financial year 2013/14.

Information and Advice

2. Fees and charges are reviewed annually and are influenced by the rate of inflation, service income targets, market forces, and the level to which customers are 'price sensitive' in what is becoming a very competitive leisure and tourism market, also served by other providers across the County, such as the National Trust, Forestry Commission and Thoresby Estate.
3. Fees and charges levied by the Country Parks Service comprise car parking, hiring for mobility scooters, filming fees for commercial companies (infrequent) and events on parks.
4. Commercial charges in trading outlets (catering and retail at Rufford and Sherwood) are not covered in this report. School sessions at Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre provided by the Environmental Education team and in the Rufford Crafts Centre (Arts Service) are also excluded.
5. It should be noted that the income raised through car parking is about one tenth of that generated through retail and catering, and there is a concern that it may act as a deterrent to some visitors to the country parks. Customer feedback during the year questioned the need to charge and there was also some confusion as to when car park charges were levied.
6. The proposed charges for 2013/14 for the Country Parks Service are set out below:

Car Parking at Rufford Abbey Country Park and Sherwood Forest National Nature Reserve

- the car parking charge to remain at £3 per car per whole day for all cars
- the free concession for coaches and mini-buses will be retained

- the charge for motorcycles will be reduced to £1 per bike per whole day
- the revised charging period will be from 29 March to 22 December for all week ends and bank holidays. In addition there will be a week day charge throughout August (see **Appendix 1** for further details)
- the season ticket of £20 per calendar year will be retained at the same level
- mobility scooter hire to be maintained at £2 per hour
- a special event charge of £5 per car to be made for premier events, including the Robin Hood Festival, the Earth and Fire Festival and the 1940s week-end in September
- to retain the special offer redemption at Rufford and Sherwood where the £3 car park fee is refunded on a purchase of £15 or more (except when the special event fee is in force).

Car Parking at Bestwood Country Park and Cotgrave Country Park

- no car parking charges to be levied as there are no visitor facilities on site.

Filming Fees

- a filming fee at Rufford Abbey if the footage / photography is to be broadcast, printed or used for commercial purposes will be charged at £250 per full day or £175 per half day (3 hours). There is no charge for amateur, educational or 'not for profit' uses
- a filming fee donation at Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre (as the Council does not own this site) for short filming sessions (less than an hour on site), with only minimal input from staff, will be £50. For longer sessions, requiring greater input from staff, a fee of £200 will be charged.

Firewood

- to increase the charge from £60 to £70 per trailer, when wood is available at any of our sites.

Public Events

- various smaller public events are held within Country Parks, ranging in size from guided walks to living history days. On occasions, charges may be made for activities within these, eg: for trail leaflets. Such charges are outside the scope of this report.

Memorial Items

- to maintain charges for benches and plaques installed at Rufford Abbey within a range of £250 to £850, dependent upon the nature of the memorial item.

7. It is further proposed that the Group Manager, Country Parks and Green Estate Service, is authorised to adopt a flexible approach towards all charging during the year, particularly to any increase in charging for car parking at special events/occasions, in consultation with the Chairman of the Culture Committee.

Other Options Considered

8. Charges are kept under review throughout the course of the year and reflect a balanced approach between generating income and retaining visitor numbers at our sites.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

9. The recommendation to keep current car park charges unchanged but simplify the charging period is made in the light of customer behaviour and feedback during the course of the year, after examining the operational practicalities and of its potential impact on other income generating activities.
10. Though the daily charge is comparable with other local providers, it should be recognised that car park charges are less important to overall site income than retail and catering income. Increase in car park charges can have a tendency to depress spending in on-site commercial outlets and so can have an overall negative effect on income.
11. It should also be remembered that visiting outdoor attractions such as country parks is heavily influenced by the weather. On good days, car parking demand at Rufford, for example, is very high. In such cases, the parking charge period is a method of helping to manage undesirable peaks and troughs of demand, by encouraging visitors to come midweek and off peak if they can.
12. The decision in 2011/12 to remove the free parking concession for Blue Badge holders initially raised some concerns (six written complaints). During the past year, there has been minimal reaction from visitors, who are more concerned to park near the main buildings. To this end, an additional ten parking bays for disabled visitors have been created and on peak days, car parkers are asked to give disabled visitors a parking priority.
13. Whilst it would be logical to also remove free parking for coaches, there is a concern that with some 300 plus coaches per year calling at Sherwood Forest and Rufford Abbey, trade in catering and retail outlets would be affected, and tourists would go elsewhere. As the free parking is an attractive incentive to coach operators, it is therefore proposed to retain free parking for coaches.
14. The charge for motor cycles has been reduced following discussions with users on the basis that at least three cycles can be parked in one normal sized car parking bay.

