

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

LEISURE and ARTS ADVISORY BOARD

16 September 2013

Report of the Director of Street Scene & Leisure

Part 1- Public

Matters for Information

1 SPORTS DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Summary

This report updates Members on key areas of the Sports Development Programme including the Young Cricket Leaders Project, Sports Awards, Sports Club Support, Discovery Day, Spring into Sport, Primary Schools Kwik Cricket Festival and Parkrun.

1.1 Young Cricket Leaders Project

1.1.1 The Tonbridge and Malling Cricket Development Officer approached the Council about a cricket leaders' scheme that had been designed and piloted by the Old Elthamians Cricket Club in Bexley, with great success. The scheme targeted 14 to 16 year old players interested in coaching the game by offering training in cricket leadership, umpiring and scoring, groundsmanship and first aid.

1.1.2 A successful bid for £3,000 was made to the Kent County Council Community Chest to run two Young Cricket Leaders courses in the Malling area, specifically targeting Snodland and East Malling. The funding made it possible to run the workshops with qualified tutors at local venues with the participants only contributing a token £10 to access over 12 hours of cricket specific training and sports leadership.

1.1.3 The courses started in April attracting 30 young people and included representatives from the following local clubs:

- Holcombe and Blue Bell Hill
- Addington Cricket Club
- Town Malling Cricket Club
- Cowdrey Cricket Club
- Kemsing Cricket Club

- Leybourne Cricket Club

- 1.1.4 Part of the scheme included a minimum of 20 hours volunteering by the course participants once they had completed the course. This ensured that local Clubs, as well as individuals, benefitted from the scheme.
- 1.1.5 The participants have been invited to attend a presentation of their award at Lords Cricket Ground on 29 September 2013.
- 1.1.6 Feedback from the participants and the clubs has been positive. Further external funding opportunities will be investigated to run similar courses in the future.

1.2 Spring Into Sport

- 1.2.1 A new scheme, Spring into Sport was launched in January 2013, aimed at meeting the Council's key priority of Healthy Living and Well-being, as well as encouraging increased participation in sport. Tonbridge and Malling has many active and successful sports clubs and the Council supports them in a number of ways. The Scheme was seen as an additional way of raising awareness of local sports clubs and assisting them in recruiting new members.
- 1.2.2 All clubs in the Borough were contacted in January 2013 and advised that any clubs wanting to run free taster sessions throughout the month of March would receive a financial contribution from the Council and free publicity. The clubs could decide on the date, venue and who could attend the session as long as it was free of charge.
- 1.2.3 A total of 15 clubs from across the borough took advantage of this offer.
- 1.2.4 Feedback from the clubs indicated that 106 people attended the free sessions in total. Unfortunately March did see some particularly wintry weather and some of the sessions did suffer because of this. All of the clubs felt it was a worthwhile exercise and would like to do it again but possibly at a different time of year.

1.3 Sports Club Support

- 1.3.1 In addition to Spring into Sport, local clubs were also offered free places on first aid courses and child protection workshops. Any sports clubs that accept junior members and want to gain Clubmark accreditation must have qualified first aiders and an Official responsible for child protection issues within the club. It is, therefore, felt that by offering these courses to local clubs it is helping and encouraging those clubs considering or already embarking on Clubmark accreditation.
- 1.3.2 The clubs taking up the offer of free places included:
- Tonbridge Bowling Club
 - Wrotham Bowls Club

- Tonbridge Judo Club
- Borough Green Bowls Club
- Ditton Bowls Club
- Kingfisher Korfbal Club
- Addington Cricket Club
- Tonbridge Town Sailing Club
- Tonbridge Athletics Club
- Tonbridge Canoe Club.

1.4 Kwik Cricket Festival

1.4.1 As Members will be aware a primary schools Kwik Cricket Festival is held every year to which all schools in the Borough are invited. This year's event was held on 26 June at Tonbridge School with 21 schools and 26 teams taking part.

1.4.2 Ightham Primary School were the eventual winners and the Mayor was present to award the school with their winning trophy. Tunbury Primary School were the runners up and Slade Primary School was nominated as the most sporting team. Ightham School went on to represent Tonbridge and Malling at the county final in Canterbury on 3 July, which they also won. Consequently they then went on to represent Kent in the regional finals at the Ageas Bowl, Southampton on 16 July where they put in a commendable performance.

