

**BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**  
**CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM CABINET MEMBER MEETING**

**3.00pm 20 JANUARY 2009**

**COMMITTEE ROOM 3, HOVE TOWN HALL**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Councillor Smith (Cabinet Member)

**Also in attendance:** Councillor Davis (Opposition Spokesperson)

**PART ONE**

**58. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS**

**58a Declarations of Interests**

58.1 Councillor Davis declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in items 67 and 68 as she was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Brighton Carnival (Take Part Festival of Sport – Item 67 and Brighton Carnival – Item 68).

**58b Exclusion of Press and Public**

58.2 In accordance with section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 (the Act), the Cabinet Member for Culture, Recreation and Tourism considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during an item of business on the grounds that it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press or public were present during that item, there would be disclosure to them of confidential information (as defined in section 100A(3) of the Act) or exempt information (as defined in section 100(I) of the Act).

58.3 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public be not excluded from the meeting.

**59. CABINET MEMBER'S COMMUNICATIONS**

**Active for Life Directory 2009**

59.1 The Cabinet Member reported that the latest Active for Life Directory 2009 was now available in venues throughout Brighton & Hove. The directory detailed sport and leisure activities in Brighton & Hove and was directly compiled by the Sports Development Team in conjunction with Brighton & Hove City NHS Teaching Primary Care Trust. The launch of the directory will be on Saturday 31 January 2009, when there will be various activities. The Cabinet Member stated that he would like as many councillors as possible to take part in the event.

**60. ITEMS RESERVED FOR DISCUSSION**

60.1 **RESOLVED** – All items were reserved for discussion.

**61. PETITIONS**

61.1 There were none.

**62. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

62.1 There were none.

**63. DEPUTATIONS**

63.1 There were none.

**64. LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS**

64.1 There were none.

**65. WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

65.1 There were none.

**66. NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

66.1 There were none.

**67. EVENTS PROGRAMME IN PARKS AND OPEN SPACES 2009**

67.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Environment which set out the proposed programme of special events for Parks and Open Spaces in 2009, and sought landlord's consent for these events (for copy see minute book).

67.2 The Cabinet Member stressed that the Events Programme in Parks & Open Spaces was very important to the vibrancy of the city for both residents and visitors. The programme would provide a wide, diverse range of opportunities for all to enjoy from carnivals and cabaret to festivals and funfairs. Events would have a significant economic benefit by attracting tourists and generating expenditure into the local economy. The attractiveness of the City's gardens and open spaces was also very important to residents and tourists. A balance of use of the various areas was needed.

67.3 The Cabinet Member drew attention to paragraph 3.2.1 of the report, which indicated that the Old Steine site would not be used for events in 2009. Having discussed this matter with colleagues and officers, he now proposed that the Parlure Speigaltent was permitted on the Old Steine from Friday 1 May to Monday 25 May (times Sunday to Wednesday 12.00-00.30 and Thursday to Saturday 12.00-02.00). Key to this decision was the assurance that had been received from the Festival Fringe that an appropriate reinstatement agreement would be entered into with the promoter.

- 67.4 The Head of Sport and Leisure drew attention to the strong links across sport and leisure in the programme of events. This would increase physical activity in the City. A great deal of behind the scene work was carried out and he paid tribute to the work of the Events Team.
- 67.5 The Head of Arts, International & Voluntary Sector Teams drew attention to the Festivals Clusters Development as detailed in paragraphs 3.2.3 to 3.2.6 in the report. A significant strand of work would be around looking at outdoor sites in the City.
- 67.6 The Head of Sport and Leisure reported that the Queen's Park ward councillors had commented upon the improvements in noise control and reduced disturbance to local residents from events in Valley Gardens last year.
- 67.7 Councillor Davis stated that she thought the right decision had been made in relation to the application from the Parlure Speigeltent to use the Old Steine Gardens.
- 67.8 In answer to a question put by Councillor Davis, the Head of Arts, International & Voluntary Sector Teams confirmed that there would be a sustainability element to the audit of outdoor sites in the City. The Director of Environment reported that there would be a separate piece of work relating to sustainability which would be submitted to a Scrutiny Board and to the Culture Recreation and Tourism CMM.
- 67.9 **RESOLVED** – Having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Member accepted the following recommendations.
- (1) That consent be granted for the events listed in Appendix 1, and to an application from the Parlure Speigeltent to use the Old Steine gardens on Friday 1 May to Monday 25 May 2009.
- (2) That officers be authorised to enter into formal agreements with event organisers to determine conditions, fees and levels of support as appropriate.
- (3) That the Director of Environment be authorised, after consultation with the Cabinet Member, to make any alterations to the events programme as necessary.

