

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

LEISURE and ARTS ADVISORY BOARD

15 March 2010

Report of the Chief Leisure Officer

Part 1- Public

Matters for Information

1 SPORTS DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Summary

This report updates Members on the work of the Sports Development Officer detailing some of the events and initiatives planned for 2010.

1.1 Tonbridge Half Marathon

1.1.1 As Members will be aware, Tonbridge Lions Club is a very proactive Club organising several high profile events each year in aid of local charities and organisations.

1.1.2 In August 2009 the Club approached the Borough Council about the possibility of organising a half marathon event. Following an initial meeting, the Council confirmed its support in principle, subject to any permissions needed from Kent County Council Highways and Kent Police and the submission of an Events on Public Open Spaces form.

1.1.3 The date of the event has now been confirmed as Sunday 17 October 2010, with Haysden Country Park being the start and finish point. The Lions Club has formed an organising committee and the Sports Development Officer attended the recent meeting on 24 February. A detailed Event Management Plan will be prepared by the organisers and Members will be updated on further details at the next meeting of this Board.

1.2 Cycling Initiatives

1.2.1 In the Council's bid to increase adult participation in physical activity and promote a healthy lifestyle, a series of cycling initiatives have been planned to encourage more recreational cycling.

1.2.2 In order to encourage more cycling, people need to feel confident that their bikes are safe and roadworthy or that they can recognise if something needs to be repaired. With this in mind several bike maintenance workshops have been arranged during February and March, for people with little or no knowledge of how a bike works.

- 1.2.3 The workshops have been organised in partnership with Cycle Ops, the cycle shop in Tonbridge and a cycling campaign group called Spokes.
- 1.2.4 In addition, a free Cycle Fun Day is to be held on Tuesday 6 April on Tonbridge Racecourse Sportsground, promoting all aspects of cycling including security marking by the Police, further bike maintenance and also the opportunity to try different bikes.
- 1.2.5 This event will also be an opportunity to carry out some last minute promotion of the Mayor's Charity Bike Ride, which is taking place on 11 April 2010.

1.3 Discovery Day Events

- 1.3.1 Members will be aware of the annual disability sports days held at Larkfield Leisure Centre and the Angel Centre for school children with physical, learning and behavioural difficulties.
- 1.3.2 For 2010, the Larkfield Day will be held on Thursday 20 May and the Angel Centre event will be on Thursday 7 October.
- 1.3.3 As in previous years a number of local secondary school pupils and potential sports leaders will be invited to take part as volunteer helpers. This is always well received by the schools and students concerned.
- 1.3.4 The days are offered free of charge to all participating special schools and both events are now an established part of their school year.

1.4 2010 Kwik Cricket Festival

- 1.4.1 The 2010 Primary Schools Kwik Cricket Festival is to be held on Wednesday 16 June at Tonbridge School.
- 1.4.2 As in previous years, the Sports Development Officer will arrange the marketing and pre-Festival administration and the Tonbridge and Malling District Cricket Partnership will draw up the order of play and manage the Festival on the day.
- 1.4.3 There is no entry fee for any participating school and to encourage schools from across the borough to attend, assistance with transport costs is available.
- 1.4.4 The winning school will be invited to represent Tonbridge and Malling at the County Festival in Canterbury on Sunday 4 July 2010.
- 1.4.5 As Members may be aware the Council, in conjunction with the Tonbridge and Malling District Cricket Partnership, organises a programme of indoor cricket coaching for juniors at Judd School every Saturday from October through to April each year. Due to the popularity of the scheme, additional venues are now being considered to relieve the pressure on space. Tonbridge School is one possible venue and discussions have already taken place with a view to holding some sessions there for the 2010/2011 programme.

1.5 Sports Coach of the Year Award

- 1.5.1 As Members will be aware, the Council has organised an annual Coach of the Year Award since the late Dave Arnold was given the accolade of Lifetime Achievement Award in 2005.
- 1.5.2 The closing date for nominations this year was 22 February and the list of nominees will be considered by the Award Panel.
- 1.5.3 The Coach of the Year Award Panel, made up of the Chairman of the Tonbridge Sports Association, the Sports Development Officer, a well respected sports coach and the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Youth and the Arts, will meet on 16 March to decide an overall winner.
- 1.5.4 A more detailed report and details of the proposed winner will be presented to the next meeting of this Board.

1.6 Swanmead Sports Association

- 1.6.1 Liaison is currently taking place with Swanmead Sports Association regarding the future lease arrangements for the pavilion on site. The Association includes three Clubs involved in football, cricket and judo. The discussions are aimed at assisting each of the Clubs to develop further in the future, as each Club is increasingly becoming successful in its chosen sport. Members will be aware from previous reports that the Judo Club in particular is now competing at an international level and, in partnership with Tonbridge School, will be hosting the nations of Ukraine and Belorussia in 2012 as a pre-training camp for the Olympics.

1.7 National Indicator Results

- 1.7.1 The national indicator set for local authorities was announced in 2007 and are the only means of measuring national priorities agreed by Government.
- 1.7.2 National Indicator 8 (NI8) is the indicator for sport and active recreation and is being measured by Sport England's Active People Survey. The definition for NI8 is: 'the percentage of the adult population in a local area who participated in sport and active recreation at a moderate intensity for at least 30 minutes on at least 12 days out of the last four weeks'.
- 1.7.3 The following table illustrates a 2.5% increase in adult participation in Tonbridge & Malling between the Active People Survey 1 (October 2005 -2006) and Active People Survey 3 (Oct 2008 -2009), ranking the Borough second after Canterbury and Maidstone.

Comparative Results for the Active People Surveys

District	Results from APS1 %	Combined Results for APS2/3 %	% Change	Rankings
Canterbury	20.6	23.6	3.0	1
Maidstone	22.3	23.6	1.3	1
Tonbridge & Malling	20.5	23.0	2.5	2
Sevenoaks	23.1	22.1	-1.0	3
Shepway	19.5	21.5	2.0	4
Ashford	21.9	21.0	-0.8	5
Tunbridge Wells	23.7	20.7	-3.0	6
Swale	19.2	19.8	0.6	7
Dartford	17.8	19.6	1.9	8
Dover	20.6	19.3	-1.3	9
Gravesham	17.6	19.3	1.7	9
Thanet	18.0	17.4	-0.6	10
Medway	18.2	15.8	-2.4	11

1.8 Snodland All Weather Pitch

- 1.8.1 Snodland Town Council approached the Borough Council towards the end of 2009 requesting assistance with the cost of resurfacing their all weather sports area. Since then Cabinet has approved a capital grant of £9,000 (Decision D100015CAB 2 February 2010).
- 1.8.2 A funding shortfall of approximately £11,000 remains to complete the additional refurbishment (upgrade of lighting and pathway improvements) and the Sports Development Officer has been working closely with the Town Clerk to help secure additional funding from other sources.

1.9 Legal Implications

- 1.9.1 None.

1.10 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

- 1.10.1 All the activities highlighted in this report being run directly by the Council will be funded from existing revenue budgets. External funding will be sought where possible to supplement and enhance the activities on offer.

1.11 Risk Assessment

- 1.11.1 With regard to the Tonbridge Half Marathon, Tonbridge Lions Club will be required to provide a detailed risk assessment and an Event Management Plan.
- 1.11.2 A risk assessment for the remaining activities will be undertaken in liaison with the Council's Health and Safety Officer.

1.12 Policy Consideration

1.12.1 Young People, Healthy Lifestyle.

Background papers:

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Nil

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