

Culture Committee

Tuesday, 01 November 2016 at 10:30

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

AGENDA

1	Minutes of the last meeting on 6 Sept	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	Service Update for the Period 15 August to 9 October 2016	7 - 10
5	Commercial Operations at Rufford Abbey Country Park	11 - 16
6	Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre and Country Park - Progress Update	17 - 20
7	Inspire Update	21 - 28
8	Inspire Communications and Marketing Activity Protocol	29 - 36
9	Response to Petition Maintenance of Millennium Green	37 - 40
10	The Grizzled Skipper Project	41 - 52
11	Work Programme	53 - 56

12 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

The Committee will be invited to resolve:-

"That the public be excluded for the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that the discussions are likely to involve disclosure of exempt information described in paragraph 3 of the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information."

Note

If this is agreed, the public will have to leave the meeting during consideration of the following items.

EXEMPT INFORMATION ITEM Exempt appendix to report.

- 13 Commercial Operations at Rufford Abbey Country Park EXEMPT
 - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information);

<u>Notes</u>

- (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 Peter Barker (Tel. 0115 977 4416) 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.
- (5) This agenda and its associated reports are available to view online via an online calendar <u>http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Meetings.aspx</u>

Nottinghamshire County Council

minutes

Meeting Culture Committee

Date

6 September 2016 (commencing at 10.30am)

Membership

Persons absent are marked with an 'A'

COUNCILLORS

John Knight (Chairman) Pauline Allan (Vice-Chairman)

Roy Allan Chris Barnfather Alan Bell John Cottee Jim Creamer Tom Hollis Roger Jackson Sheila Place John Wilmott

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Pete Barker Mark Croston Sally Gill Derek Higton Philippa Milbourne

- -Democratic Services -Cultural Services Commissioning Manager -Group Manager, Planning -Service Director, CFCS
- -CFCS

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Peter Gaw -Inspire

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

That the minutes of the last meeting held on 12 July 2016 were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Roy Allan replaced Councillor Fielding, Councillor Creamer replaced Councillor Pringle and Councillor Place replaced Councillor Clarke, all for this meeting only.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

SERVICE UPDATE FOR THE PERIOD 20 JUNE TO 14 AUGUST 2016

RESOLVED 2016/037

That the update on a range of initiatives being undertaken to improve and enhance the quality of life for Nottinghamshire people be noted.

PERFORMANCE REPORTING (1 APRIL- 30 JUNE 2016)

RESOLVED 2016/038

That the Committee notes the performance of the Council's cultural services during the period 1_{st} April to 30^{th} June 2016.

REVIEW AND REFRESH OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL CULTURAL STRATEGY FOR NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

RESOLVED 2016/039

- 1) That the Cultural Strategy update attached as Appendix 2 to the report be noted.
- 2) That the process to develop a refreshed Cultural Strategy be approved.

THE ROBIN HOOD FESTIVAL 2016 AND PROPOSALS FOR 2017

RESOLVED 2016/040

That the success of the 32nd Robin Hood Festival and the proposals for the 2017 Festival at Sherwood Forest, in a suitably modified format to reflect anticipated site pressures, are noted.

UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP LIBRARIES

RESOLVED 2016/041

That the update on the development of Community Partnership Libraries across Nottinghamshire be noted.

<u>UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURE, LEARNING AND LIBRARIES –</u> INSPIRE

RESOLVED 2016/042

That the update on the development of Inspire in the delivery of cultural, learning and library services across Nottinghamshire be noted.

WORK PROGRAMME

RESOLVED 2016/043

That the committee's work programme be noted.

The meeting closed at 11.40am

CHAIRMAN



Report to Culture Committee

1 November 2016

Agenda Item: 4

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND CULTURE AND THE GROUP MANAGER, PLANNING

SERVICE UPDATE FOR THE PERIOD 15 AUGUST TO 9 OCTOBER 2016

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, ARCHIVES, ARTS, INFORMATION AND COMMUNITY LEARNING

£1 million refurbishment for Beeston Library

- 2. Beeston Library closed on Saturday 1st October in preparation for a major refurbishment. The project is part of Inspire's commitment to create an innovative and modern space and will deliver a series of improvements to the building's infrastructure, including:
 - new roof, windows, ceiling, lights, flooring and heating system
 - new shelving and a re-design of public spaces for modern library use
 - re-opening of the original main entrance on Foster Avenue
 - the creation of a new arts and learning room
 - a new IT Discovery suite
 - improvements to the meeting areas and exhibition spaces.
- 3. During the closure a temporary library will open in the Beeston Youth and Community Centre, West End, on Monday 24th October. This will provide a selection of stock, some computer access and the continuation of some events such as the popular Rattle, Rhyme and Roll for children. Stapleford and Toton Libraries will also open for additional hours.

Big Draw

4. Nottinghamshire libraries are set to STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths) ahead with a series of fun workshops as part of the <u>The Big Draw Festival</u>, an annual international celebration. This year's STEAM powered Big Draw will be the first delivered by Inspire which was set up earlier this year to deliver culture, learning and libraries across Nottinghamshire.

- 5. From 1-31 October, every year, thousands of enjoyable drawing activities connect people of all ages with places, artists, designers, illustrators, and each other to celebrate the universal language of drawing. This year's theme brings together Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths STEAM recalls our Industrial past and the fusion of creative innovation, enterprise and the arts.
- 6. Inspire will be delivering a programme of workshops in libraries for anyone who loves to draw, as well as for those who think they can't! Aimed at children and their families, participants will have fully illuminated fun exploring technology with creativity, using conductive drawing materials and working with an artist to create beautiful drawings with an electric circuit.
- 7. The work created will then become part of a touring library exhibition between November 2016 and April 2017.
- 8. Inspire have also secured an Arts Council England Grant for the Arts to extend the workshops to smaller libraries and to work with 10 schools to run Big Draw workshops and add more amazing artworks to the exhibition.

COUNTRY PARKS AND GREEN ESTATES

- 9. Sherwood Forest Country Park held its 'Major Oak Woodland Festival' on the weekend of 11th & 12th September a celebration of traditional woodland and green wood working skills. The costs of staging the event were offset by sponsorship obtained by partner organisation, the Sherwood Forest Trust. Despite variable weather, the event again attracted good numbers and proved both entertaining and educational for visitors, showcasing a variety of activities from traditional hurdle making, chair carving and charcoal making to Have a Go willow weaving all staged in the leafy glades of one of England's oldest forests.
- 10. In September, Rufford Abbey Country Park underwent its two-yearly inspection under the Visitor Attraction Quality Scheme (VAQS). This is a quality scheme run by the national tourist board. A paid inspector makes an all-day mystery shopper visit and tests all facilities, from the customer's eye view. This year's score was 80% a 10% increase on last year. The inspector praised the excellent standard achieved, with improvements noted in all areas, including retail, catering, customer welcome and pre-arrival information.

CONSERVATION

Invasive Non-native Species

11. The Himalayan Balsam control project has seen another impressive year of volunteer action from individuals and community groups. This volunteer effort, co-ordinated by the Biodiversity Officer, has continued to undertake control of Himalayan Balsam in the River Leen catchment (over approximately 9km of river frontage and also on non-river sites too); the River Maun catchment (also over approximately 9km of river frontage and on non-river sites); and the River Meden catchment (over approximately 13km of river frontage). Work has also started in the upper reaches of the River Erewash catchment for the first year, involving Himalayan Balsam control over a stretch of approximately 1.3

km of the river. Other control work has also taken place across the County including the Ouse Dyke, Cocker Beck, Normanton Brook, Potwell Dyke, River Poulter catchment, The Fleet and the Trent at Lady Bay.