Statutory and Policy Implications

15. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service

and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Implications for Service Users

16. The revised charging regime is in line with local competitor pricing and will not impact negatively upon visitor numbers.

Financial Implications

17. The charging regime set out in this report will support the Service to operate within its revenue estimates for 2013/14.

Equalities Implications

18. As part of the process of making decisions and changing policy, public authorities are required by law to think about the need to:
 - eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation.
 - advance equality of opportunity between people who share protected characteristics (as defined by equalities legislation) and those who do not.
 - foster good relations between people who share protected characteristics and those who do not.
19. Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) are a means by which a public authority can assess the potential impact that proposed decisions / changes to policy could have on the community and those with protected characteristics. They may also identify potential ways to reduce any impact that a decision / policy change could have. If it is not possible to reduce the impact, the EIA can explain why. Decision makers must understand the potential implications of their decisions on people with protected characteristics.
20. An EIA has been carried out on the implications of increasing the charges and to date there is minimal evidence that these will have a disproportionate impact on any particular group of park visitors/users. However, the impact of the charges will be kept under review and if it is evident that these have a longer term disproportionate impact, there is built-in flexibility to the procedures to make any appropriate changes.
21. The EIA is available as a background paper. Decision makers must give due regard to the implications for protected groups when considering this report.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That:

- 1) the charging regime as set out in paragraph 6 of the report is adopted for 2013/14
- 2) the Group Manager, Country Parks and Green Estate Service, in consultation with the Chairman of the Culture Committee, is authorised to retain a flexible approach to

charging throughout the year and that the current charges can be varied or the charging period extended as circumstances warrant.

Derek Higon
Service Director, Youth, Families and Culture

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Linda Hardy
Parks Development Manager
T: 01623 821328
E: linda.hardy@nottsc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments (NAB 14/12/12)

22. The Culture Committee has authority to consider and approve the recommendations set out in this report by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (NDR 20/12/12)

23. The financial implications are set out in paragraph 17 of the report.

Background Papers

Equality Impact Assessment

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C0151

Schedule of Charges for Rufford Abbey Country Park and Sherwood Forest National Nature Reserve 2013/14

When?

Car parking charges apply as follows:

- **Good Friday 29 March to Sunday 21 July** at weekends and Bank Holidays only
- **Monday 22 July to Sunday 1 September** every day
- **Monday 2 September to Sunday 22 December** at weekends and Bank Holidays only.

Outside these times, including Boxing Day and New Year's Day, parking is FREE

How Much?

- **Cars £3** (this applies to all cars, including blue badge holders)
- **Motorcycles £1**
- **Coach & minibus parking free.**

However, a **Special Event Car Parking Charge of £5** will apply for certain major events, including:

Earth and Fire Ceramics Festival (21 – 23 June 2013) Rufford Abbey

1940s Weekend (31 August – 1 Sept) Rufford Abbey

The Robin Hood Festival (5 – 11 August 2013) Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre

Any Discounts?

£20 season ticket allows parking at both Rufford Abbey and Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre as many times as you wish (including during the Robin Hood Festival 2013). Season tickets cover one specified vehicle only.

