

CHARITY COMMITTEE

29 SEPTEMBER 2014

Present: Councillors Hodges (Chair), Forward, and Cartwright (as the duly appointed substitute for Councillor Westley). Also in attendance, Mr Chris May, the Protector.

Apologies for absence were noted for Councillor Westley.

15. TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 2013/14

The Head of Finance presented the 2013/14 annual report and financial accounts. The report set out key areas of income and expenditure for the Trust over the previous financial year.

A surplus of £174,000 had been achieved in 2013/14, which was in line with projections and the main programme reserve was £627,015. The Charity Committee had reviewed the Trust's reserves policy at its meeting on 30 June 2014, and would continue to consider the reserves policy on a regular basis.

The council had received an unqualified opinion on the accounts from its external auditors. The Charity Committee, on behalf of the council as Trustee, had approved the annual report and financial accounts, in line with the deadline of 30 September 2014.

The Chair of the Grant Advisory Panel (GAP) advised the committee that the panel would hold their annual meeting in November, a report on the activities of the GAP over 2013/14 would then be submitted to the Charity Committee at its meeting in December.

16. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A notice had been placed in the local newspaper inviting written questions, however none had been received. The Chair invited questions from the public gallery on matters relating to the Trust.

Mr D Edwards asked whether the resurfacing of Rock-a-Nore car park, which had been included in the Trust's business plan, would be going ahead.

The Chair replied that the works to resurface the car park at Rock-a-Nore had been deferred to make funds available for other projects, including the redevelopment of the White Rock Baths. Works were carried out each year to maintain the car park surface; this had included removing shingle washed up from the beach by storms earlier in the year. The Chair noted that resurfacing the car park was unlikely to deliver any additional income for the Trust. The resurfacing works were originally planned to ensure the number of parking spaces was maximised, however, a coach stacker had since been employed to ensure space in the car park was fully utilised at busy times of the year.

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Mr Edwards acknowledged that the funds had been reallocated to support other projects, he encouraged the Charity Committee to reconsider resurfacing the car park if funds were available in the future.

Mr Edwards asked whether chairs and drinking water could be made more easily available for meetings at the Stade Hall, and whether a recently installed barrier at the beach near Carlisle Parade could be redesigned to prevent it becoming a potential trip hazard.

The Chair replied that following a letter he had received from Mr Edwards, regarding the barrier on the beach near Carlisle Parade, he had contacted the Head of Amenities, Resorts and Leisure and asked for it to be redesigned. The Director of Environmental Services agreed to investigate Mr Edwards' comments regarding the provision of chairs and drinking water at the Stade Hall.

Mr Edwards thanked the Facilities Development Officer for his assistance with administering bookings for the Stade Hall.

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at. 7.20 pm)