12. Volunteer involvement has continued to increase, with volunteers including students from West Notts College and Samworth Academy, and members of local groups such as the Friends of King's Mill Reservoir, Maun Conservation Group, Forest Town Nature Conservation Group and the Leen Valley Volunteers. Once again the project was able to involve County Council staff from County Hall and Trent Bridge House, as well as staff from the Environment Agency, to undertake volunteer work in their lunch break along the River Trent waterfront at Lady Bay. A big thank you to everyone involved.

RECOMMENDATION

1) That the update on a range of initiatives being undertaken to improve and enhance the quality of life for Nottinghamshire people be noted.

Derek Higton Service Director Youth, Families & Culture Sally Gill Group Manager, Planning

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Derek Higton Service Director Youth, Families & Culture T: 0115 9773498 E: derek.higton@nottscc.gov.uk Sally Gill Group Manager, Planning T: 0115 9932608 E: <u>sally.gill@nottscc.gov.uk</u>

C0883

Nottinghamshire County Council

Report to Culture Committee

1 November 2016

Agenda Item: 5

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND CULTURE

COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS AT RUFFORD ABBEY COUNTRY PARK

Purpose of the Report

- 1. To inform Culture Committee of the outcome of the procurement process for a partner to operate and manage the commercial operations and visitor offer at Rufford Abbey Country Park, whilst the Council continues to maintain the Park overall.
- 2. To seek approval to award the contract to the preferred bidder to operate and manage Rufford Abbey Country Park's commercial operations and visitor offer, subject to approval of the Council's capital contribution.
- 3. To seek delegated authority to the Corporate Director, Children, Families and Cultural Services, in consultation with the Group Manager, Legal and Democratic Services, to approve any additions or amendments to any agreements which in their judgement are necessary to give effect to the project and which are within the financial parameters set out in the **Exempt Appendix**.
- 4. To seek approval, subject to approval of the Council's capital contribution and any contract fine-tuning, to enter into legal agreements with the preferred bidder who has been identified through the procurement process.

Information and Advice

- 5. Some information relating to this report is not for publication by virtue of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, paragraph 3, due to the confidentiality of information relating to the financial and business affairs of the Council and individual bidders. Having regard to all the circumstances, on balance the public interest in disclosing the information does not outweigh the reason for exemption because the information would add a limited amount to public understanding of the issues but would significantly damage the Council's commercial position. The exempt information is set out in the **Exempt Appendix**.
- 6. Culture Committee received a report at its meeting on 8 March 2016 that outlined the current annual operating cost of running Rufford Abbey Country Park. At that meeting Members agreed to the commencement of a procurement process to seek an appropriate partner to manage Rufford Abbey Country Park's commercial operations with effect from early 2017. The overall project ambition for the Country Council was 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."

- 7. More specifically, the objectives that have guided the procurement process are summarised below:
 - The development of a modern and attractive visitor offer that will:
 - operate daily throughout the year
 - as a minimum support and accommodate current visitor numbers
 - demonstrate that any capital investment in new/ improved facilities has a minimum life span of 10 years
 - ensure continuing free public access to Rufford Abbey Country Park
 - effectively support all-ability visitor access
 - effectively support the management of visitor impact on the park in general and the historic remains within and around the Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM)
 - provide appropriate interpretation/visitor information
 - demonstrate environmental good practice in respect of the operation of the facilities.
 - The effective conservation management of all the buildings and the SAM area within the scope of the commercial operation.
 - The Council's ambition is for the Park to be operated with as small a revenue budget subsidy as is practicable, and in the short-term to reduce net costs by £300,000 per annum.

The Procurement Process

- 8. As previously agreed by Members, a Competitive Dialogue procurement process was followed. This was considered to be the best process to be followed as it gave flexibility to potential partners within the context of the Council's objectives.
- 9. The tender process had three distinct stages:
 - Pre-qualification (four companies submitted pre-qualification questions)
 - Invitation to Submit Outline Solutions (two companies submitted outline solutions)
 - Invitation to Continue in Dialogue and Submit Final Tenders (two companies submitted final tenders).
- 10. The bids were evaluated by a multi-disciplinary officer panel and external advisors using the high-level weightings below:

Operations and services	40%
Commercial	60%
Total	100%

Outcome of Evaluation

- 11. The moderated scores for the two bids are contained in the Exempt Appendix, along with further information about the preferred bidder, its offer and the financial implications for the Council.
- 12. It is recommended that the contract be awarded to the preferred bidder on the basis of the moderated scores.
- 13. Bidders shall be informed of the outcome of the procurement process and given feedback in accordance with the requirements and obligations of EU public procurement rules.
- 14. The award will be subject to successful clarification/fine-tuning of any outstanding issues in the contract documentation to be addressed by the Council with the preferred bidder. The contract documentation will not be subject to re-negotiation.
- 15. On successful completion of the clarification/ fine-tuning stage, the Council and the winning bidder will complete the contract. The contract will set out what the winning bid proposed to ensure that the Council retains control through the contract. At the agreed commencement of the contract, staff currently working on the commercial operations will transfer to the successful bidder and run the commercial operations.
- 16. Should it not be possible to conclude these outstanding points, then the Council may consider re-engaging with the unsuccessful bidder. The Council also reserves the right not to award the contract to any bidder. In this case, this will be reported back to Culture Committee for further consideration and approval.

Other Options Considered

17. Maintain the current in house approach to the commercial offer at Rufford, supported by additional capital investment.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

18. Procuring an experienced leisure and commercial partner to operate and develop further the commercial activities was selected on the basis that it offered the best potential to meet the financial and future operational objectives set by the Council. It also reduced the Council's commercial risks whilst the Council would continue to directly maintain the Park overall and its grounds. Rufford Abbey would continue to be under the guardianship of English Heritage.

Statutory and Policy Implications

19. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, 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, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Crime and Disorder Implications

20. No crime and disorder implications are expected.

Financial Implications

- 21. The net cost of running the overall Park is approximately £400,000 per annum (based on 2015-16 outturn figures). The Council is expecting to reduce this cost by around £300,000 per annum, bringing the site much closer to cost neutrality from 2017.
- 22. Finance and Property Committee will consider the required Council capital contribution (envisaged as being £1million), as part of a wider capital programme report at its meeting on 21 November 2016.
- 23. More detail on the financial offer is set out in the **Exempt Appendix**.

Human Resources Implications

- 24. The successful bidder will accept the transfer of existing employees with protection under the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) (TUPE) regulations.
- 25. Full communications and consultation will take place with those employees affected and with the relevant trade unions with respect to the planning and implementation of the transfer of employment.

Public Sector Equality Duty implications

26. The partner will be expected to comply with the Public Sector Equality Duties.

Implications for Service Users

27. The impact on service users (visitors) will be positive with enhanced and new visitor facilities. These are set out in the Exempt Appendix.

Implications for Sustainability and the Environment

28. The Council will continue to retain the overall Park and grounds. Improving the commercial operations to reduce the operating cost will make Rufford Abbey Country Park more sustainable.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That, subject to approval of the Council's capital contribution, the Committee:

- 1) approves the preferred bidder, as identified in the **Exempt Appendix**, to be awarded the contract to partner with the Council and operate and develop further the commercial operations and visitor offer at Rufford Abbey Country Park, whilst the Council continues to maintain the Park overall.
- 2) approves the Council entering into the necessary Legal Agreements to give effect to the project within the financial parameters set out in the **Exempt Appendix**.

3) gives delegated authority to the Corporate Director, Children, Families and Cultural Services, in consultation with the Group Manager, Legal and Democratic Services, to approve any additions or amendments to any agreements which in their judgement are necessary to give effect to the project and which are within the financial parameters set out in the **Exempt Appendix**.

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

Constitutional Comments (SMG 18/10/16)

29. The proposals in this report fall within the remit of this Committee.

Financial Comments (TMR 06/10/16)

30. The financial implications are set out in paragraphs 21 to 23 of the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

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.