Due to the generous support of this event by Tonbridge School and the Tonbridge and Malling District Cricket Partnership who give their time, facilities and expertise at no charge, the schools can enter free of charge.

1.5 Parkrun

1.5.1 Parkrun is a weekly 5km timed run organised by a team of volunteers. The runs take place every Saturday at 9am at various locations around the country and are open to all ages and abilities, free of charge.

1.5.2 There are currently 200 Parkruns in the UK including five in Kent: Maidstone, Pegwell Bay, Shorne Woods, Whitstable and Margate. Kent County Council approached the Borough Council about setting one up in Tonbridge as they would like to see at least one Parkrun in every district.

1.5.3 Following initial discussions with KCC Officers and Parkrun representatives, Tonbridge Sportsground was felt to be a suitable location. Following a site meeting a possible route was looked at using part of the Tonbridge to Penshurst Cycle route. Further discussions involving Tonbridge Juddians Rugby Club and

the Tonbridge Sports Association have resulted in the start and finish of the run being sited at the rear of the rugby clubs' clubhouse.

- 1.5.4 Although there is a £3,000 one-off set up fee for which the Council is seeking funding, it is free of charge for all the participants. This is, therefore, felt to be a good use of the Sportsground in which local residents and visitors can use the site to improve their fitness at no cost. Members will be kept informed of progress should the funding bid be successful. Should this be the case it is hoped the Tonbridge Parkrun can start in October 2013.

1.6 Discovery Day

- 1.6.1 As Members will be aware a disability sports day is run every year at the Angel Centre for children and young people with a physical or learning disability. This year's event will be run on Thursday, 3 October.
- 1.6.2 As in previous years a number of special schools in and around the Borough are invited to attend but in a new development, all the local mainstream schools have also been contacted. This recognises the fact that more children with special educational needs are now attending mainstream schools and would also benefit from attending a Discovery Day event. Fidelity Investments based in Hildenborough have once again agreed to make a donation to this event, and other local organisations are also being approached. Fidelity Investments have also kindly offered to provide a number of volunteer helpers on the day and this will be supported by a number of young sports leaders from local secondary schools.

1.7 Sports Awards

- 1.7.1 In December 2012, the Council was approached by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council about the possibility of merging the respective sports awards programmes with both Councils going into partnership with the Courier Newspaper Group. Following agreement the awards were launched through the Tonbridge Courier and all the Courier Group newspapers at the end of March. The nomination period closes on 30 September and submissions can be made online, using a paper nomination form or by telephone.
- 1.7.2 Since April the Council has benefitted from regular coverage both on the sports pages and in the main part of the paper. In addition, the Courier Group website currently carries extensive information about the awards including a home page, sponsors logos and a nomination form and there is also a separate page for the Council with a link to the Council website.
- 1.7.3 The award categories for 2013 are:

Organisation/Sponsor	Award
Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council	– Coach of the Year – Lifetime Achievement in Sport
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	– Primary School Team of the Year – Secondary School Team of the Year
Hexx Sportswear	– Young Team of the Year – Young Sports Star of the Year
Kent County Playing Fields Association	– Groundsman of the Year

- 1.7.4 Following the 30 September deadline for nominations, the public will be encouraged to vote for their favourite nominees from 25 October to 17 November. Details of the five nominees with the most votes in each category will then be forwarded to each sponsor to decide the winner. The Tonbridge and Malling Sports Award panel will then meet as soon as possible after the 17 November to decide on the Coach of the Year and Lifetime Achievement in Sport winners.
- 1.7.5 The panel's recommendations will then be put to the Members of this Board for information at the meeting on 9 December. A presentation evening will be held at K College in Tonbridge.

1.8 Legal Implications

- 1.8.1 None.

1.9 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

- 1.9.1 The cost of initiatives is met through the existing Sports Development revenue budget supplemented by external funding from grants and sponsorship where possible.

1.10 Risk Assessment

- 1.10.1 Provision of healthy lifestyle opportunities and activities for young people assists in the well-being of residents.
- 1.10.2 All activities are risk assessed and associated health and safety paperwork completed.

1.11 Policy Considerations

- 1.11.1 Healthy Lifestyles, Young People, Community.

Background papers:

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Nil

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