

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & CULTURE COMMITTEE

4.00pm 12 NOVEMBER 2015

CONFERENCE ROOM 2, JUBILEE LIBRARY, JUBILEE STREET, BRIGHTON

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Morgan (Chair), Robins (Deputy Chair), Peltzer Dunn (Opposition Spokesperson), Druitt (Group Spokesperson), Greenbaum, Morris, Nemeth, O'Quinn, C Theobald and Yates

PART ONE

26 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

(a) Declarations of Substitutes

26.1 There were no substitutions present.

(b) Declarations of Interest

26.2 There were no declarations of interests in matters listed on the agenda.

(c) Exclusion of Press and Public

26.3 The Committee considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of any of the items listed on the agenda.

26.4 **RESOLVED:** That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items contained in part two of the agenda.

27 MINUTES

27.1 **RESOLVED –** That the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2015 as a correct record.

28 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

28.1 The Chair gave the following communications:

“Sport & Leisure

Rugby World Cup 2015: Host City

The city hosted a very successful weekend of matches at the Community Stadium, the Fanzone on the beach and a range of sporting and cultural activities as part of one of the World's largest sporting events.

The relaxed friendly atmosphere in the city was a reflection of the enjoyable experience created by thousands of residents and visitors alike, who were also providing a welcome boost to the city's economy and lots of international media coverage.

Volks

Brighton & Hove City Council has won a successful bid from the Heritage Lottery Fund for £1.65m. The money will be used to restore the historic Volk's Railway as well as providing new and upgraded facilities and activities.

Works to build the new facilities are planned to start in September 2016 at the end of the railway's operating season and are expected to be finished in Spring 2017.

Royal Pavilion & Museum

The family friendly 'Exotic Creatures' exhibition opens in the Royal Pavilion's Prince Regent Gallery on 14 November, exploring animals in royal collections, menageries and early zoos between 1750 and 1850 (the exhibition runs until 28 February 2016).

The Royal Pavilion's Music Room will be transformed into a 'Love Picture Palace' from 26-29 November, showing a series of film screenings as part of a collaboration with the British Film Institute and Cinecity Film Festival (as featured in The Guardian's "Top 10 best things to do this week").

Tourism & Venues

Brighton Centre - Super September 2015

- 4 Nights – Michael McIntyre
- 6 Days Rehearsals – Dave Gilmour
- 1 Performance – Dave Gilmour
- TUC Congress - Delegates: 3,000+, Economic impact: £6.8m
- 1 Performance – Crosby, Stills & Nash
- Labour Party Conference - Delegates: 11,000+ Economic impact: £15.2m

In the last three months the bureau has confirmed:

- TUC Annual Congress – 2016 & 2017 – 3500 delegates
- British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy Annual Conference – May 2016 – 250 delegates

- Universities Safety and Health Association Fire Seminar – June 2016 – 100 delegates
- 6 x AMEX Supplier Showcases – throughout 2016 – 300 delegates at each Showcase

Visit Brighton Marketing

- VisitBrighton has continued to host UK and overseas media in the city which has generated positive worldwide coverage for Brighton & Hove. Highlights include six page features in 'OutThere' magazine, 'Schwullissimo' (German publication), Coast magazine, Event magazine (business publication), Ride magazine (Cycling publication) and a host of national UK press.
- As a result of our on-going collaborations with Visit Britain, Brighton & Hove has been selected as one of twelve lead destinations in Visit Britain's worldwide "GREAT" campaign activity.
- Brighton & Hove has recently been voted as the 'Best Beach Holiday' destination in the GoBritain Awards (run by National Express and voted for by public) and
- The city was runner-up (to London) in the 'Best UK Destination' category in the Group Leisure Awards (voted for by group organisers).

Economic Development

Small Business Saturday in Brighton & Hove

This year Small Business Saturday will take place on the 5th of December, and Brighton & Hove City Council will be supporting our impressive range of independent businesses that are such a vital part of our economy.