Commercial Operations at Rufford Country Park – report to Culture Committee on 8 March 2016 (previously published)

Commercial Operation at Rufford Country Park – report to Finance and Property Committee on 17 October 2016 (previously published)

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C0888



Report to Culture Committee

1 November 2016

Agenda Item: 6

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND CULTURE

SHERWOOD FOREST VISITOR CENTRE AND COUNTRY PARK – PROGRESS UPDATE

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report and the accompanying joint presentation by officers of the Council is to provide the Committee with a further update on progress following Committee approval in July 2015 to enter into legal agreements with the RSPB as partner to a) design, build and operate a new visitor centre at Sherwood Forest Country Park and b) decommission the existing facilities.

Information and Advice

Background

- 2. Culture Committee approved the commencement of a procurement exercise at its meeting on 1 July 2014 to seek a partner to develop, build and operate a new visitor centre for Sherwood Forest Country Park, and to manage Sherwood Country Park.
- 3. Following a detailed procurement exercise, the RSPB was selected as the preferred bidder. Culture Committee, at its meeting on 21 July 2015, approved the Council entering into legal agreements with the RSPB as its partner.
- 4. Contracts were signed with the RSPB on 16 November 2015. Presentations to the Culture Committee on 8 December 2015, 19 April 2016 and 12 July 2016 highlighted the progress made and the next steps with this project and this presentation provides a further update.

Other Options Considered

5. The report is for noting only.

Reasons for Recommendations

6. The report is for noting only.

Statutory and Policy Implications

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, 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 legal advice sought on these issues as required.

Implications for Service Users

8. The impact on service users (visitors) will be positive as the new visitor centre will provide a much needed "fit for purpose" visitor experience.

RECOMMENDATIONS

 That Culture Committee notes the progress made on entering into legal agreements with the RSPB as partner to design, build and operate a new visitor centre at Sherwood Forest Country Park, to decommission the existing facilities, and the next steps.

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

Constitutional Comments

9. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments (TMR 4/10/16)

10. As this report is for noting only, no Financial Comments are required.

Background Papers and Published Documents

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.

Future of Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre – report to Culture Committee on 1 July 2014 (previously published)

Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre and Country Park – future development and management arrangements – report to Culture Committee on 21 July 2015 (previously published)

Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre and Country Park – progress update – report to Culture Committee on 12 July 2016 (previously published)

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C0887



Report to Culture Committee

1 November 2016

Agenda Item: 7

REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR YOUTH, FAMILIES & CULTURE

INSPIRE UPDATE

Purpose of the Report

1. To update the Committee on the delivery of reading, arts and cultural activity delivered by Inspire.

Information and Advice

Summer Reading Challenge 2016 – 'The Big Friendly Read'

- 2. The Summer Reading Challenge is an immensely popular and successful library reading initiative. It is co-ordinated by The Reading Agency an independent reading charity and is delivered in libraries across the UK. The Challenge, now in its 18th year, is the UK's biggest national reading initiative involving 800,000 children nationally per year.
- 3. Each year the challenge to children is simple. They are encouraged to read six or more library books of their choice during the six week holidays. For every book read, children receive collectable incentives and rewards.
- 4. Each year the Summer Reading Challenge has a different theme. This year it was delivered in collaboration with The Roald Dahl Literary Estate to celebrate the centenary of Roald Dahl's birth.
- 5. Research has shown that taking part in the Summer Reading Challenge helps increase children's enthusiasm for reading, their reading confidence and boosts their desire to read at home all with potentially life changing results. The Summer Reading Challenge can help primary schools prevent the 'dip' in reading levels that can occur over the holidays. The Challenge directly supports the Reading for Pleasure element of the new Primary Curriculum through this sustained encouragement of reading through the summer holiday.
- 6. Libraries work closely with schools to promote the challenge and in libraries staff and volunteers provide advice, encouragement and support throughout the summer.
- 7. The Challenge was run in all Nottinghamshire libraries from 16 July 11 September 2016 and key achievements include:
 - **10,696** took part in this year's challenge, a slight increase on last year's number of participants (10,419)
 - **5,993** completed the challenge Nottinghamshire's best ever result

- the highest number of children taking part was in the 4 7 years age group (54%); the second biggest age group was 8 11 year olds (40%)
- boys accounted for 41% of children signing up for the challenge and 39% of children completing
- 230 children joined as library members in order to take part
- Over **200** activities for children were held in libraries throughout the six-week holiday attended by over **5,500** people;
- An estimated **39,500** books were read as part of the challenge.
- 8. Evaluation was overwhelmingly positive.

"I thought the Big friendly read was really fun and I felt determined to finish it. This was my first summer reading challenge and I will definitely be wanting to take part next year! I LOVED IT!!!" Sophie, aged 10

"I think the big friendly read was FANTASTIC" Jane; aged 5

"Six weeks – six books, makes sense... but she was inspired to read as much as possible! Great idea, will be doing it again next summer!" parent of 10 year old

"Fab!! Has encouraged a child that doesn't usually enjoy reading" parent of 7 year old

- 9. The Summer Reading Challenge is a successful way to encourage children to read for pleasure. The Department for Education in 2012¹ stated that research shows the benefits of reading for pleasure are numerous and include:
 - children who say they enjoy reading for pleasure are more likely to score well on reading assessments compared to pupils who said they enjoyed reading less
 - regularly reading stories or novels outside of school is associated with higher scores in reading assessments
 - there is some evidence to show that the activity is a more important determinant of children's educational success than their family's socio-economic status
 - it can have a positive impact on pupils' emotional and social behaviour
 - it can have a positive impact on text comprehension and grammar
 - positive reading attitudes are associated with reading more later in life and having increased general knowledge.

The Big Friendly Exhibition 2016

- 10. The Big Friendly Exhibition was launched on 21st July at Mansfield Central Library in partnership with the Big Friendly Read, with exhibits created at a series of artist led workshops in libraries, inspired by the work of Roald Dahl.
- 11. The gallery exhibition was created by artist Jane Stockley and groups of young people from St Edmund's C of E Primary School (Mansfield Woodhouse), Asquith Primary School (Mansfield), Oak Tree Primary School and Nursery (Mansfield) and Hucknall National C of E Primary School (Hucknall).

¹ Education Standards Research Team (2012). Evidence for Reading for Pleasure. ESARD

- 12. Using the Roald Dahl stories as a starting point the young people created giant dream catchers, exploring the magical imaginative stories through art work and creative expression.
- 13. The reading shed art installation was created by artist Anna Roebuck and groups of young people from New Ollerton schools: St Joseph's Catholic Primary and Nursery School, Ollerton Community Primary School, The Dukeries Academy and Forest View Junior School.
- 14. Inspired by the creatures found in the Dahl stories and his talent for devising new words, young people made 3D artwork to fill a full sized shed as an enchanting reading space for visitors to sit and complete part of the Summer Reading Challenge. Roald Dahl himself wrote all his stories from his own shed, sat in an armchair, and this is echoed in the reading shed that has been created.
- 15. Over **175** young people worked with the artists to create the exhibition and reading shed.

"Wonderful exhibition, so creative, colourful and inclusive"

"Wonderful and Cheerful. Makes you feel happy"

"Wonderful motivating exhibition, lots of fun, colours and imagination, really great".

16. The shed theme continued through the library led Summer Reading Challenge activities with 14 medium card sheds being used creatively to encourage young readers to complete the challenge and 1,500 mini card sheds distributed with "How To" sheets for libraries (including mobile libraries) to engage visitors in reading through a craft activity.

