

# **CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM CABINET MEMBER MEETING**

## **Agenda Item 26**

Brighton & Hove City Council

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Sussex Beacon Half Marathon</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>21 September 2010</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Acting Director of Environment</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Jayne Babb</b>	<b>Tel:</b> 29-0372
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<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Forward Plan No: CRT18046</b>	
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	<b>Brunswick &amp; Adelaide; Central Hove; East Brighton; Hollingdean &amp; Stanmer; Moulsecomb &amp; Bevendean; Regency; Rottingdean Coastal; St Peter's &amp; North Laine; Queen's Park; Westbourne; Wish</b>		

### **FOR GENERAL RELEASE**

#### **1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 To set out the proposed programme for the 2011 Sussex Beacon Half Marathon event to take place on 20 February and to seek landlord's consent for this event to take place.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Member grants consent for the Sussex Beacon Half Marathon to take place on 20 February 2011.
- 2.2 That the Cabinet Member authorises officers to enter into formal agreements with the event organisers to determine conditions and levels of support as appropriate.

#### **3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:**

- 3.1 It is proposed that the 21<sup>st</sup> Sussex Beacon Half Marathon will take place on Sunday 20 February 2011. Over the years the event has grown from 2,000 runners in 2000 to 8,000 entrants in 2010. The event is now a significant part of the city's sporting calendar and one of the South East's largest half marathons. After costs were taken into account, this year's half marathon raised 80 thousand pounds for the charity. All of this money is used to provide an extensive range of services and support for individuals living with HIV.

#### **Entrant figures**

- 3.2 It is intended to maintain the number of entrants at 8000 for 2011 in order to ensure the proposed new route and new staffing systems are tested and work. Plans to increase runner numbers over the coming years are suggested as follows:

Year	Number of entrants	Actual Runners
2009	6000	4000
2010	8000	6000
2011	8000	6000
2012	10000	8000
2013	12000	10000
2014	15000	12000

### Impact on the City

- 3.3 The proposed new route takes place primarily on 'A' Roads in the city. The organisers have worked closely with the council's highways team to set out a route to have as minimal an impact on the city's transport system whilst providing a safe and enjoyable event for the runners and public.
- 3.4 Changing the start time of the race in 2011 to 09:00hrs from 09:45hrs means that the North/South and Eastern part of the route will be clear by 11:00hrs. Road closures will be in place from 08:30 (Central) 08:45 (East and West) to ensure the route is clear prior to the race starting.

### Timings

- 3.5 The race starts at **09:00am** on Madeira Drive. The central area of the city (Zone 1) will be cleared by **9:32am**, the eastern area (Zone 2) of the route will be cleared by **10:49am**, the western end (Zone 3) of the route on the road will be cleared by **11:17am**, westbound carriageway of Kingsway and the south side lane of the Aquarium Roundabout (Zone 3) will be cleared by **12:04pm**.

### Traffic movement from the east of the City

- 3.6 Cars:

Residents in Ovingdean and Woodingdean will be able to access the city centre via Warren Road and Wilsons Avenue, Elm Grove and Bear Road between 08:30am and 10:50am.

After 10:50am vehicles will be able to travel along Marina Way, Marine Parade to the Aquarium Roundabout where they can follow the diversion signs to city centre car parks and shopping areas.

- 3.7 Buses and emergency vehicles:

Bus routes and emergency vehicle will not be affected.

### Traffic movement from the west of the City

- 3.8 Cars:

There will be continuous movement from the west as far as West Street until 09:40am when the race will clear the city centre section (Zone 1). After this point traffic will be able to proceed as far as Aquarium Roundabout and then turn up Old Steine. After 10:49am traffic heading east will be able to proceed along Marine Parade and onwards to Rottingdean.

### 3.9 Buses and emergency vehicles:

Bus routes and emergency vehicle will not be affected.

### **Traffic movement from the north of the City**

- 3.10 The last runner will be clear of the central area by 09:32am, Traffic will then be able to flow behind the tail end ambulance at this time but will be diverted back up the Old Steine until 10:49am. After 10:49am traffic will be able to go east.

### **Buses and emergency vehicles**

- 3.11 The buses will be temporarily held at St Peters Church whilst the race goes past. Once the last runner has gone past buses will then be able to proceed along the bus lanes towards North Street as normal.

### **Emergency Services**

- 3.12 Blue light routes will be maintained across the city particularly between Rottingdean and the Marina/ Whitehawk and between Church and Edward Street. We have spoken with the Royal Sussex County Hospital, SEACAMB who are happy with the route. We are currently in discussions with Sussex Police and East Sussex Fire Service who appear to have no objections subject to traffic management and staffing plans.

