

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: 6 NOVEMBER 2012
title: GENERAL REPORT
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1 PURPOSE

To update members on the current level of discussions relating to the collection of waste paper and card, and to inform on a number of aspects within the Cultural & Leisure Services section.

2 WASTE MANAGEMENT

Members are advised that discussions are still ongoing with the County Council to find a solution to the issues relating to waste paper and card collected within the Ribble Valley, with the requirements to provide at least the same level of service.

Due to the continued delays in resolving this matter, officers have taken up the option to extend the contract with Viridor by the additional six month period, to 31 March 2013.

Officers are continuing to pursue this issue as a matter of the highest priority.

3 CULTURAL & LEISURE SERVICES

3.1 RIBBLESDALE POOL

As identified in the September cycle committee report, an Action Plan is being produced in conjunction with the Amateur Swimming Association (ASA), to help with maintaining and increasing Swimming participation at the Pool.

A specific campaign call 'Swim Fit' is to be launched shortly which will help swimmers improve their fitness levels through adherence to individualised training programmes suited to their needs. Two specifically promoted sessions are to be programmed, and a Swimming Instructor will be on hand to offer stroke technique and training assistance.

An application has been submitted to Sport England's Improvement Funding programme, which is specifically targeting Swimming Pool changing room improvements. The Pool changing and reception areas were believed to be in need of modernisation, and this has involved alteration work in forming a 'village changing' arrangement. A decision as to whether the project has been successful is expected by the end of October 2012.

3.2 CYCLING

The feasibility of reviving a Clitheroe Town Cycle event is being undertaken by interested parties comprising; British Cycling, Clitheroe Bike Club and the Borough Council. Whilst there is currently no funding identified to stage such an event of this kind, there is keen interest from the Bike Club, which has already identified a major sponsorship source that would cover the anticipated expenditure.

Initial outline plans are for holding two events on the same evening, which involve a mixture of talent from across the region, whilst enabling the local talented riders

to participate. Dates are being considered for next year, with early July 2013 being favoured.

3.3 TRIATHLON CLUB

A Ribble Valley Triathlon Club has recently formed, following enthusiastic support from local participants who have committed to volunteering roles in developing the club. Triathlon England has also been instrumental in getting the club moving by meeting the cost of a Level 2 qualification. The Club Coordinator/Coach will eventually lead the instruction sessions, and combine delivery of the sessions into complete Triathlon training opportunities, as opposed to separate training, as at present. Swimming; (Ribblesdale Pool), running and cycling sessions (in the form of Spinning) are currently organised for the benefit of members.

3.4 PLATFORM GALLERY

Winter Exhibition – The latest exhibition is called Winter Lux, and opened on 20 October. There was a fantastic turn out and excellent sales over the opening day, with sales up by 2% on last year's Christmas exhibition. The feedback has also been excellent, with many people commenting that this is the best Christmas show ever. There is a focus area in the entrance on goods that are made in Lancashire and the Ribble Valley, and hampers are available to order containing an assortment of local produce. The exhibition will run until 12 January 2013.

Sunday opening will take place throughout December from 11am-4pm, and there will also be a promotional Saturday event in early December, with music, drinks and discount on purchases.

There is an opportunity for individuals/groups to 'rent a stall/table' as part of the craft fair that runs for three weekends in December. In the Education room, there is ceramic work by members of Pendle Pottery, and Ceramic heads by Graham Hough running throughout November.

5 CONCLUSION

Any further developments will be reported to Committee.

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Ref: PMcG&CW/IW Community Services 6.11.12