Children's Pop Up Theatre 2015-16

- 17. Following a successful bid to Arts Council's England's Grants for the Arts Libraries Fund, the Library Service was awarded over £80,000 to develop an innovative family theatre project in libraries. The project aimed to attract new audiences to County libraries, reaching families who may not ordinarily access a major theatre venue but will happily visit their own library.
- 18. Working with The Spark Arts for Children a brand new play was commissioned specifically tailored for library spaces. The play, *A Boy and a Bear in a Boat,* was based on an award winning book by Dave Shelton and launched at Mansfield Central Library in July 2015. *A Boy and a Bear in a Boat* went on to tour 15 other County libraries.
- 19. Four further seasons of performances of other high quality and imaginative shows and a series of workshops took place between October 2015 and April 2016. A total of **2,444** people attended Pop Up Theatre performances across the five seasons, comprising 1,353 children and 1,091 adults, with **660** people attending workshops in seasons 2-5.
- 20. Key achievements were as follows:
 - New play commissioned and delivered
 - **17** performances of *A Boy and a Bear in a Boat* in 16 libraries

- 556 children and 452 adults attended performances of the play
- 84% of audience members rated the performance 'excellent'
- Show sold to three East Midlands library authorities
- Four seasons of Page to Stage performances and workshops
- **25** Page to Stage performances in 10 libraries
- 639 children and 797 adults attended Page to Stage performances
- On average **74.5%** of audience members rated the performances across the four seasons as excellent (range from 68% 91%)
- **48** supporting workshops attended by 375 children and 285 adults.
- 21. Free tickets were offered for selected performances at all shows to encourage ticket take up from disadvantaged groups. The offer was targeted at Looked After Children, children living in areas of poverty and children with disabilities and their families. Tickets were offered via the Council's Virtual School for Looked After Children, Supporting Families programme and Play for Disabilities team. In total, 64 child tickets and 53 adult tickets were allocated.
- 22. The project aimed to encourage new audiences to library events and encourage repeat visits. Evaluation from *A Boy and a Bear in a Boat* showed that 75% of survey respondents had never attended a production in the library before. For subsequent shows this was lower with 53% of respondents across the remaining seasons.
- 23. The shows also attracted audiences that had not visited a theatre with their children before; for *A Boy and a Bear in a Boat* performances this was 17% of survey respondents. For subsequent seasons, on average, 21% said they had not attended a theatre performance with their children previously.
- 24. 84% of survey respondents rated *A Boy and a Bear in a Boat* performances as excellent. For the following seasons, performances were rated between 68% - 91% with an average of 75%.
- 25. The comments received showed that both children and adults valued being able to access high quality theatre experiences in their local library:

"It was amazing and very funny! I am going to buy a book and read it to my sister" girl aged 8 years (BBB)

"Funny. I loved the bull and joining in painting a picture" girl aged 5 years (Picasso)

"Cool, awesome. Superb" boy aged 8 years (Fairytales)

"Lovely performance, very energetic, captivating and mesmerising. Really grateful to be able to see such a play at our local library." (BBB)

"More of these, a great way to allow families to access theatre on their doorstep" (Tasty Tale)

"Amazing performance. Very imaginative. Great to see these events in our local library. Wonderful opportunity for my daughter to experience live theatre" (Fairytales).

Earth and Fire Ceramic Fair 2016

- 26. The Earth and Fire Ceramic Fair was held at Rufford Abbey County Park from 24 26 June 2016.
- 27. Earth and Fire is one of the country's premier ceramic events. This year's event attracted over 6,900 visitors. Collectors, gallery owners, enthusiasts and the general public visited Rufford Abbey Country Park in the last weekend in June for the opportunity to meet and talk to a wide variety of potters selling an extensive range of ceramic wares and to participate in a programme of demonstrations and illustrated talks.
- 28. Delivery of the fair was commissioned to a free-lance project manager whose responsibilities included promoting the event to exhibitors, managing the selection process to ensure the highest quality of exhibitors, event design and delivery and running an effective communication and marketing campaign. This was the first year that the fair was run using a commissioning model. Income and expenditure were controlled to bring the event in on budget.
- 29. The event was hosted by the Country Parks Service who provided the site management and logistics. A new website was designed for both exhibitors and visitors which hosted the exhibitors application process and a section to encourage volunteers to become involved. Marketing for the event was focused through the website, a Facebook page, direct mail, advertising and print.
- 30. Overall 239 applications were received from potters with **141** individual potters selected to exhibit, 60% of which were first time exhibitors at Earth and Fire. These included 12 new comers who had set up their ceramics business since 2014 and 21 students. 15% of exhibitors had travelled from outside of the UK to attend the fair. Two groups also exhibited: London Potters and Yorkshire ArtSpace.
- 31. Potters reported having good sales. Some potters had their own facilities to take card sales but many took advantage of the event's credit card service which processed over £49,000 worth of sales over the three days.
- 32. Overall potters said that they were happy with the planning and running of the event, in particular the introduction of a new downloadable exhibitors' pack.

"...as a newcomer I have to say the organisation from start to finish, emails, information, getting there and set up, volunteer helpers etc., were all brilliant. I had good sales and would love to do it again"

"Without doubt Earth & Fire is the most enjoyable of the ceramic fairs. There is an undeniable passion and dedication in its organisation and management and an atmosphere of enjoyment permeating the event. The selection ensures a high quality and wide mix of ceramic fare and the staff's support, interest and enthusiasm makes for a highly successful event"

33. There were **6,991** visitors to the fair, a small decrease in last year's number of attendees (7,200). Comments received were very positive.

"What a wonderful event – such a variety of styles, absolutely spoilt for choice!... Will definitely return!!

"A great show... A really good mix of work on display. A lovely relaxed atmosphere. We go every year – long may it continue. Well done and thank you to all involved for putting on a great show again this year".

Village Ventures 2015-16

- 34. Village Ventures brings professional performances to village halls and community venues across Nottinghamshire. Supported by local volunteer promoters, the programme hosts a wide range of touring companies and performers who deliver high-quality, entertaining and affordable professional live theatre, music, dance, family shows and film screenings to local communities.
- 35. The programme is co-ordinated by Live and Local and funded by Arts Council England, Nottinghamshire County Council and District Councils in Nottinghamshire.
- 36. Live and Local took over co-ordinating Village Ventures from the Council in August 2015. It is a not-for-profit arts organisation working with a network of voluntary groups across Derbyshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire and Leicestershire. They provide a range of support for arts activities that keep people in touch with their communities and enhance their quality of life.
- 37. The programme of activity ran from October 2015 May 2016. Key statistics were as follows:

685

- Total no of events **108** (target was 102)
- Sell outs 15
- Cancelled 1
- Total Attendance 6,869
- Capacity 64%
- Total No of Volunteers
- No of Volunteer hours **3,240**
- No of artist days 352

Other Options Considered

38. The report is for noting only.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

39. The report is for noting only.

Statutory and Policy Implications

40. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, 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, sustainability and the environment and ways of working 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 the update on the delivery of reading, arts and cultural activity delivered by Inspire be noted.

Derek Higton Service Director, Youth, Families and Culture

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Carol Newman Library and Arts Development Services Manager T: 0115 804 4335 E: carol.newman@inspireculture.org.uk

Constitutional Comments

41. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments (TMR 4/10/16)

42. As this report is for noting only, no Financial Comments are required.

Background Papers and Published Documents

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C0885

Nottinghamshire County Council **Report to Culture Committee**

1 November 2016

Agenda Item: 8

REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR, COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

INSPIRE COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING ACTIVITY PROTOCOL

Purpose of the Report

1. To inform Members of the Inspire Communications and Marketing Activity Protocol, **attached as Appendix 1**, which details the arrangements that have been agreed by the Communications and Marketing teams from both the County Council and Inspire.

