Nottinghamshire County Council

Report to Culture Committee

3 November 2015

Agenda Item: 7

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND CULTURE

CO-LOCATION OF MISTERTON PARISH COUNCIL INTO MISTERTON LIBRARY WITH SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP LIBRARY

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek approval for the co-location of Misterton Parish Council into the Misterton Library building and the development of a community partnership library facilitated by Misterton Parish Council.

Information and Advice

Context

- 2. The Strategy for Nottinghamshire's Libraries outlines priorities for the service for 2012 2022.
- 3. The strategy has key pledges including:
 - putting libraries at the heart of communities
 - libraries being where people live
 - increasing community involvement.
- 4. The strategy has key actions including:
 - investing, developing and re-modelling the library network
 - to locate library services in the best location for the local community, with a key outcome of co-locating with other services.
- 5. Misterton is one of the 28 level 3 libraries in Nottinghamshire. Visitors last year amounted to 5,105 with over 12,862 books and other items being issued.
- 6. The library building is owned by Nottinghamshire County Council and under the proposed co-location with the Parish Council, the Local Authority will continue to maintain insurance on the building and its contents.
- 7. Misterton Parish Council is currently in premises where the lease expires in June 2016 and therefore has taken this opportunity to look for alternative accommodation.

- 8. It is proposed that Misterton Parish Council gives the County Council a pepper corn rent in return for a five year lease. The Parish Council will then administer and run the day to day business of Misterton Library as well as pay for the day to day running costs including all utilities and rates. This will save the County Council on both building and staffing costs and secure the provision of a public library service within Misterton.
- 9. A full Community Partnership Library with Misterton Parish Council through increased volunteering and community activity will be developed as the Parish Council is co-located.
- 10. An agreement for the provision of a Community Partnership Library in Misterton will be drawn up prior to June 2016 the intended co-location date and will include service standards and supply of services comprising core opening hours, not less than the existing provision, but with the reasonable expectation that the Parish Council will extend the existing hours within the first year of tenure.
- 11. A separate report will be taken to the Finance and Property Committee on 25th January 2016 in which terms of the future lease and occupation of the building are presented.

Other Options Considered

12. The option not to co-locate was considered. This however would prevent achieving a reduction in ongoing running costs.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

- 13. The proposal will facilitate a more sustainable library service at a lower cost.
- 14. This re-location allows for future development of volunteering and greater partnership working.

Statutory and Policy Implications

15. 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.

Financial Implications

16. The recommendation is estimated to save premises related revenue costs of around £20,000 over five years and staff related costs of around £35,000.

Public Sector Equality Duty Implications

17. This scheme enables ongoing provision of a static library service in the Misterton area and improves the library environment.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That:

- 1) the co-location of Misterton Parish Council into the Misterton Library building be approved.
- 2) a community partnership library be developed with Misterton Parish Council.

Derek Higton Service Director, Youth, Families and Culture

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (SMG 30/09/15)

18. The proposals set out in this report fall within the remit of this Committee.

Financial Comments (SS 05/10/15)

19. The financial implications of this report are contained within paragraph 16 above.

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.

A Strategy for Nottinghamshire's Libraries – report to County Council on 15 December 2011

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

Misterton Cllr Liz Yates