We have also been chosen as one of 27 locations for the Small Business Saturday Bus Tour. The bus will be parked on Ship Street from 10am to 2pm on Monday 23 November and will offer a raft of information aimed at helping local business people boost trade."

29 CALL OVER

29.1 The following items were reserved for discussion:

- Item 32 Library Service Review and Needs Analysis
- Item 33 Royal Pavilion & Museums
- Item 34 Royal Pavilion: Fees & Charges
- Item 35 Outdoor Events – Madeira Drive Road Closures 2016
- Item 36 Outdoor Events in Parks and Open Spaces 2016

29.2 The Democratic Services Manager confirmed that the items listed above had been reserved for discussion, and that the following reports of the agenda, with the recommendations therein, had been approved and adopted.

- Item 37 Withdrawal of Out of Date Planning Guidance

30 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

- 30.1 The Chair noted that there were two petitions referred from Council on 22 October 2015; the first related to a Permanent Archaeological & History Display in Brighton Museum. The Chair read the following response to the petition:

“I would like to thank Brighton & Hove Archaeology Society for the petition which they presented to Full Council on Thursday 22 October, and again acknowledge their active support of and interest in the archaeology of our city, and Sussex, since 1906. At Council, Cllr Alan Robins noted the long-held links between Brighton Museum & Art Gallery and the Society, and referred to current collaborative projects such as the Whitehawk Community Archaeology project (which I understand is being considered for an award by the Council for British Archaeology).

Moving forward, it is imperative that the Council continues to work with partners to enable the widest possible use and enjoyment of the important collections held by Royal Pavilion & Museums. I welcome this petition as the start of a new conversation that seeks to build a sense of shared ownership and a commitment to working together. Janita Bagshawe (Head of Royal Pavilion & Museums) and David Rudling (the Society’s President and Chairman) are planning to meet this month, so I recommend that this Committee directs Janita Bagshawe, as the relevant Officer, to develop this conversation on its behalf.”

- 30.2 **RESOLVED** – That the Committee note the petition.

- 30.3 The Chair stated that the second petition related to Build our City an Ice Rink; the Chair read the following response:

“There are not any current proposals for a permanent ice rink in the city. Unfortunately, ice rinks are expensive not only to build but also to operate and the council does not have the finances available for such a facility.

At a recent meeting with Sport England the provision of ice rinks was discussed and it was confirmed that a financially viable ice rink is very hard to achieve. If a commercial developer and operator wished to consider an ice rink as part of a wider development scheme in the city, then the council would be willing to consider any such proposals.

Currently, the highest priority for the council to improve sports facilities in the city is the replacement of the King Alfred Leisure Centre. Such a facility would provide a wide range of opportunities in a number of sports.

In recent years a huge amount of effort went into a project to try and provide a permanent ice rink on the Black Rock site. Sadly, the developer that was funding the project was not able to make the scheme financially viable. Despite the obvious benefits of such a facility, the previous Black Rock project shows just how difficult it is to provide an ice rink.

The priority for the city at the Black Rock site is now a new entertainment and conferencing venue. The city needs such a new facility to ensure that the economic benefits provided by events and conferences continue to be achieved, as they are so

important to local businesses. In addition, it is anticipated that such a development would generate sufficient funding to pay for the venue to be built.

While this facility would not be able to provide a specially designed ice rink, it is envisaged that it will be possible for some ice events to take place similar to other areas across the city.

I am sorry that I cannot give a more positive answer, but I hope that you are able to enjoy the temporary ice rink provision which will again be available soon at the Royal Pavilion that has been so successful in recent years.”

30.4 **RESOLVED** – That the Committee note the petition.

30.5 The Chair noted there was one deputation in relation in Item 32 on the agenda and agreed to take this together with that item.

31 MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

31.1 The Notice of Motion as listed in the addendum was proposed by Councillor Morgan, the Chair, on behalf of the Labour & Co-operative Group and seconded by Councillor Peltzer Dunn on behalf of the Conservative Group.

