

## **Statement by the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Leisure**

**4 April 2017**

### **Tour de Yorkshire**

Meetings have been held in West Tanfield to ascertain community plans to welcome the Tour de Yorkshire (men's and women's races). Plans include a social area with music, food and a beer tent, an arts exhibition, a public art installation and a community led bike ride. The Council has also booked a double decker bus to provide a base for VIP's and a community art initiative to create a permanent memory of the event for the village.

### **Community Awards**

This year's Community Awards were held at the Forum in order to accommodate our highest number of nominees across the 10 awards. Over 170 people attended the ceremony on Friday, 24 March, with Sally Anderson being awarded the Peter Davison Community Champion accolade.

### **Community Safety**

Officers in the Community Safety Team have recently met with communities in Easingwold (Millfields) and Stokesley (High Street/North Road alleyway) following concerns about anti-social behaviour. A range of solutions and support are now being considered, in liaison with the community, their respective Town/Parish Councils and the Police.

### **Hambleton Leisure Centre Health & Fitness Project:**

The Planning Committee will consider the planning application at its meeting on 30 March 2017. If planning permission is granted then regular communication updates are planned, with boards in the civic centre and articles within council newsletters aiming to keep you informed of progress, as we head to an opening in January 2018. Building works are scheduled to start in June. Please check out the project boards at the top of the stairs & outside of the committee rooms for regular progress.

### **Running Initiatives**

We've secured further funding from England Athletics to help us develop our running offer across the district. We are now looking to establish "couch to 5k" schemes at Easingwold & Bedale. We can now fund 6 x "Leadership in Running Fitness" places – this provides an incentive for volunteers within the current groups and therefore further builds capacity. We will provide £300 for kit and equipment for the established running groups – tops, headtorches etc, as well as to support the other running groups across the district.

### **Fitness Classes**

The leisure centres launched the first Zest Group Fitness 'e'Newsletter last month. The quarterly newsletter has been sent to all members who have accessed group fitness classes at one any of the four Centres since January 2017 and contains information on the present review of group fitness classes; new easy-booking arrangements; general information and coach profiles.

Councillor Mrs Bridget Fortune  
Portfolio Holder for Leisure