

**COMMUNITY AND LEISURE COMMITTEE held at COUNCIL OFFICES
LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN at 7.30 pm on 4 MARCH 2003**

Present:- Councillor A R Row – Chairman.
Councillors E C Abrahams, Mrs D Cornell,
R C Dean, Mrs J E Menell, D M Miller and G Sell.

Also present:- Councillor R P Chambers

Officers in attendance:- Mrs S McLagan, B D Perkins and
Mrs C Roberts.

CL33 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R J Copping and
Mrs J I Loughlin.

Members declared their respective interests as detailed below:

Councillor Mrs J E Menell a personal but non-prejudicial interest as a member
of the Buffy Bus Association, and the Primary Care Trust.

CL34 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 7 January 2003 were
received, confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

CL35 YOUNG MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR FESTIVAL

The Committee received a report detailing the background to the holding of
this event in previous years and setting out the financial position. Officers had
been unable to commit the Council to running the event as insufficient
sponsorship had been promised by the end of January. The Head of
Community and Leisure Services added that she hoped that the event would
be resurrected in 2004 and discussions with the Thaxted Festival Committee
would continue to try to achieve this. Meantime the officers wished to use the
available budget on other projects, such as Rock Shop to serve the needs of
young musicians of the area.

Councillor R P Chambers informed the meeting that he had negotiated the
offer of private sponsorship in a sizable sum. He anticipated that with the
£1,000 set aside by the Council for the Young Musician of the Year Festival
there would be enough funds to allow the event to proceed later in the year.

RESOLVED that Officers prepare proposals for an Uttlesford Young
Musician's event towards the end of the year, subject to sufficient
sponsorship funding being received in addition to this Council's
contribution of £1,000, and report back to the next meeting of the
Committee.

CL36

COMMUNITY AND LEISURE GRANT SCHEMES

(Councillor Mrs J E Menell declared an interest in this item in so far as she was the president of the Buffy Bus Association)

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Community and Leisure Services on restructuring of the Community & Leisure grants.

The Head of Community and Leisure Services outlined the observations which had been made by various committees of the Council about criteria for grants and restructuring of the grant schemes.

Members welcomed the proposals and in this context thanks were expressed for the work of Councillor Mrs J E Menell in introducing the Community Partnership Grant Scheme. Councillor Mrs Menell in turn praised the contributions of the Head of Community and Leisure Services and of the Community Development Manager.

RESOLVED that

- 1 the new Leisure and Cultural Grant Scheme and Community Partnership Grant Scheme, set out in the Appendix to the report be approved and adopted.
- 2 the new arrangements for the Contributions Fund Scheme, set out in the report and Appendix, be approved and that officers report to the October meeting of this Committee on details of applications received from Uttlesford Citizen's Advice Bureau, Bishop's Stortford CAB, Uttlesford Council for Voluntary Services and Uttlesford Community Transport.
- 3 redistribution of budgets for the schemes, as set out in the report, be approved.
- 4 the Environment and Transport Committee be asked to confirm the transfer to the Contributions Fund of the budget allocated to Community Transport.

CL37

COMMUNITY PROJECT GRANT – REQUEST FOR EXTENSION TO GRANT PERIOD

The Committee considered a request for extension of the grant period for a grant awarded to Saffron Walden Town Library Society. It was noted that the Society expected to secure the rest of necessary funds early in the Spring of 2003.

RESOLVED

that the grant of £3,500 for the Saffron Walden Town Library be held over until September 2003.

CL38 DAY CENTRES BEST VALUE REVIEW

The Committee considered draft Terms of Reference for the Day Centres Best Value Review. Members noted that the Management Committee representatives would have one representative per Day Centre on the Member Reference Group, and that they had recommended that meetings be held at the Day Centres.

RESOLVED

that the terms of reference for the Day Centres Best Value Review for 2003/4 be submitted for the approval of Scrutiny Committee No 1.

CL39 MUSEUM MANAGEMENT JOINT WORKING PARTY

The Committee considered in particular revised terms of reference for the Museum Management Joint Committee.

RESOLVED that

the terms of reference for the Museum Management Joint Committee be approved and that subject to the approval of the Saffron Walden Museum Society, the necessary changes be made to the Memorandum of Agreement.

CL40 STAFFING COMMUNITY AND LEISURE SERVICE

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Community and Leisure Services on current work in the department, a new Cultural and Leisure Strategy Statement and rearrangements following the resignation of the Leisure Officer. The report included details of new monitoring arrangements for the PFI Leisure contract.

The Chairman referred to the efforts of the Head of Community and Leisure Services to minimise loss of services due to non-replacement of staff, and asked that the minutes note the hard work carried out by the Leisure Officer for the Council generally.

Some Members thought that the Leisure Officer post should be filled or measures taken by other organisations to fulfil that role.

RESOLVED that

- 1 the Strategy Statement and the re-arrangement of work in the light of changes in staffing be approved
- 2 officers recast the Leisure and Cultural Strategy on the basis of the Strategy Statement 's priorities
- 3 the arrangements for monitoring the PFI Contract be approved and forwarded to the Resources Committee.
- 4 the Chairman of the Committee and the Head of Community and Leisure Services meet at regular intervals to monitor and discuss matters relating to the Community and Leisure Services work programme

CL41 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED that the public be excluded for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of Exempt Information as defined in paragraph 8 of part 1 of schedule 12A to the 1972 Act.

CL42 TENDER PROCESS – BRIDGE END GARDENS RESTORATION PROJECT

The Committee received the report of the Local Plan and Conservation Manager which recommended approval of limited departure from standard procedures under the Council's Standing Orders because of special circumstances in the case of all contracts in this project.

The Committee was also informed of the successful outcome of the stage 2 application to the Heritage Lottery Fund. Members offered their congratulations to the Local Plan and Conservation Manager on this result.

RESOLVED that

- 1 subject to success in the HLF bid, the arrangements for contracts over £10,000 set out in the report be approved and the Resources Committee informed.
- 2 these contracts are to be implemented as shown in the HLF stage 2 submission subject to any variation that may be needed during the implementation of the project.

CL43

CHAIRMANS THANKS

The Chairman of the Committee expressed his gratitude to the Members of the Committee for their involvement, understanding and support over the past municipal year during which much had been achieved. Members of the Committee reciprocated these sentiments.

The meeting ended at 9.12 pm.