

Agenda Item No:

Report to: Charity Committee

Date of Meeting: 29th March 2011

Report Title: Foreshore Trust Land Event Policy

Report By: Kevin Boorman
Head of Communications & Marketing

Purpose of Report

To recommend an Events Policy to the Charity Committee which delegates the routine booking of events on Foreshore Trust Land to the appropriate officers of the Council

Recommendation(s)

- 1. Charity Committee delegates authority to the appropriate officers of the Council to book and manage events on Foreshore Trust land in accordance with its events policy. New events (i.e. those that have not taken place before 1 January 2011) that incur real costs to the Foreshore Trust will be considered on a case by case basis by the Charity Committee.**

Reasons for Recommendations

To ensure the efficient operation of the Charity Committee, that its time is not taken up with the routine booking of events on Foreshore Trust land.

Introduction

1. Parts of the Foreshore Trust ('FT') land have been used for events for some time e.g. the free beach concert has taken place on FT land (to the west of the Lifeboat house) for over twenty years. More recently the erstwhile Stade Coach and Lorry Park has been used for the '999' event (showcasing the work of the emergency services), the Classic Car Show, and more recently the Seafood & Wine Festival. Similarly Pelham Place car park has been used for various events including the Bonfire and Fireworks in October, and the occasional sports event, and the beach near Pelham Place is used for a play event each summer.
2. The use of FT land for events is considered to be entirely in accordance with its objects, indeed the provision of events increases the use and enjoyment of FT land.
3. It is inappropriate for the Charity Committee to make operational decisions on event bookings, and it is intended that the day to day booking of events be made by the appropriate officers, within a policy agreed by the Charity Committee following consultation with the Coastal Users Group. This paper proposes such a policy.

Foreshore Trust Land

4. The FT covers the long strip of land along the seafront, corresponding to the land below mean high water in 1873 .The area includes the 'fishing beach' on the Stade in the Old Town and indeed all of the shingle beach in the borough, except that immediately underneath the pier, but also most of Pelham Place car park, the boating lake, Stade Amusements site, around 60% of the Stade Open Space, and the southern part of Rock-a-Nore car park. Events can therefore take place both on 'the beach'; (as the beach concert, already referred to), as well as on Pelham Place car park, the Stade Open Space, and Rock-a-Nore car park, so there is considerable scope for events to be held on FT land.
5. The facilities on the Stade (Stade Hall, Stade Open Space, etc.) are a discreet entity in their own right, specifically designed for events, to take place on. A separate scheme of delegation to the Stade Community Charity, who will manage the facility on a day to day basis, is planned, and this will be the subject of a future paper.

Event Policy

6. It is proposed that delegated authority be given to officers to book events on FT land on the following basis:
 - Events should not incur net cost to the FT (e.g. through the closure of a car park, provision of additional staff, etc.) except that large events which have taken place by custom and practice can continue without reference to the Charity Committee. These include the Hastings Old Town Carnival, the '999' (emergency services) event, the Classic Car Show, the 'Spratt & Winkle' commercial vehicle rally, the Seafood & Wine Festival, the Beach Concert, and the Hastings Week Bonfire event in October. Additional large events involving

car park closures, or other costs, direct or indirect, will only be agreed by the Charity Committee, on a case by case basis.

- Events not incurring net costs to the FT will be allowed without the need for reference to the Charity Committee. However, the FT retains the power of veto, but this will only be used in the most exceptional circumstances, where the use is clearly inappropriate e.g. political rally, adult entertainment, gambling, shows involving extreme violence, etc.
 - A charge will be made for all commercial events on FT land; HBC will deduct its reasonable charges, including administration costs, from the fee, the remainder of which will pass to the FT. Charitable/not for profit events, which meet the aims and objectives of the FT, and which incur no additional costs to the FT or HBC, will not be charged for.
 - All events must be adequately insured, with a minimum of £10m public liability insurance for anything involving mechanical equipment (including cars, lorries, motor bikes) or heat sources, and an absolute minimum of £5m for events involving no mechanical equipment or heat sources (e.g. traders' market).
 - A risk assessment must be carried out for all events taking place on FT land.
 - Adequate security must be provided for all events, with particular care being taken to ensure that all large events (over 499 people) are properly marshalled and stewarded.
 - All HBC licensing conditions must be fully complied with, as appropriate.
 - Adequate provision must be made to clear any rubbish, etc., arising from the event.
7. A list of events which have taken place in the last period will be presented to each meeting of the Charity Committee.

Recommendation

8. Charity Committee delegates authority to the appropriate officers of the Council to book and manage events on Foreshore Trust land in accordance with its events policy. New events (i.e. those that have not taken place before 1 January 2011) that incur real costs to the Foreshore Trust will be considered on a case by case basis by the Charity Committee.

Wards Affected

Castle, Central St. Leonards, Old Hastings, West St. Leonards

Area(s) Affected

Central Hastings, East Hastings, South St. Leonards

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

Background Information

Nil

Officer to Contact

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