

**Agenda Item No:** 9

**Report to:** Museums Committee

**Date of Meeting:** 3 December 2012

**Report Title:** Hastings Heritage Trails

**Report By:** Cathy Walling  
Museum Curator

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### **Purpose of Report**

to report on a meeting of the Heritage Trail working group and the implications for the Blue Plaques scheme

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### **Recommendation(s)**

- 1. the report is for noting**

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### **Reasons for Recommendations**

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## Introduction

1. A preliminary meeting was held on 8 October of a working group set up to consider a proposal to develop Heritage Trails for Hastings and St Leonards. The proposal is to produce a simple double-sided illustrated A4 leaflet for each trail. This would then be available free either electronically or as a hard copy.
2. Possible subjects to be covered include Maritime, Gardens, Women, Blue Plaques, Churches and Built Environment. The trails would lead people on a walk around the town and point out places of interest.
3. The Museum has been co-ordinating Blue Plaques since 1997. The original budget of £500 allowed for 2-3 plaques per year. Since 2008 one a year has been produced as capacity and resources were reduced. There is now no specific budget for the plaques which are funded from the Museum's publicity budget.
4. Plaques have now been erected for most of the subjects chosen at the original and subsequent meetings. It is suggested that from 2013 the amount currently used for blue plaques, around £200-300 per year, be used towards the Heritage Trails project.

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## Wards Affected

Ashdown, Baird, Braybrooke, Castle, Central St. Leonards, Conquest, Gensing, Hollington, Maze Hill, Old Hastings, Ore, Silverhill, St. Helens, Tressell, West St. Leonards, Wishing Tree

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## Area(s) Affected

Central Hastings, East Hastings, North St. Leonards, South St. Leonards

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## Policy Implications

Please identify if this report contains any implications for the following:

Equalities and Community Cohesiveness	No
Crime and Fear of Crime (Section 17)	No
Risk Management	No
Environmental Issues	No
Economic/Financial Implications	Yes
Human Rights Act	No
Organisational Consequences	Yes
Local People's Views	No

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## Background Information

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**Officer to Contact**

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