

## RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

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Agenda Item No. 12

meeting date: 15 MARCH 2016  
 title: GENERAL REPORT  
 submitted by: JOHN HEAP, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES  
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### 1 **PURPOSE**

To update on activities within the Cultural and Leisure Services section.

### 2 **PLATFORM GALLERY/VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE**

The programme of exhibitions and events planned for the year ahead comprises:-

- **Craft Open 2016 | Now until 16 April**

Our annual exhibition includes applications from all kinds of crafts people from across Lancashire and Yorkshire to showcase their work. Our selection provides a snapshot of contemporary craft from the northwest. This year's exhibition features ceramics, glass, jewellery, textiles, and wood.

Diana Barret, the winner of 2015 Selectors Prize for Innovation, will be holding a solo exhibition in the education gallery from 15 March–9 April, as part of her prize.

- **Inside Out | 30 April–9 July**

A touring show, curated by the Crafts Council, *Inside Out*, presents work by some of the most significant furniture makers in the UK, dating from 1970s to 2000s. The exhibition offers insight into both the making processes and the history of the Crafts Council Collection via archival materials, oral histories, maquettes and drawings. Each of these furniture works invites a different discussion: technique, material, concept, experimentation, and research.

The show will be accompanied by an exciting programme of events that celebrates the craft of furniture-making in the Ribble Valley and beyond, connecting visitors with makers, methods, and materials.

- **Clay Collective | 23 July – 8 October**

Kicking off an annual exhibition cycle that explores craft by material, 2016's inaugural show will be focused upon ceramics. During this season, visitors to the Platform will be able to explore the craft in detail, learning about the skills and techniques involved as we delve into the history of studio pottery in Britain.

We will also be meditating upon the relevance of place to the potter as we partner with the Northern Potters Association. The Platform will be promoting the ceramic practice of individual members, as well as the network as a whole. Our Education Room will also be taken over by a pop-up ceramic studio, with an open invitation to all our visitors to get hands on with clay at the potter's wheel.

- **Northern Star 2016 | 22 October 2016 – 7 January 2017**

Our annual Christmas exhibition, which is our biggest exhibition of the year, is a dazzling display of the beautiful and practical to make the ideal Christmas gift. A shopper's Paradise, ideal for the discerning shopper to find that "Unique and perfect Christmas gift.

### **3 RIBBLESDALE POOL**

- **Junior Football Coaching-Artificial 3G**

A Football coaching course was run for children of primary school age over the half term holiday on the outdoor 3G pitch. The coaching was delivered by two qualified coaches and included a fun session swim in the pool. It was really enjoyed by those attending and more coaching days are now planned for the Easter period.

- **Improvement Scheme**

An application is being prepared to Sport England (Investment Programme) for funding support towards a scheme aimed at modernising the Pool facilities. If successful and the Council approves the match contribution within the capital programme, then improvements to the reception, changing areas and provision of additional facilities for disabled people are planned for next December/January.

### **4 SPORTS DEVELOPMENT**

The Ribble Valley Cycling Festival will take place between 3-12 June, with a range of events planned as a follow on from last year's success. A programme is close to being finalised and is expected to include: a competitive Clitheroe Town Centre race, Bike Powered Music Event, Triathlon event, Mountain Biking at Gisburn Forest, 'Velodroom' Experience, and various rides of different distances to suit personal preferences. The event is being coordinated and delivered through the Ribble Valley Cycling Partnership.

### **5 SUMMER DAYS FESTIVAL**

The promoter and his team are making good progress in terms of the planning for this event. They have been granted a premises licence following a Licensing Panel meeting, and the land licence is being drawn up, specifying such things as the bond for the area being used and details of use.

It is understood that the Saturday headline act will be announced shortly, and ticket sales appear to be on target as per the organisers' plan.

Groundwork has met with the emergency services to discuss such things as traffic management and parking. They have also attended one meeting of the RV Safety Advisory Group, where they presented their plans as they currently stand.

By the date of the next meeting, the final artists will have been announced, and the planning will be at a very advanced stage. Publicity overall is also likely to have increased, as the promoter will be able to market the full band line up.

### **6 HALF TERM SOCCER SCHOOL**

Over February half term 2016, the Sports Development Officer has trialled a 'Soccer School' for children aged 8-12 years old at Edisford 3G Pitches. The full day included

football coaching, fun games, and included a fun swim at Ribblesdale pool. The soccer school is one of the actions on the sports development plan that was submitted to Sport England to secure match funding for the development of the new 3G turf surfaces. The attendance was good for a new activity. It is hoped that scheme will continue to run over the Easter school holidays and into the summer period. The soccer schools allow for lots of young people to learn new skills, enjoy the new facilities, getting young people more active, and have fun and make new friends over the school holiday periods. The soccer schools have the potential to provide valuable income and use during off peak periods. Here's some feedback from parents;

- *“My son William had a great day yesterday; he enjoyed all of the activities especially “football golf”! Swimming was also an added bonus and a break from the cold weather. The price was very fair and the venue was great, William wanted to go again today, maybe you would be able to put more days on in the future?” Mrs B – Clitheroe*
- *“Spencer enjoyed the swimming session and also the football games (in particular the 1 to 1, the European game & Bulldog charge). It sounded like he had a great day and no problems from my side booking etc – all very clear & simple; the £14 was good value.*
- *He would really love to go again so please keep us informed of any future days.” Mrs H-B - Grindleton*

## 6 CONCLUSION

Further developments in this, and other sections, will be notified to future Committees.

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For further information regarding Summer Days Festival,  
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