



PRCC.42 14/15

Committee - Prosperous
Communities

Date 16th December 2014

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Subject: Working Group for Leisure, Culture, Events and Tourism

Report by:

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Purpose / Summary:

To establish an Officer/Member working group to shape and develop leisure and cultural activity across the District

RECOMMENDATION(S):

1. That Members endorse the setting up of an Officer/Member working party.
2. That Prosperous Communities Committee nominate three Members to work alongside Officers in these key areas of work.

IMPLICATIONS

Legal: None

Financial : fin/95/15 The Group will have no budget and no decision making powers

Staffing : Officers will work with the group as part of their day to day duties

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights : The Group will ensure these principles are included in any recommendations

Risk Assessment : A working party will ensure that Officers and Members are closely working together for the benefit of the District and that important information is shared.

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities : N/a

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

Yes

No

Key Decision:

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

Yes

No

Background

- 1.1 Within the Corporate Plan the Council has set priorities to keep citizens safe, active and healthy, ensuring that the needs of people in West Lindsey are met in an appropriate, effective and sustainable way and to ensure communities are able to achieve their full potential. The provision of leisure and cultural activities has clear linkages with these Corporate aims and ambitions.
- 1.2 In addition it has been a long held desire by Members to increase the profile of West Lindsey, attracting additional visitors and boosting the local visitor economy. With this aim in mind the Council is currently recruiting an Events Co-ordinator. This role will have a dual purpose, and as well as being responsible for facilitating and organising large scale events across the whole of the West Lindsey district, the Events Co-ordinator will work with existing groups and Parish and Town Councils to produce a co-ordinated calendar of events and provide advice and guidance to existing groups.
- 1.3 There are some other key pieces of work which will need to be brought before Prosperous Communities in due course. The Council's leisure contract is due to end in May 2018 and Officers are currently working on a major corporate project to identify the future of the leisure service past this date.
- 1.4 The performance of Trinity Arts Centre has greatly improved over the last few years which has seen audience numbers rise and the Council subsidy reduce by 40%. However, to date, other than continuing this positive work the long term vision on the future management of the arts centre needs to be developed.
- 1.5 Tourism has very close links with leisure, culture and events and therefore it is important to include this in the working groups to ensure work strands are co-ordinated, that benefits are maximised and there is no duplication of effort.

Work Programme

- 2.1 To ensure that the vision and ambitions of Members are fully taken on board across the work strands of leisure, culture, events and tourism, Officers wish to put together an Officer and Member working group. This will ensure that Members are included in any strands of work at an early stage and ensure that robust recommendations are made to the relevant Committees in due course.
- 2.2 With regard to leisure provision the working group will have a clear role in helping to shape and develop the work during the course of the leisure review and assessing the various options open to the Council.

- 2.3 In terms of our events and tourism offer, Officers are keen to work with Members to fully understand their vision and ambitions and to ensure that the benefits of any work are maximised throughout the District.
- 2.4 It is also envisaged that the working party will help to identify a long term vision for the management and development of Trinity Arts Centre.

Proposal

- 3.1 Officers are therefore seeking nominations for three Members from Prosperous Communities to sit on an Officer/Member working party together with Cllr Wellburn who is the Member Champion for this area of work.
- 3.2 A draft Terms of Reference for the group which clearly details the objectives has been attached at Appendix One for consideration by Members should they agree to the request for a working group to be set up.

Recommendation

- 4.1 That Members endorse the setting up of an Officer/Member working party.
- 4.2 That Prosperous Communities Committee nominate three Members to work alongside Officers in these key areas of work.

Appendix One

Draft Terms of Reference for Officer and Member Focus Group for Leisure, Culture, Events and Tourism (January 2015)

1. Objectives

- To work together to promote the development of all cultural and leisure activity across the district for the benefit of the local community and the encouragement of tourism opportunities.
- To ensure the work undertaken across leisure, culture, events and tourism is co-ordinated and in line with Corporate priorities
- To share the current work being undertaken across all strands and to influence future plans to ensure maximum benefit for the District and its residents
- To assess and prioritise the work of the Events Co-ordinator and to identify options to be included in a series of events across the whole of West Lindsey
- To assess the options identified during the leisure review, consider outcomes and feedback to Commercial Board on preferred options
- To look at potential future developments for Trinity Arts Centre in terms of both its offer and management
- To consider how tourism opportunities can be maximised in the District.

3. Membership

The focus group shall comprise:

- Representative from CLT
- Leisure and Cultural Services Team Manager
- Member of finance team
- Member Champion for Events and Tourism
- Three Councillors formally nominated by Prosperous Communities
- Events Co-ordinator
- Tourism Officer

Appropriate additional attendees may be invited to the Focus Group on a meeting by meeting basis to consider specific work areas.

4. Chairman

The focus group will be chaired by the Member Champion for Events and Tourism or in her absence one of the nominated Councillors.

5. Powers

This group has no decision making powers and no supporting budget. The role of this group will be to make recommendations to the relevant Council Committee and Officers.

6. Rules of Procedure

The group shall meet every 2 months, unless a meeting is required sooner.

Meeting agendas shall be produced at least a week in advance of any meeting and any member of the group may request additional agenda items.

Progress and action notes will be sent to Prosperous Communities chairs brief for consideration and noting.