## 68. SPECIAL EVENTS - MADEIRA DRIVE CLOSURES 2009

- 68.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Environment which set out the proposed programme of special events on Madeira Drive in 2009 and sought approval of the associated road closures (for copy see minute book).
- 68.2 The Cabinet Member stressed that Madeira Drive was a very important venue for special events with many longstanding events such as the Speed Trials and Veteran Car Run being part of the city's heritage. The events formed an important part of the Event's Programme of the city for the enjoyment of visitors and residents and the wider economic benefit of the city. The special events were an important element of the long-term regeneration of Madeira Drive with Madeira Drive being the key events venue for the city.

68.3 The Head of Sport and Leisure reported that there had been feedback from consultation from the Queen's Park ward councillors. There had been concern about the loss of public amenities (i.e closure of the beach). However, this only happened during the National Speed Trials and the Big Beach Boutique due to health and safety requirements.

68.4 The Queen's Park councillors had also re-iterated the request for the scale of charges for events on Madeira Drive to reflect carbon emissions produced and a levy on event tickets to be imposed for a Madeira Drive regeneration fund. The Director of Environment advised such requests were a change of policy beyond the scope of this report. In addition, the same councillors also asked for strategies to be in place to encourage attendees to explore the local area. The Head of Sport and Leisure advised that the marketing for such events often featured the wider area to encourage attendance.

69.5 Councillor Davis asked about the White Air Extreme Sports Festival 2009. The Head of Sport and Leisure replied that Cabinet had granted approval for this event on 18 December 2008.

68.6 **RESOLVED** – Having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Member accepted the following recommendations.

(1) That consent be granted for the 2009 programme for special events on Madeira Drive and the associated road closures as listed in Appendix 1.

(2) That officers be authorised to enter into formal agreements with event organisers to determine conditions, fees and levels of support as appropriate.

(3) That the Director of Environment be authorised, after consultation with the Cabinet Member, to make any alterations to the events programme as necessary.

**69. FEES AND CHARGES: BEACH CHALETS, BEACH HUTS, FISHING LOCKERS AND BOAT LICENCES, OUTDOOR EVENTS AND VOLK'S RAILWAY**

69.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Environment which set out the proposed increase of the annual rent levied by the council for beach chalets at Ovingdean, Saltdean, Madeira Drive and Hove Seafront. The report also set out the proposed rent increase in relation to the annual ground rent for beach huts along Hove seafront and for fishing lockers and boat licenses on both Brighton and Hove beaches (for copy see minute book).

69.2 The Cabinet Member reported that fees and charges provided an important source of income which was required to meet the income targets set as part of the overall budget for sport and leisure. Therefore it was necessary to review and implement changes to the fees and charges annually to ensure that realistic charges are being made.

69.3 The Development Manager - Sport & Leisure Projects reported that the figures quoted in paragraph 3.3 should have been based on the new VAT rate of 15% rather than the old rate of 17.5%. This would be amended.

69.4 **RESOLVED** – Having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Member accepted the following recommendations.

(1) That the fees and charges be agreed as set out in the report and as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

The meeting concluded at 3.22am

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of