

19 April 2018**Agenda Item: 5**

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, PLACE AND COMMUNITIES

ANNUAL REVIEW - RUFFORD ABBEY COUNTRY PARK

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide the Committee with an update on a key cultural services commissioned service, Rufford Abbey Country Park.

Information

2. A range of the Council's cultural services are managed and commissioned through various partnership and contracting arrangements. Since February 2017 Rufford Abbey Country Park's commercial services offer has been managed by Parkwood Outdoors, with landscape management and angling provision also managed via Parkwood since January 2018.
3. As part of the Council's aim to achieve a long-term sustainable future for Rufford Abbey Country Park, to conserve (protect and enhance) the heritage of the historic Abbey buildings and the surrounding parkland and to develop a modern and attractive visitor offer, the Council is completing work to invest £1million at the site in partnership with Parkwood. The final phase of development work has focused on expanding the current car park capacity, updating the retail offer and developing a new high quality children's play area.
4. The presentation to Committee provides a summary of the key activity to date, an overview of the improvements that have taken place over the last 12 months and insight into the financial and usage patterns that are developing.

Other Options Considered

5. None.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

6. To ensure Committee is aware of current progress of the commissioned service and support partners to implement operational plans and activity.

Statutory and Policy Implications

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment 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) That Committee consider the report and the presentation by Parkwood and agree any actions which may be required.

Derek Higton
Service Director
Place & Communities

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Mark Croston, Cultural Services Commissioning Manager, Tel: 0115 9932712

Constitutional Comments [SLB 23/03/2018]

8. Communities and Place Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report. If Committee resolves that any actions are required it must be satisfied that such actions are within the Committee's terms of reference.

Financial Comments [RWK 22/03/2018]

9. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

- None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All



