

Statement by the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Customer and Leisure Services

5 April 2016

Sports Club Support

- The Council hosted a Club Matters workshop on 24 February. The free workshop was entitled "Delivering a Marketing Strategy". Our next Club Night is planned for 25 May.

Eye Up Stand Up

- The second 'Eye Up Stand Up' comedy and poetry event, supported by the Council, was performed on Saturday, 12 March. Hosted by Kate Fox; Kirsty Taylor, Rowan McCabe and Rob Auton performed to a very appreciative crowd.

Community Awards

- The Community Awards were held on Thursday 17th March 2016. As always they were a huge success, with a high number of very worthy nominations and 11 different category winners, including the **Heroes of Hambleton Award**, which went to Swaledale and Cleveland Mountain Rescue Teams for their tireless work over the Christmas period during storms Desmond and Eva, rescuing people from flooded houses.

Running Groups

- The first community running group session took place at Stokesley on 9 March – 16 new runners attended. The sessions now take place every Tuesday from 9.15 am – 10.15 am. Community running groups are planned for the other market towns around the District.

Thirsk and Sowerby Leisure Centre Changing Room and Poolside Developments

- The swimming pools at Thirsk and Sowerby Leisure Centre were opened again on 21 March following a 3 week closure to improve the poolside area and allow for remedial works to be undertaken in the changing village. Walkways around the pools have been fully retiled, alongside the upgrading of fixtures and fittings. Other improvements have also been made to help improve the customer experience.

Grants Update

- To date a total of almost £70,000 has been claimed from the Council's 'Making a Difference' grant, with the grants supporting 16 community-led projects across the District. A further £20,000 has been awarded to 18 community projects from the Council's 'Small Grant' Scheme. Work is underway to ensure that 100% of the grants awarded by the Council are claimed before 31 March 2016.

Safeguarding Training

- As highlighted at previous Council meetings, the roll-out of the training for the Council's Safeguarding Children and Adults policy and procedures is to include a session for elected Members. This will take place straight after Council on 19 July 2016 and will take approximately 30-45 minutes.

Councillor Mrs Bridget Fortune
Portfolio Holder for Customer and Leisure Services