

Statement by the Cabinet Member for Leisure & Health

20 September 2011

Asset Transfer

The Hambleton Forum Consultation exercise brought forward approximately thirty people who volunteered to get involved in the future management of the Forum. Hambleton Forum User Group has been working up its proposals, with a view to a progress report coming to Cabinet in October.

Olympic Torch Relay

HDC's Planning Group had its first meeting with London Organisation Committee of the Olympic Games (LOCOG) representatives to bring the Torch to Hambleton. It is envisaged that on the day of the Torch Relay, there will be a range of sports activities taking place as part of a day-long event. I can confirm that the Torch will visit Thirsk, Northallerton and Bedale and it is envisaged that there will be some sports activities in Easingwold and Stokesley on the day. The final details of the route will be announced by LOCOG in November, I will ensure that Members are kept updated.

Films at Forum

Officers are exploring the possibility of bringing up to date new release films to the Hambleton Forum in Northallerton, by working with a regional organisation "Screen Yorkshire" who, for a six month pilot, will bring £50,000 state of the art equipment, plus £5,000 marketing money. There are no financial risks to the Council, neither are there any long term commitments for either the Council or the Forum users. The Forum User Group will be involved in the project.

Sport Activities Update

Summer holiday programme has gone well with opportunities for children being delivered in all five market towns across the district, plus the ranger scheme being delivered in small villages such as Brafferton, Great Smeaton and Snape.

Lifeguards from Bedale Leisure Centre have qualified for a national competition following the success at the North of England Lifeguards Championship.

Husthwaite new outdoor play area was opened in early August. HDC's role was in the original purchase of the land, arranging access and supporting the securing of grant aid from the National Lottery.

On Saturday 10 September 2011, Brompton Football Club opened its new £350,000 pavilion. HDC's role was in respect of securing Section 106 Seed Moneys, provision of a cash grant and support over the last eight years to gain access to the Football Foundation Funding. This has enabled the project to proceed.

Food Hygiene Rating Scheme Relaunch

On Monday 5 September 2011, HDC and RDC jointly relaunched the Scheme known as "Scores on the Doors", this is presently a voluntary scheme taken up by 165 local authorities

AGENDA ITEM NO 5 (b)

in England and Wales. HDC has signed up for the national schemes and organised briefings during the course of August which were attended by 136 businesses involved in the food industry.

480 businesses have been included in the scheme across the district, certificates and stickers have been sent out to all businesses. The majority of businesses have been very supportive, full details of the scores can be found on HDC website.

Flexible Warranties

Thursday 1 September 2011 HDC and RDC jointly hosted the launch by the Health & Safety Executive of the flexible warranty scheme at Hambleton Council Chamber.

Flexible Warranties will enable Health & Safety Local Government Officers to work across boundaries and workplaces to provide a prompt and efficient service for the public and businesses. All local authorities in North and West Yorkshire have signed up for the scheme and fifty candidates will receive flexible warranties. This is not the first scheme; it is the largest in England and Wales.

The scheme is initially concentrating on improving safety in the Construction industry.

Councillor Peter R Wilkinson
Cabinet Member for Leisure and Health