Special offer - spend £15 in a single transaction in one of our on-site shops, cafés or restaurants and present your ticket to claim a refund of your parking charge (offer does not apply when special event car parking charge is in force)

**REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR, POLICY, PLANNING AND
CORPORATE SERVICES****WORK PROGRAMME****Purpose of the Report**

1. To consider the Committee's work programme for 2012/13.

Information and Advice

2. The County Council requires each committee to maintain a work programme. The work programme will assist the management of the committee's agenda, the scheduling of the committee's business and forward planning. The work programme will be updated and reviewed at each pre-agenda meeting and committee meeting. Any member of the committee is able to suggest items for possible inclusion.
3. The **attached** work programme has been drafted in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, and includes items which can be anticipated at the present time. Other items will be added to the programme as they are identified.

Other Options Considered

4. None.

Reason for Recommendations

5. To assist the committee in preparing its work programme.

Statutory and Policy Implications

6. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Committee's work programme be noted, and consideration be given to any changes which the Committee wishes to make.

Jayne Francis-Ward
Corporate Director, Policy, Planning and Corporate Services

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Martin Gately
Democratic Services Officer
T: 0115 9772826

Constitutional Comments (HD)

7. The Committee has authority to consider the matters set out in this report by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (PS)

8. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

CULTURE COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME

<u>Report Title</u>	<u>Brief summary of agenda item</u>	<u>Lead Officer</u>
5 February 2013		
Service update	To include update on Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre	Derek Higton
Work Programme		Derek Higton
Performance Monitoring report	Quarterly performance monitoring report for Key Performance Indicators	Derek Higton/Sally Gill
Nottinghamshire Sports and Arts Development Strategy	Seeking approval for the Strategy	Steve Bradley
Nottinghamshire Olympic Legacy Fund Kick Start/Game Changer Awards	For approval	Steve Bradley
Fees & Charges 2013/14 – Libraries, Archives & Information	Annual determination	Peter Gaw
Fees & Charges 2013/14 – Sports & Arts	Annual determination	Steve Bradley
Cultural Services Events Programme for 2013/14		Derek Higton
Partnership funding to Creswell Crags Heritage Trust 2013/14	Annual determination	Patrick Candler
Bestwood Management Agreement		Patrick Candler
5 March 2013		
Service update		Derek Higton
Work Programme		Derek Higton
Archives and Central Library Partnership Agreement		Peter Gaw
Revisions to library opening hours		Peter Gaw
Adult & Community Learning Service Priorities	Annual report to set priorities	Peter Gaw
Nottinghamshire Olympic Legacy Fund Kick Start/Game Changer Awards	For approval	Steve Bradley
Trent Vale Landscape Partnership	To report on the achievements of the Heritage Lottery funded TVLP project	Sally Gill
26 March 2013		
Service update		Derek Higton
Work Programme		Derek Higton
Update on Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre		Patrick Candler
Biodiversity Offsetting Pilot Project	To provide Members with a Year 1 report on progress with the national Biodiversity Offsetting pilot project	Sally Gill

<u>Report Title</u>	<u>Brief summary of agenda item</u>	<u>Lead Officer</u>
April 2013 date tbc		
Service update		Derek Higton
Work Programme		Derek Higton
Cultural Strategy	Six monthly monitoring report	Patrick Candler
Libraries Strategy	Six monthly monitoring report	Peter Gaw
May 2013 date tbc		
Service update		Derek Higton
Work Programme		Derek Higton
Performance Monitoring report	Quarterly performance monitoring report for Key Performance Indicators	Derek Higton/Sally Gill
Update on Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre		Patrick Candler
Outside bodies report	Comprising reports on: Arts Partnership Nottingham/ Creswell Heritage Trust/ Experience Nottinghamshire/ Greenwood Community Forest Partnership/ Nottingham Playhouse Board/ Nottingham Playhouse Trust/ Sherwood Forest Trust/ Sherwood Forest Regional Park Board	Derek Higton
To be placed		
Budget monitoring	Quarterly reports	Derek Higton
Idle Valley Management Board	Report from officer group	Sally Gill
Green Estate Management Plan	Seeking approval for the Plan	Patrick Candler
Heritage Plan		Sally Gill
Libraries Digital Skills Project		Peter Gaw
Historic Environment Record	To provide Members with information on the County's Historic Environment Record and seek endorsement for future working relationships with other Local Planning Authorities	Sally Gill