Information and Advice

- 2. In March the County Council signed a contract with Inspire to provide Culture, Learning and Library services.
- 3. The Communications and Marketing teams have been working together to establish working protocols which provide clarity on day to day working arrangements for a range of communication and marketing related activities.
- 4. The Protocol includes the following areas:
 - Media enquiries/Crisis Management
 - Photocalls/Event Invitation
 - Marketing materials
 - Print & Design
 - Website
 - Events listing
 - Social media
 - Promotional emails.
- 5. A positive working relationship has been established between Inspire's communications team and the County Council's team, who meet monthly. Inspire lead on day to day operational communications and marketing and the Council leading on matters of policy.

Other Options Considered

6. The report is for information only.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

7. The report is for information only.

Statutory and Policy Implications

8. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, 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, sustainability and the environment and ways of working 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 Members note the Inspire Communications and Marketing Activity Protocol, attached as **Appendix 1**.

Martin Done Service Director, Communications and Marketing

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Marie Lewis Group Manager, Communications and Marketing T: 0115 9774918 E: marie.lewis@nottscc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments

9. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments (TMR 04/10/16)

10. As this report is for noting only, no Financial Comments are required.

Background Papers and Published Documents

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C0884





Interim protocols for Communications and Marketing activity between Nottinghamshire County Council and Inspire – Culture, Learning and Libraries (Midlands).

JUNE 2016

Contacts

Inspire

Sharon Elliott - Inspire Communications and Marketing Manager Tel: 0115 804 2364 Mobile: 07920 287 221 Email: <u>sharon.elliott@inspireculture.org.uk</u>

Kirsty Blyth – Inspire Assistant Chief Executive Officer (Development) Tel: 0115 982 9040 Mobile: 07766 161 593 Email: <u>kirsty.blyth@inspireculture.org.uk</u>

Peter Gaw – Inspire Chief Executive Officer Tel: 0115 977 4201 Mobile: 07943 880 664 Email: <u>peter.gaw@inspireculture.org.uk</u>

Out of hours media contacts

Number tbc

Inspire also has an emergency contacts list which will also be made available to NCC Communications and Emergency Planning in the event of a crisis.

Nottinghamshire County Council

Sarah Bailey (Mon-Weds) - Senior Communications Business Partner Tel: 0115 977 3151 Email: <u>sarah.bailey@nottscc.gov.uk</u>

Claire Geeson (Thurs-Fri) - Senior Communications Business Partner Tel: 0115 977 3939 Email: <u>claire.geeson@nottscc.gov.uk</u>

Simon Redfern (Mon, Tue, Wed and Fri) - Senior Media Officer Tel: 0115 993 2616 Email: <u>simon.redfern@nottscc.gov.uk</u> Mark Croston - Cultural Services and Commissioning Manager Tel: 0115 977 4293 Email: mark.croston@nottscc.gov.uk

Out of hours media contacts

Weekends and bank holidays only

Mobile: 07887 832 551

Communications Plan

An annual communications and marketing plan created by Inspire will form the basis of activity. The agreed plan is a contractual requirement and will link to strategic objectives and identify project leads. The plan will be signed off by the end of March for the following financial year.

The communications and marketing plan will be reviewed at monthly meetings with Inspire/NCC Comms teams.

Inspire will produce and share evaluation reports of marketing activity, which will allow both organisations to effectively coordinate messages and activity and measure the impact.

Major campaigns, where NCC is the majority funder, will be agreed and signed off using Nottinghamshire County Council's communications template.

All communications and marketing plans to be approved by a Senior Communications Business Partner and the Inspire Communications & Marketing Manager.

Media Enquiries /Crisis Management

In cases of proactive or reactive communications to negative publicity, it must be determined if the enquiry is of a **policy nature** or an **operations nature**.

- Policy: Political influences, budgets, value of contract etc. These will be managed by Nottinghamshire Council with support from Inspire.
- Operations: Standard of service, events, what's on, staffing, cleaning, programme offered, service related incidents etc. These will be managed by Inspire with support from Nottinghamshire County Council.

The appropriate partner will prepare statements and responses according to the nature of the enquiry. Additional Q&As to be included if these are deemed to be helpful and to address further enquiries.

The designated media contact for each partner will gain all internal approvals and cascade communications internally to all appropriate stakeholders and those impacted by the events.

In cases of an operational nature, Inspire will liaise directly with the media, ensuring that Nottinghamshire County Council, the Chair of the Inspire Board and the Inspire CEO are kept informed and updated.

In all cases, Nottinghamshire County Council and Inspire communication teams will work together to ensure that the Inspire CEO and Chair of the Inspire board see all press/media communications prior to external distribution.

This will be reviewed in line with chair/board changes.

Press releases

Inspire releases for NCC funded activities

- Press releases will be drafted by the Inspire Communications and Marketing Manager in liaison with the Inspire Service lead
- Inspire releases should have the **dual 'NCC delivered by Inspire' branding** where NCC funded
- **Spokespeople Draft release** to be sent to NCC Senior Media Officer for NCC supporting comment to be added (if appropriate).
 - The Committee Chairman for Culture will be quoted as NCC's spokesperson (unless the initiative falls under Children and Young People's Committee, when the Spokesperson will be Chairman/Vice-Chairman of CYP Committee). Inspire CEO will be quoted as the spokesperson for Inspire (Inspire to coordinate).
- The primary media contact will be the NCC Senior Media Officer for large NCC funded events and initiatives. This will be reviewed at such a time when Inspire may be able to take this in house entirely.
 - Forthcoming requirements to be discussed at NCC Communications meetings (NCC Senior Media Officer to be involved in meetings as required)
 - Inspire to identify named media contact for non-NCC funded, Inspire only and smaller initiatives (on a case by case basis).
- Press release distribution
 - Inspire to issue release to media/stakeholders for non-NCC funded, Inspire only and medium/small initiatives
 - NCC to issue releases and handle enquiries for major NCC funded events/initiatives
 - Additional follow up with media to be handled by Inspire.
- Releases to be signed off by Comms managers (NCC/Inspire), service leads and spokesperson
- Inspire to keep NCC Senior Media Officer updated of any major media interest
- NCC Senior Media Officer to submit final version to digital team for inclusion on Nottinghamshire County Council's website and if appropriate social media channels
- Copy of final release sent to all for information by Inspire Communications and Marketing Manager including Kirsty Blyth and service lead.

NCC releases

- When an Inspire statement/quote is required, NCC Senior Media Officer will contact Inspire and obtain approval
- NCC Senior Media Officer will send a final copy of all NCC Cultural, Learning and Library related press releases to Inspire contacts
- NCC Senior Media Officer to keep Inspire informed of any controversial media interest.
- NCC to continue to promote NCC funded Inspire events on the weekly What's On release.

Photo calls/Event invitations

Inspire to involve and invite elected members and officers, as appropriate, to events. A separate protocol has been developed for this.

All photo calls with officers and councillors should be arranged through the Council's communications team. To ensure data protection laws are upheld, Inspire will gain photographic consent from any person who is identifiable in their imagery.

Marketing materials

Branding

Inspire will seek written agreement from the Council's communications team for all uses of, or changes to, the Council's brand on all assets, including buildings, marketing materials, stationery, posters, online branding including websites and social media, vehicles and signage.

Any service/event/activity which is Council-funded should include Nottinghamshire County Council's logo as the dominant brand and Inspire used as the secondary brand with the words "delivered by" prefixed to the logo.

All marketing collateral (PDF) for Council-funded activity should be accompanied by a briefing sheet explaining what the publicity is for, target audience, quantity/distribution and adequate notice (five working days) for County Council approval to the Senior Communications Business Partner.

Display of materials

Inspire venues to display an appropriate level of Council messages on digital TV screens in Councilowned buildings. NCC venues (e.g. Mansfield bus station, County Hall, Customer Service Centre) to display an appropriate level of Inspire messages on digital TV screens.