31.2 The Chair then put the following motion to the vote:

“The Economic Development & Culture committee notes the Government is currently reviewing the potential expansion of Gatwick and Heathrow Airports. In this regard it recognises that there are associated economic and regeneration benefits that the City and Greater Brighton Region would enjoy should Gatwick be chosen.

This committee therefore requests the Chief Executive to write to the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Transport expressing the Council’s support for the expansion of Gatwick Airport.”

31.3 The Chair confirmed that the motion had been **carried** by 8 votes to 2.

32 LIBRARY SERVICE REVIEW AND NEEDS ANALYSIS

32.1 The Chair noted there was a deputation in relation to this item from Christopher Hawtree; he invited Mr Hawtree to come forward and put his deputation to the Committee.

32.2 Mr Hawtree stated that there were many different uses of a library; as well as a source of books libraries were a means of daily discovery. Mr Hawtree asked for caution and that the Council not rush forward with any proposals to close Hove Library, instead improvements to the library in its current form were requested. The proposed consultation would be difficult to undertake as the plans were ‘slim’ and there was not enough information on how the museum would work as a trust. He went on to add that many people enjoyed the library and it should be something for Hove to be proud of. It was also noted that he had recently asked the Chair if he would set up a cross-party panel to look at ways to keep both the library and museum open, but he was yet to receive a response.

- 32.3 **RESOLVED** – That the Committee note the deputation.
- 32.4 The Committee considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive in relation to Library Service Review and Needs Analysis. The purpose of the report was to present the Committee with the results of the Library Service Review and Needs Assessment, and seek agreement for the process and timetable of public consultation on proposed changes to Library Services. The Committee also received an in-depth presentation on the future of the service from the Head of Library Services. The Chair thanked Officers for all the work that had been undertaken to date, and noted that changes to the service needed to be seen in the context of the financial challenge faced by the authority, other local authorities had closed, outsourced and reduced the hours of operation of services. The aim was to ensure library services remained in house and improvements to services could be achieved whilst making reductions in costs. The Chair highlighted that the future plans proposed moving, not closing, Hove Library.
- 32.5 Councillor Robins thanked Officers for the report and noted the many areas of excellent work that the report highlighted and sought to achieve. He noted that just because Hove Library was purpose built this was not a reason in itself to retain the service from that location; like the Chair he reiterated that the service would be moved, not closed.
- 32.6 In response to queries from Councillor Peltzer Dunn the Head of Library Services explained pre-application advice had been sought and this had enabled the early plans to be shared with the Committee; the ethos of the consultation would be to involve the public to shape the service at Hove Library and ensure the new facility was fit for purpose; the report back to the March meeting of the Committee would have a much clearer idea of what residents wanted from their library service. Councillor Peltzer Dunn stated that he would be unable to support the report until he could be satisfied that residents would get the same level of service at the museum that they had come to expect at the Carnegie building.
- 32.7 Councillor Druitt thanked Officers for the comprehensive report, but queried the approach of looking at budgetary savings and service improvements together; instead believing these matters should be separate. In response to his queries the Head of Library Services explained that the review was about both saving money and improving the library service; the service was required to make savings in line with other services in the Council, and the report sought ways to deliver excellent services within these budget restraints. An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has already undertaken in relation to the Libraries Extra pilots and there would be a direct security feed and link to a member of staff in the library using this operational model. It was clarified that the report only sought permission to begin consultation at this stage as a means to explore all options. The Chair also confirmed that pre-consultation had taken place.
- 32.8 Councillor O'Quinn stated that the report evidenced the commitment of the Council to library services, and she felt that the notion of moving Hove library was sensible to make better use of the museum building and help create a community hub.
- 32.9 Councillor Yates noted that it was clear the Carnegie building was much loved and valued by those that used it, but he felt the financial position was very clear and the authority needed to deliver high quality services that were value for money.

