

Report to:

**Council**

Agenda  
Item

**10(b)(vi)**

Meeting Date: 06 January 2015

Public/Private\*: Public

Title: **Culture, Leisure and Young People Portfolio Holder's Report –  
Councillor Anne Quilter**

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### **Old Town Hall / Tourist Information Centre**

Following completion of a two stage tendering exercise, the contract for the Phase 2 Improvement works has been awarded to Cubby Construction Ltd. The works are on programme to achieve its forecast start date of 7<sup>th</sup> January 2015 following temporary relocation of the Tourist Information Centre to 40 Scotch Street, Carlisle. Re-opening of the improved Tourist Information Centre is planned for early July upon completion of site works.

### **Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site Partnership Board**

Following the closure of the Hadrian's Wall trust a Board has been set up which will replace the Management Plan Committee. The Board will oversee the development and implementation of the policies set out in the Management Plan required by UNESCO and which is essential for the maintenance of World Heritage Status. The composition of the board is:

- A senior representative from each of the Local Authorities along the Wall;
- A representative from Natural England;
- A representative from Historic England (following the division of English Heritage in April 2015);
- The Chairs of six Delivery Groups: sub-committees to which the oversight will be delegated at an operational level. These will deal with:

Conservation, Planning & Heritage Management

Tourism & Transport

Communications & Marketing

Farming & Land Management  
Education  
Archaeological Research

The Partnership Board will meet three times a year and will be responsible for the maintenance of World Heritage status, for the Management Plan, and for the policies and strategic priorities contained within it. The current version of the Plan (for 2008 – 14) is being revised, in its normal cycle, and has been the subject of extensive public consultation. The draft has been radically streamlined to ensure that the priorities are achievable within constrained budgets.

Carlisle City Council contributes £10,000 and will be represented on the Board by Jane Meek, Director of Economic Development.

### **Discover Carlisle update**

To prepare for the launch of the *CityCentreWifi* we have been working with BT and NVG to create new landing pages that are responsive to the different devices visitors could use. This places Discover Carlisle at the forefront of tourism marketing.

A Carlisle City wi-fi section has been created on the Discover Carlisle website. This includes information on how to connect to the service and maps showing where the service is available.

<http://www.discovercarlisle.co.uk/lifestyle/useful-information/carlisle-city-wifi.aspx>

A 'Carlisle Christmas 2014' section was created on the Discover Carlisle website to promote festive events, activities and public information. This included a downloadable PDF detailing where and when Santa can be found (Grottos, special events, etc), information on Late Night shopping, parking, the ice rink, Lights Switch On and lots more. This is updated as events pass or are added.

<http://www.discovercarlisle.co.uk/lifestyle/events/carlisle-christmas-2014.aspx>

### **Discover Carlisle review**

A new design for the website has been agreed and content is being gathered to prepare for a launch early in 2015. Training on the new website commenced on the 15<sup>th</sup> December for officers from Policy & Communications and the Tourist Information Centre.

## **Arts Centre Update**

Building works have commenced onsite, with interior restructuring, construction works for the lift-shaft and foundations and the initial phases of the exterior walls of the extension all underway. Work remains on schedule for a May opening. A competition inviting expressions of interest from interior designers interested in advising on the look and feel of the foyer, cafe/bar and main reception area of the first floor will be open throughout late December and into January.

Enquiries for room bookings continue to be logged and provisional bookings are now being taken for May onwards.

The Arts Council Funding bid has been submitted with a decision due early January. Programming partners for theatre, classical music, contemporary music and dance have been identified (with advice from the Arts Council) to develop the opening programme.

The selection process for a catering partner has been concluded and a preferred partner has been identified subject to contract.

## **Sports Development**

We are working with the Cumberland News Rifle Club to finalise a new lease agreement for their facility at the Sheepmount. This will enable the club to develop and allow plans for an extension to the building to take place.

We are also working with Carlisle City FC to identify a site for the club to develop a new football pitch and possible supporting facilities. Using the Playing Pitch strategy as a guide, we have worked with the Greenspaces Team to find some appropriate sites that may be suitable and discussions remain underway

New 3-2-1 running routes in Bitts Park, The Sheepmount and Chances Park are currently being finalised, in partnership with the Greenspaces department. The routes are 1, 2 and 3 kilometres and encourage people to walk or run in the parks.

Work with the Lawn Tennis Association to write a community tennis development plan for Carlisle is underway. The LTA are looking to support Carlisle City Council with up to £10k to deliver this plan.

We continue to work with British Cycling to deliver the Skyride local project. The last rides of the year took place in November and will start again in March.

Through work with Harraby Together We Can and Cumbria County Council, a total of £35k (£10,000 from Harraby Together We Can, £3000 from County 0-19 Community Grant, £20,000 from Cumbria Waste Management and £2500 from Riverside housing) has been raised to develop a new BMX track at the new Harraby Sports Complex. We are working with London 2012 Olympic Games BMX track builders to develop designs and look at timescales to build the track.

Work with the regional FA facilities team to develop a 3G pitch at the Sheepmount stadium is underway. The FA has allocated funding to support the project through their regional facilities plan. We will be undertaking some preliminary work in the New Year to get some final costs for the project.

A Sports Development plan for the Harraby Sport project is being created. This will involve engagement with local sports clubs to look at how we can develop various sports at the site. We are also engaging with national governing bodies of sport in order to gain support through facility grants and advice on development.

### **Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery Trust**

#### Weekend of Film 14-16 November 2015

During the weekend of Fri 14 – Sun 16 November, Tullie House Museum Trust held the first Weekend of Film. Over the three days we screened some of the best and most recent independent, alternative and foreign language films and documentaries.

Community and school groups' film projects were shown in the galleries. Films were shown in the lecture theatre, the Border Galleries (20 people), and the restaurant (45 people) for a screening on the Sunday night.

As well as film screenings there was the opportunity to take part in discussion groups on film making, funding, and the future of how we view film plus workshops for adults and families on animation and scriptwriting, and a film quiz. Each evening we welcomed cast and crew members from the three headline screenings, *Leave to Remain*, *Downhill* and *Northern Soul*, who provided introductions to the films, followed by a question and answer session

Tullie House Trust's Weekend of Film was supported by Film Hub North, part of The BFI Film Audience Network (BFI FAN), a major initiative from the BFI to enable film and event experts to work in partnership across the UK to boost film audiences, particularly for specialised and independent British films. The successful programme attracted over 300 people and we are looking at repeating the event in the future.

### One day in Cumbria

The One Day in Cumbria project marks the Centenary of the First World War. It was supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund's *First World War: then and now* programme, and centres on research into daily life and industry in 1914. Volunteer researchers from across Cumbria met at Tullie House Museum & Art Gallery on 5 December for a special view of the *One day in Cumbria* exhibition. The event marked the conclusion of an innovative new project led by the Cumbria Museum Consortium and supported by both the Arts Council and the Heritage Lottery.

Since October 2014, the volunteer researchers have worked with museums, libraries and archives across the county to uncover a wealth of information about life 100 years ago. They have developed a timeline of events documenting 24 hours in Cumbria on 5 December 1914. This will be compared to a contemporary timeline of what was happening in Cumbria on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2014. 'Tasters' of the two timelines were displayed at Tullie House until the 14<sup>th</sup> December and were published in full on [onedayincumbria.org.uk](http://onedayincumbria.org.uk) on the 11<sup>th</sup> December 2014.