- Artwork for Inspire digital screens will be sent to info@inspireculture.org.uk
- Artwork for NCC venues to be sent to <u>marketing@nottscc.gov.uk</u>
- Files to be sent with a briefing note explaining what the publicity is for, the dates for display and venues.

Inspire to allow the Council to use space within the libraries or Nottinghamshire Archives, free of charge, for the purpose of the display or distribution of Council information. This applies vice versa. Requests to be submitted in writing to Inspire's Communication and Marketing Manager who will advise of the distribution contact depending on request.

Print and design

When commissioning design and print marketing material, Inspire will obtain a quote from Nottinghamshire County Council's design and print service as part of its tendering process. This will be submitted using the Council's design and print request form.

All design and print must be agreed with a Communications and Marketing Manager.

For standard printed stationery items, Inspire can liaise directly with the Design and Print team (contact details below) but all requests must first be approved by Business Support.

Tel: 0115 9773 318

Email: designandprint.enquiries@nottscc.gov.uk

Details of these services can be found on the NCC intranet at http://intranet.nottscc.gov.uk/customerscommunications/communications/design-and-print/

Website

Nottinghamshire County Council's website will remain the primary source of general information for residents about Council-funded services.

To avoid duplication of information on partner websites, content will be syndicated to ensure that updating only needs to take place once where it is repeated on different sites.

Where syndication of content is not possible, Inspire to provide written confirmation of any web updates that need to be reflected on the County Council's website to the Senior Communications Business Partner, along with the timescales for the new information to take effect.

To be reviewed in line with development of the Inspire website.

NCC online events listing

Inspire (Ask Libraries team) to ensure details of all NCC funded public events are listed on the County Council's website What's On system.

Inspire to ensure that Ask Libraries are aware of their responsibilities and process involved. (Noting that once content is submitted it can't be amended by Ask Libraries only by the Econtent team).

Social media

Inspire will manage and maintain its existing social media sites, including Facebook and Twitter pages.

Nottinghamshire County Council and Inspire will share an appropriate amount of each other's messages on their social media accounts.

Messages to be shared on Inspire accounts should be sent to <u>info@inspireculture.org.uk</u> Messages to be shared on NCC's accounts should be sent to <u>econtent@nottscc.gov.uk</u>

On larger NCC funded activity, plans will be shared and campaigns will be discussed at NCC/Inspire meetings where it will be agreed if content is owned or shared.

Promotional emails

Inspire and NCC event email bulletins will carry cross promotional messages about the other organisation as appropriate (maximum of one advert per email).

NCC will continue to include Inspire events that are featured in NCC's online What's On system in NCC's What's On emailme bulletins.

NCC and Inspire communication teams to share schedules of emails to facilitate cross promotion – discuss plan on a rolling basis at monthly meetings.

Text and/or artwork and hyperlinks should be sent with at least a week's notice to: info@inspireculture.org.uk or marketing@nottscc.gov.uk

Nottinghamshire County Council What's On printed materials

NCC to continue to feature Inspire events in their printed What's On guides.

- NCC to send information request to Inspire Communications and Marketing Manager who will coordinate the submission return and amends at proof stage.
- NCC to provide time lines in advance so this can be built into planning.

Inspire What's On publications

Draft version to be submitted to the Senior Communications Business Partner by Inspire allowing a minimum of two days for approval pre-print.

Inspire to input events from their What's On publications onto the NCC's online events system. NCC to check/approve.

Distribution lists

Distribution lists owned by the Council that are used for sending promotional assets to individuals, organisations and venues will be shared with Inspire for those events that are being commissioned by the Council.

- This information will be used solely for the purpose provided and will not be passed on to any third party.
- The information will be shared on a 'good faith' basis that it is as accurate as possible but the Council takes no liability for its accuracy and Inspire should endeavour to make its own checks to guarantee accuracy.
- Any corrections to the lists made by Inspire should be returned to the Council for its own records.

Media access to buildings

Any requests from the media for filming or recording in buildings or on land owned by the County Council must be approved by the Nottinghamshire County Council Senior Media officer or Senior Communications Business Partner.



Report to Culture Committee

01 November 2016

Agenda Item: 9

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE

RESPONSE TO PETITION: MAINTENANCE OF MILLENNIUM GREEN

Purpose of the Report

1. To recommend to Committee the response to the issues raised in a petition presented to the County Council on 15th September 2016.

Information and Advice

- 2. An 81 signature petition was presented to the 15th September 2016 meeting of Full Council by Councillor Joyce Bosnjak regarding the maintenance of the Mansfield Woodhouse Millennium Green (MWMG). The petitioners raised concerns regarding "the perceived wilful destruction of the Millennium Green by the Trust assigned to its care." The petition states that the petitioners do not object to the maintenance of the Green but "strongly object to" management activities including the use of herbicides, removal of trees and the use of "industrial equipment such as diggers and chainsaws".
- 3. The Millennium Green is managed by the MWMG Trust. To inform the long-term management of the site, a management plan was commissioned from a highly experienced ecological consultancy. The Trustees also sought advice from the Designing Out Crime Team from Nottinghamshire Constabulary; the Disability Information and Advice Line; Greenwood Community Forest; and, the Tree Officer at Mansfield District Council.
- 4. MWMG Trust is now implementing the management plan for the site. This work includes control of pernicious weeds to improve the botanical diversity of the site and to prevent encroachment onto paths, hedge-laying and tree works, and the installation of a RADAR key controlled gate to provide disabled access. The work has been carried out by a combination of volunteers and professional contractors.
- 5. The Greenwood Community Forest Partnership, which is hosted by the County Council, continues to provide advice and guidance to the MWMG Trust when requested. This is part of the support offered by Greenwood to a wide range of community groups, including Friends Groups and Trusts, engaged in the management of green spaces. This support will continue to be provided.
- 6. The petition has been forwarded to the MWMG Trust, for them to respond in their role as landowners and managers.

Other Options Considered

7. No other options have been considered.

Reason for Recommendation

8. To inform Committee of the issues raised in the petition presented to the Chairman of the County Council at the Full Council meeting on 15th September 2016. The Committee's recommendation will be reported to the next available Full Council meeting.

Statutory and Policy Implications

9. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, 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, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended:

- 1) That the information set out in the report regarding the management of the site be noted.
- 2) That it be noted that the petition has been forwarded to the Mansfield Woodhouse Millennium Green Trust to respond in their role as landowners and managers.
- 3) That the lead petitioners be informed accordingly and a report be presented to Full Council for the action to be noted.

Tim Gregory Corporate Director, Place

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Heather Stokes Team Manager, Conservation (0115) 993 2592

Constitutional Comments [SLB 19/10/16]

Culture Committee is the appropriate body to consider the contents of this report.

Financial Comments

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

• None

Electoral Division and Members Affected

Mansfield North – Councillor Joyce Bosnjak and Councillor Parry Tsimbiridis.



Report to Culture Committee

1 November 2016

Agenda Item: 10

REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE

THE GRIZZLED SKIPPER PROJECT IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

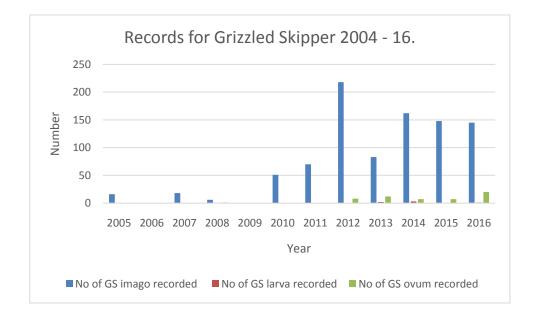
Purpose of the Report

1. To inform Committee of the work undertaken in Nottinghamshire to enhance the habitat of the Grizzled Skipper butterfly.