- 32.10 In response to questions from Councillor C. Theobald the Head of Library Services explained that the service was in discussions with Children's Services about the potential to move Hollingbury Library, and further work on this would form part of the consultation process. Assurance was given that affected Ward Councillors would be kept informed.
- 33.11 In response to Councillor Greenbaum the Head of Library Services explained that, in relation to the potential trust status of the museum, close work would be undertaken with Museums; a contribution would be made to the running costs, but the service would be seamless.
- 33.12 Councillor Morris noted that it was perfectly normal for any developer to seek pre-application planning advice.
- 33.13 Councillor Nemeth noted his sympathy with many of the points made in the debate; he stated that before he could agree to the service in Hove being moved he would expect to see further information on the proposals for the future use of the Carnegie building; currently he could not support the proposals in the report.
- 33.14 The Chair then put the recommendations to the vote:

33.15 **RESOLVED:**

- 1) That the Committee notes the content of the Library Service Review and Needs Analysis report
- 2) That the Committee agrees the consultation process and timetable for proposed changes to modernise the Libraries Service as set out in section 5 below.

33 ROYAL PAVILION & MUSEUMS

- 33.1 The Committee considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive in relation to Royal Pavilion & Museums. The purpose of the report was to present the Committee with information, and provide the opportunity to raise questions, around the proposal to move the direct governance of the Royal Pavilion and Museums from the Council to a new cultural charitable entity. The Chair commended the report and highlighted that the Committee were currently only being asked to note the report. The Royal Pavilion was the city's biggest historical asset and the trust was considered a means to secure its future.
- 33.2 Councillor Peltzer Dunn noted his support for the proposals and the benefits that could be achieved by setting up a trust; he also commended the proposed timetable to undertake this work.
- 33.3 In response to Councillor Druitt it was explained that consultation would normally take place after the decision to proceed.
- 33.4 In response to Councillor Greenbaum it was clarified that there was an expectation that two elected Members would sit on the trust board, but this level of detail had not yet

been worked through and would be the subject of a full business were this approved. There were many examples of similar work across the country and the finances would be worked up as part of the business case.

33.5 In response to Councillor Yates it was clarified that the board of trustees would be able to also comprise of external experts, for example from local businesses.

33.6 Councillor Robins noted that he sat on the existing management board; he explained there was already drive and enthusiasm to progress this work.

33.7 In response to Councillor Nemeth the current acquisitions process was clarified by Officers.

33.8 The Chair noted that there was an amendment from the Green Group which was proposed by Councillor Druitt and seconded by Councillor Greenbaum. The amendment was **carried**.

33.9 The Chair then put the amended recommendations to the vote.

33.10 **RESOLVED:**

- 1) That Members are asked to note that a full business case for the establishment of the Trust is being developed which will set out the context and financial imperative to move the management of the Royal Pavilion and Museums to the Trust for presentation to the Policy & Resources Committee in January 2016.
- 2) That the business case being put forward to the Policy & Resources Committee will include options for requiring the new charitable organisation and trading subsidiary to commit to ethical, environmentally sustainable business practices and fair contractual terms for all staff (new and existing). This will include options such as a commitment to pursuing ethical, environmentally sustainable funding and/or investment opportunities, employer accreditation schemes, living wage schemes and a commitment to recognise trade unions for employees, and any other relevant schemes.

34 ROYAL PAVILION: FEES & CHARGES

34.1 The Committee considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive in relation to Fees and Charges. The purpose of the report was to present the review of fees and charges across the Royal Pavilion and Museums, the proposed fee changes in the report would be implemented from April 2016.

34.2 It was confirmed to Councillor Peltzer Dunn that all schools in the city, including academies, would continue to enjoy free admission. It was also clarified that the decline in attendance to the museum was in line with the projection at the time the charge had been introduced; however, it was not possible to assess this in full as the charges had not yet been in place for a full year.

34.3 In response to Councillor C. Theobald it was confirmed that the museums were on track to meet the income target for the current financial year, furthermore the income target on functions would be exceeded.

