

**OLYMPICS WORKING GROUP held at COUNCIL OFFICES LONDON ROAD
SAFFRON WALDEN at 6.30 pm on 7 NOVEMBER 2011**

Present: Councillor M Lemon – Chairman.
Councillors P Davies, S Favell, D Morson, E Oliver.

Also present: Councillors K Eden and H Rolfe, Parish Councillor J Hudson – Stansted Parish Council and Catherine Mummery (Artistic Manager for Sparks Will Fly).

Officers in attendance: G Bradley (Community Partnerships Manager); L Bunting (Democratic Services Officer); J Mitchell (Chief Executive) and C Wingfield (Museum Curator).

OWG20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J Rich and Parish Councillors G Sell, (Stansted) and A Yarwood (Newport). There were no declarations of interest.

OWG21 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Working Group held on 20 September 2011 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record. There were no matters arising.

The Community Partnerships Manager introduced Catherine Mummery who had been employed to provide the artistic direction/management for the event.

OWG22 'SPARKS WILL FLY IN UTTLESFORD' – UPDATE

The Community Partnerships Manager gave a presentation to Members updating them on progress to date with arrangements for the event. She reported that Essex County Council is requiring the name of the event to be changed. One suggestion broached so far had been the name 'Sparks Will Fly At Walden Castle'.

The infrastructure required for the day, such as toilets, marquees, and equipment such as generators, tables and chairs etc, had all now been arranged. Rolling road closures would also needed to be arranged.

Draft timings for the event on Saturday, 19 May 2012, were provided along with a schedule of proposed events. A decision would have to be made as to who would present the gift of a glass bead, described as a Perspex one metre spherical orb, to the Giant Champion during the exchange of gifts to take place at the Museum. A suggestion was made that it should be presented by a local sporting hero. The proposed procession would include participation by local schools and shop window designs. A marching band and dancers would also be in attendance.

Catherine Mummery referred to grants which could be obtained. For example, a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for Grand Union Orchestra for a Church concert and other participation. Other small grants could be obtained from Essex County Council. Marketing and publicity was also referred to with the need for the terms of reference to be signed and publicity deadlines to be submitted by 30 November 2011. Essex County Council had engaged a company to undertake the branding publicity and a Museum leaflet would be produced in January.

Members then discussed the content of the presentation. They also asked for an updated list of the deadline dates to be circulated to them which the Community Partnerships Manager agreed to send them. Catherine Mummery then left the meeting at 7.00 pm.

OWG23

OLYMPIC TORCH

The Community Partnerships Manager circulated a press release concerning the Torch Relay Route, which would run through Stansted, Newport and Saffron Walden, and gave a short presentation on progress so far.

The Chief Executive said that it was good for the District that the Torch would be traversing through the parts of Uttlesford but he wanted to make the Working Group aware that the Relay would only be present in the District for around 50 minutes in total. He considered that the Group should take proportionality into account and be mindful of local opinions when preparing events to keep them measured, proportional and dignified. He said that LOGOG did not consider that an 'It's a Knock Out' type of event would be suitable. It was suggested that a short sports related event would suffice.

The Chairman thought that using the three sports centres could be a good idea and considered that the Community Partnerships Manager could come up with something suitable as she had in the past.

Councillor Favell was concerned that what was now being proposed was not what had been agreed previously. The Community Partnerships Manager said that the sports centres idea would not replace the original ideas but would be in addition to them. However, the schools are running inter school Olympics so we would not want to duplicate that.

Councillor Oliver considered that the whole thing may turn out to be a 'non-event' as the Torch would only be present in each site for around 20 minutes.

Councillor Morson suggested connecting the sports centres in some way with one sports event. The Community Partnerships Manager made the suggestion of contacting the schools sports network with a view to holding coordinated sports events at schools with finals taking place at the centres and a grand final happening on the day. The suggestion of a fun-run taking place was also broached.

It was decided that the Community Partnerships Manager would look into the suggestions made and she would report her finding at a meeting to be arranged with the Chairman and Councillor Rolph.

OWG24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that a meeting would be held on Tuesday, 13 December 2011 at 6.30 pm.

The meeting ended at 7.50 pm.