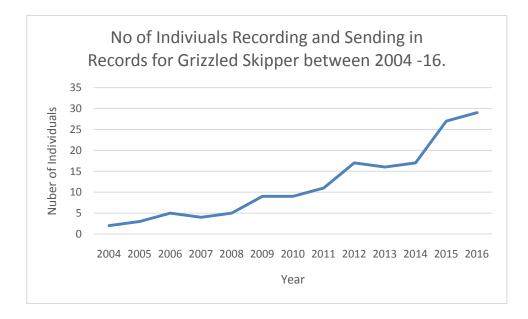
Information and Advice

- 2. In November 2011, Nottinghamshire County Council, on behalf of Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Group partnership was successful in securing £66,000 of funding from the SITA Trust to undertake works at a number of sites across southern Nottinghamshire to benefit the Grizzled Skipper. The money was spent over the following two years with additional funding obtained from the East Midlands Branch of Butterfly Conservation, Rushcliffe Borough Council and Nottinghamshire County Council's Local Improvement Scheme. For the last three years, the project has continued due to funding from the membership of the East Midlands Branch of Butterfly Conservation and officer support from the County Council's Biodiversity Officer.
- 3. The funding has helped to pay for site management operations at sites that are either known to support the Grizzled Skipper (or have had Grizzled Skipper reported from them in recent years), or areas of potentially suitable habitat near known sites. The project aims to strengthen existing populations at sites where the butterfly currently occurs by enhancing or expanding the habitat present, and to increase the linkages between these sites, to encourage the interchange of individuals between sites, and to allow the colonisation of new sites. Since 2011 work has taken place at seventeen sites. The initial work focused on scrub management undertaken by contractors, and consisted mainly of removing scrub that was invading the open habitat favoured by Grizzled Skippers. In recent years this work has continued with volunteer work parties maintaining the areas that have been opened up. In addition work has been undertaken at some sites to create enhanced egg-laying habitat.
- 4. In 2014, the East Midlands Branch of Butterfly Conservation was successful in securing more funding for the conservation of Grizzled Skipper in neighbouring sites in northern Leicestershire. Once again work focused on opening up and maintaining areas of suitable habitat.

- 5. As well as practical works on the ground, the project also sought to encourage and better co-ordinate surveys for Grizzled Skippers at known and potential sites in the project area, and to raise awareness locally of the species and its conservation.
- 6. To this end, an informal recording group was set up via email, which was very successful, alerting people as to when the skippers first emerged. Since the group was set up in 2012, it has generated a total of 471 records at 25 sites (including several new ones). These records have included some new sites and improved our knowledge of the Grizzled Skipper distribution in Nottinghamshire. Since 2012 we have discovered that the species is present at locations further north than previously known, with populations discovered on the urban fringes of Newark. In addition a population has also been found at the southern end of the Great Central Railway near to Stanford-on-Soar. This opens up the possibility of Grizzled Skipper populations existing just north of Loughborough in Leicestershire. Maps showing the locations of all Grizzled Skipper records received since 2012 are attached as appendices to this report.



7. Five training days have also been organised by Nottinghamshire County Council, aimed at local people. These consisted of an indoor session run by Bill Bacon, Butterfly Conservation, providing some background about the Grizzled Skipper (ecology, conservation and identification), and an afternoon field trip, attempting to see them in the flesh. The majority of training courses have proved very successful and as a result the number of records received annually has increased significantly. In addition, the number of individuals going into the field and reporting their sightings has also increased (see chart over).



8. In the future it is hoped that with the help of members, through partnership work with the Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Group and working with private landowners it will be possible for the authority to continue its work maintaining and enhancing suitable areas of habitat for the Grizzled Skipper. The results and success of this work will be seen through the enhanced monitoring system that the authority has helped to set up in recent years.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

9. To inform Committee of the work undertaken in Nottinghamshire to enhance the habitat of the Grizzled Skipper butterfly.

Statutory and Policy Implications

10. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, 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, sustainability and the environment and ways of working 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 note the contents of the report.

Tim Gregory Corporate Director, Place

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Heather Stokes Team Manager, Conservation (0115) 993 2592

Constitutional Comments

11. As this report is for noting only no constitutional comments are required.

Financial Comments

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

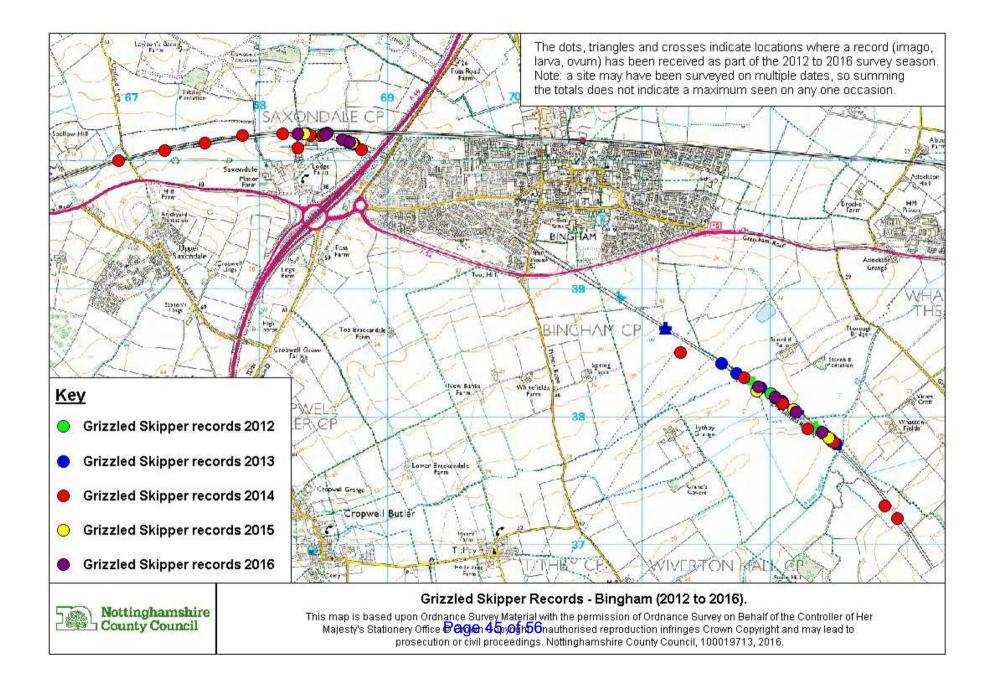
Background Papers and Published Documents

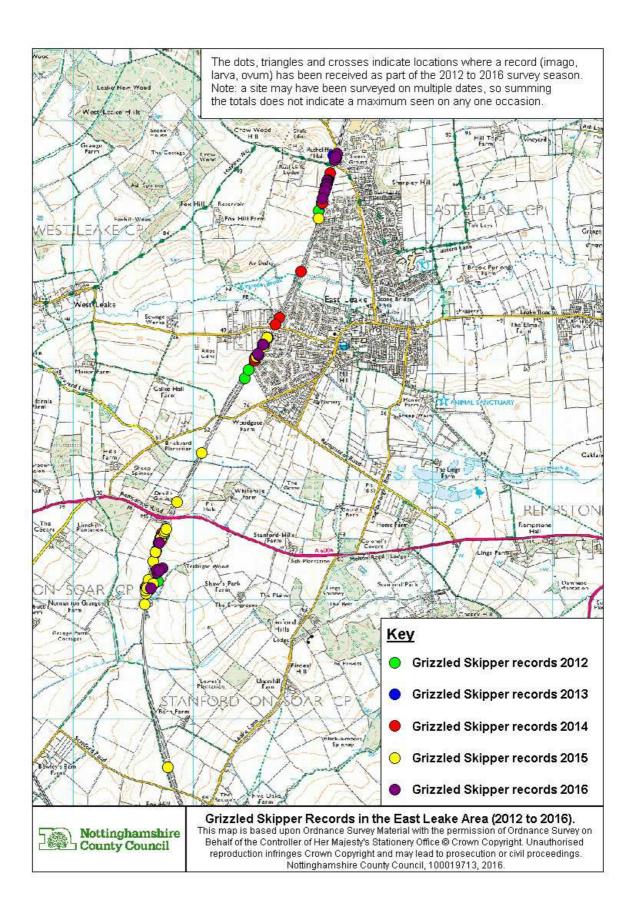
Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