34.4 The Chair then put the recommendations to the vote.

34.5 RESOLVED:

- 1) That the Committee approve the fees and charges for Admissions for 2016/2017 & 2017/18 in Appendix A.
- 2) That the Committee approve the fees and charges for Room Hire for 2016/17 in Appendix B.
- 3) That the Committee approve the fees and charges for Photography & Reproduction 2016/17 Appendix C.
- 4) That the Committee approve the fees and charges for Schools and Bookings for 2016/17 and 2017/18 in Appendix D.

35 OUTDOOR EVENTS - MADEIRA DRIVE ROAD CLOSURES 2016

35.1 The Committee considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive in relation to Outdoor Events – Madeira Drive Road Closures 2016. The report sought approval for landlord's consent to the proposed programme of events on Madeira Drive in 2016 and the associated road closures.

35.2 In response to Councillor Greenbaum the Assistant Chief Executive explained that Officers were considering how additional funds towards the repair works to Madeira Terraces could be raised through events; however, bucketing was not generally very lucrative in the city. In respect of levying costs against events it was noted that this was not considered proportionate as any profit from events was often marginal.

35.3 It was confirmed for Councillor Druitt that no application for an event on the Madeira Drive had not been recommended to the Committee.

35.4 It was confirmed for Councillor C. Theobald that it was the intention of the Pride 2016 parade to start from Hove Seafront again.

35.5 In response to Councillor Greenbaum it was confirmed that the Council did not specify what sponsorship of events was acceptable, though organisers would be required to follow national legislation.

35.6 The Chair then put the recommendations to the vote.

35.7 RESOLVED:

- 1) That the committee grants landlord's consent for the 2016 programme of events on Madeira Drive and the associated road closures as listed in Appendix 1.

- 2) That the committee authorises officers to enter into formal agreements with event organisers to determine conditions, fees and levels of support as appropriate.
- 3) That the committee authorises the Assistant Chief Executive, after consultation with the Chair of the committee, Opposition and Group spokespersons, to make any alterations to the events programme as necessary and to approve new applications in accordance with the Outdoor Events Policy.

36 OUTDOOR EVENTS IN PARKS AND OPEN SPACES 2016

36.1 The Committee considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive in relation to Outdoor Events in Parks and Open Spaces 2016. The report sought approval for landlord's consent for the proposed programme of events in parks and open spaces in 2016.

36.2 In response to Councillor Yates it was clarified that the Shakedown Festival at Stanmer Park would be controlled through licensing and as such have to comply with the licensed terminal hours, and the operators would have to look after the site more widely including Colddean and Stanmer Woods. Any complaints and issues would be taken into consideration as part of the approval and organisation of the events in future years.

36.3 In response to Councillor Druitt it was confirmed that the Council's policies on animal welfare had not changed in recent years.

36.4 The Chair then put the recommendation to the vote.

36.5 RESOLVED:

- 1) That the committee grants landlord's consent for the events listed in Appendix 1.
- 2) That the committee authorise officers to enter into formal agreements with event organisers to determine conditions, fees and levels of support as appropriate.
- 3) That the committee authorises the Assistant Chief Executive, after consultation with the Chair of the committee, Opposition and Group spokespersons, to make any alterations to the events programme as necessary and to approve new applications in accordance with the Outdoor Events Policy.

37 WITHDRAWAL OF OUT OF DATE PLANNING GUIDANCE

37.1 **RESOLVED** - That the Committee agrees the withdrawal of eight out of date planning guidance documents as set out in the report and appendix 1.

38 MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE

38.1 The Committee considered the update from the Acting Executive Director for Environment, Development & Housing in relation to the Major Projects Update.

38.2 In response to Councillor Druitt the Assistant Chief Executive confirmed that there were ongoing discussions with traders affected by the works to the Madeira Terraces and meetings had taken place; work was ongoing to create a short-term plan.

38.3 **RESOLVED** – That the Committee note the update.

39 ITEMS REFERRED FOR COUNCIL

39.1 Item 31 – Member Involvement: Notices of Motion (Expansion of Gatwick Airport) was referred to Council on 17 December 2015 for information.

The meeting concluded at 6.20pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

