

Council	Agenda Item 75(a)
30 January 2014	Brighton & Hove City Council

NOTICE OF MOTION

CONSERVATIVE GROUP

DISABLED ACCESS – ROTTINGDEAN TERRACE

This Council resolves:

To request that Policy & Resources Committee allocate £4,000 towards the cost of a ramp to facilitate access to the Rottingdean Terrace stage auditorium to enable those residents and visitors with a disability and in pushchairs to enjoy the many events and activities that take place at this popular seafront location.

Proposed by: Councillor Hyde

Seconded by: Councillor K. Norman

Supported by: Cllrs: Barnett, Peltzer Dunn, Simson, A. Norman, Wealls, Cox, Bennett, Smith, Pidgeon, Mears, Janio, C. Theobald, G. Theobald, Brown, and Wells.

Supporting information:

Two years ago, after a successful fundraising appeal to villagers and village businesses, Rottingdean Arts, in cooperation with the Play Area in Rottingdean Committee (PARC) raised £20,000 to create a new performance stage on the Terraces. Brighton and Hove City Council, Rottingdean Parish Council, Rottingdean Trade, Business and Professional Association (with support from Southern Water) and PARC raised money to also restore the main concourse and provide benches, tables and chairs so that performing arts events and concerts could take place during the summer months. Rottingdean Arts are now about to present their 3rd full season of events on the Terraces. The new toilet block on the seafront, jointly funded by the Parish and City Councils is also about to be completed.

However, access to the main Terraces area is not possible at present for those in wheel chairs or pushchairs because of the very difficult steps that exist. The Parish Council is very keen to support disabled access to the terraces and has approved plans (in principle) and estimated costs to construct a ramp with handrails on both sides. The Parish Council has approved a grant of up to £8,000 towards the total amount. A request to the City Council for a £4,000 contribution to the project was unsuccessful in November 2013. As landowner of the terrace, we believe that the City Council is under both a moral and a statutory obligation (under the Disability Discrimination and Equality Acts) to facilitate access to this unique public facility.