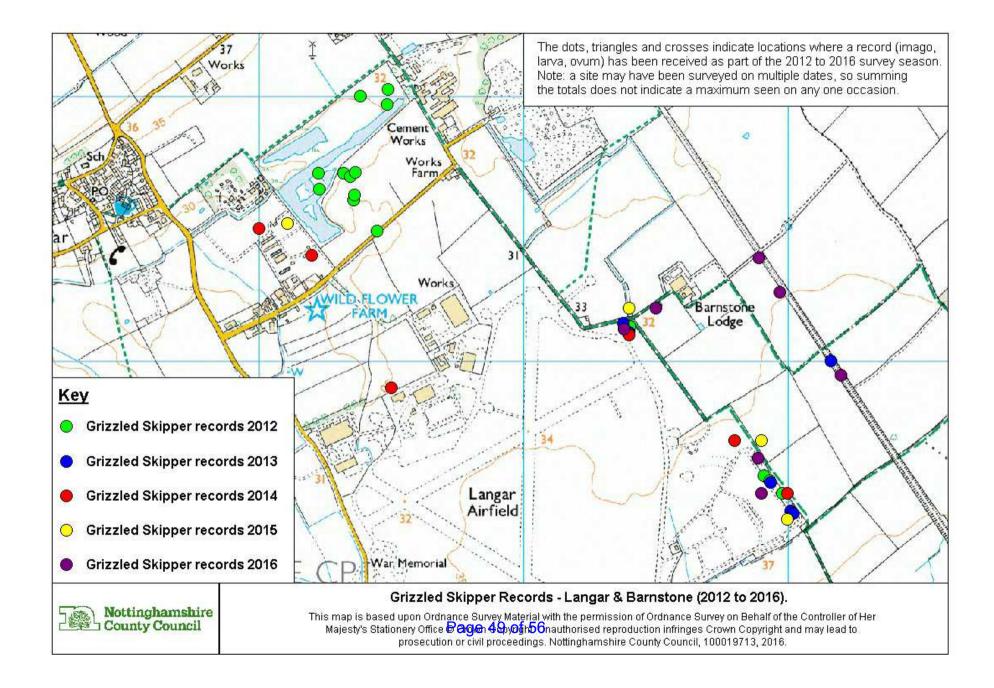
• None

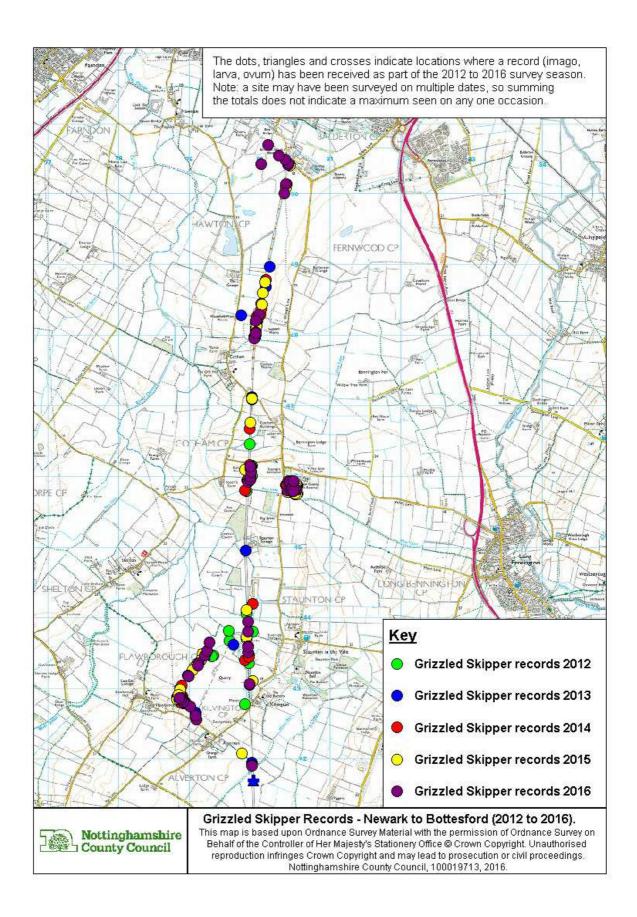
Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

• All











1st November 2016

Agenda Item: 11

REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES

WORK PROGRAMME

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the Committee's work programme for 2016/17.

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 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 crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working 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, Resources

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Pete Barker Democratic Services Officer T: 0115 977 4416

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 (NS)

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.

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

CULTURE COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME 2016-17

Report Title	Brief summary of agenda item	Lead Officer	Report Author
13 December 2016			
Service update: 10 October to 20 November 2016	For noting	Derek Higton/Sally Gill	Various
Performance reporting (Quarter 2 2016/17)	For noting	Celia Morris	Matt Garrard
Revised County Council Cultural Strategy for Nottinghamshire	Also to Full Council	Derek Higton	Derek Higton/ Mark Croston
Country Parks Events 2017	For noting	Derek Higton	Linda Hardy
Bestwood Country Park – future maintenance arrangements		Derek Higton	Mark Croston
Jacksdale Community Partnership Library		Derek Higton	Peter Gaw
24 January 2017			
Service update: 21 November 2016 to 2 January 2017	For noting	Derek Higton/Sally Gill	Various
Fees and Charges 2017/18 – Country Parks Service	Annual determination	Derek Higton	Mark Croston
Fees and Charges 2017/18 – Libraries, Archives & Information	Annual determination	Derek Higton	Peter Gaw
A Strategy for Nottinghamshire Libraries: annual progress report: 2016		Derek Higton	Peter Gaw
Rufford Abbey Country Park – satisfaction survey 2016		Derek Higton	Linda Hardy
7 March 2017			
Service update: 3 January to 12 February 2017	For noting	Derek Higton/Sally Gill	Various
Performance reporting (Quarter 3 2016/17)	For noting	Celia Morris	Matt Garrard
Adult & Community Learning Service Annual Plan and Fees Policy 2017/18		Derek Higton	lan Bond
Nottinghamshire Community Learning and Skills Development Service – update		Derek Higton	Ian Bond/Peter Gaw
Inspire update		Derek Higton	Peter Gaw/Carol Newman

Report Title	Brief summary of agenda item	Lead Officer	Report Author
25 April 2017			
Service update: 13 February to 26 March 2017	For noting	Derek Higton/Sally Gill	Various
20 June 2017			
Service update: 27 March to 28 May 2017	For noting	Derek Higton/Sally Gill	Various
Performance reporting (2016/17)	For noting	Celia Morris	Matt Garrard
Inspire update	Six-monthly update	Derek Higton	Peter Gaw
25 July 2017			
Service update: 29 May to 2 July 2017	For noting	Derek Higton/Sally Gill	Various
Annual review of the County Council Cultural		Derek Higton	Derek Higton/ Mark
Strategy Nottinghamshire Community Learning and Skills Development Service – outcomes of draw-down of reserves for 2016/17		Derek Higton	Croston Ian Bond/Peter Gaw
National Water Sports Centre - annual update	For information	Derek Higton	tbc
To be placed			
Robin Hood Festival 2017		Derek Higton	Gareth Broome/ Linda Hardy