### **The Route**

- 3.13 The timings, in brackets, for last runner are for a 3 hour runner plus 10 minutes. Any entrant slower than this will be walking and will be requested to use the pavement to complete the race.
- 3.14 The Half Marathon will start on Madeira Drive at 09:00hrs.
- 3.15 The runners will leave Madeira Drive at the western end and run around the Aquarium Roundabout before heading north on the Old Steine past the Pavilion towards Gloucester Place, the runners will occupy at least two lanes at this point.
- 3.16 At Gloucester Place (junction of St Georges Place and Richmond Place) the runners will TURN and head south (**09:25hrs**) along Grand Parade (past Morley Street, Kingswood Street and Edward Street (clear Edward Street **09:29hrs**) again occupying two lanes before entering the Old Steine and then heading East along Marine Parade (clear Aquarium Roundabout **09:32hrs**). At this point a blue light route will be managed by stewards from Church Street to Edward Street.
- 3.17 On Marine Parade the east bound runners will be funnelled into the offside eastbound lane with cones, leaving the nearside lane for a blue light route if needed. Stewards will be present on all side roads to ensure traffic management

plan is implemented. Stewards will also be able to assist any parked cars who wish to move from Marine Parade where safe to do so. If vehicles wish to move from a crescent e.g. Royal Crescent or Marine Square, stewards will assist in safely moving the vehicle to turn at the next available street. Where appropriate parked cars will be roped and coned during the race for the safety of the runners.

- 3.18 The runners will head east along Marine Parade on the eastbound carriageway to Marine Drive passing the Southern Water site. It is suggested that at this point the emergency services use Arundel Road, Bristol Gardens, Roedean Road as a blue light route as Marine Drive narrows to one lane either side of the Southern Water site.
- 3.19 The runners will continue along Marine Drive past Roedean and TURN approximately 200 meters prior to the Ovingdean Roundabout (**10:10hrs**). A blue light route will be maintained on the section of road between Roedean Road and Ovingdean Roundabout.
- 3.20 At the turn the runners will head west on the westbound carriageway of Marine Drive and Marine Parade (clear Marine Drive **10:35hrs**).
- 3.21 At the Aquarium Roundabout they will run in the offside westbound lane and enter Grand Junction Road (clear Aquarium Roundabout westbound **10:49hrs**). They will proceed along Grand Junction Road and Kings Road in the offside westbound lane.
- 3.22 In order to keep the eastbound carriageway open barriers and close-coning will be used to separate the runners from traffic (westbound runners will clear Kingsway at the Peace Statue/ Western Street at **11:02hrs**). Stewards will assist any parked cars who wish to move from the A259 where safe to do so.
- 3.23 The runners will head west along Kingsway (Hove Street South cleared by **11:17hrs**) and will TURN opposite Wish Road onto the Lower Promenade (**11:26hrs**).
- 3.24 They will then proceed east along the lower promenade to the Peace Statue (**11:50hrs**) where they will then rejoin the carriageway. The east and westbound runners will be separated by cones, tape and marshalls. Marshalls will also play a key role in managing any runner/ pedestrian conflict in this area.
- 3.25 Eastbound runners will proceed along the nearside westbound carriageway of Kings Road and Grand Junction Road and will enter the Aquarium Roundabout (**12:05hrs**) on the nearside westbound lane before heading along Madeira Drive and finish in an eastbound direction (**12:09hrs**).

### **Visitors to the City**

- 3.26 Despite the dreadful weather in February 2010 approximately 8000 people came to Brighton & Hove to participate or support someone taking part in the race. The majority of these were day trippers but Sussex Beacon are working with Visit Brighton and Breathe Unity to develop a weekend package to attract these visitors for a two night stay during this generally quiet period.

## **4. CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 Consultation has taken place with Sussex Police, East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service, South East Coast Ambulance Service and Brighton & Hove Bus Company. Internally, consultation has taken place with Highway regarding the route and the road closures required

## **5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

### Financial Implications:

- 5.1 All costs will be the responsibility of the organiser. All re-instatement costs will be the responsibility of the organiser

*Finance Officer Consulted: Derek Mansfield Date: 23/08/10*

### Legal Implications:

- 5.2 Brighton & Hove City Council is empowered under the East Sussex Act 1981 to use Madeira Drive for up to 28 days a year in order to facilitate the staging of major outdoor events. The road closures required will be put in place on behalf of the event organiser by the council under general road traffic order legislation.
- 5.3 The proposal in this report is made in accordance with the Outdoor Events Policy. The policy incorporates relevant considerations in respect of convention rights incorporated by the Human Rights Act 1998. The policy is clear that a balancing act is required between the competing interests of those who attend the events and those who do not wish to attend and consultation is suggested to ensure that this balancing exercise is properly carried out.

*Lawyer consulted: Bob Bruce Date: 23/08/10*

### Equalities Implications:

- 5.4 The Sussex Beacon is one of only two centres in the UK specialising in caring mainly for men and women living with HIV. It offer a range of residential and day care services caring for those with HIV and over the last twelve months, over 2,000 people from the Brighton & Hove area have benefitted from its support.
- 5.5 HIV is unlike any other illness and is still a major threat in the UK. Not only are sufferers living with chronic muscle and joint pain, anxiety, insomnia, depression and the often severe side effects of medication, they also struggle with the stigma of being HIV positive. So much so, many have not disclosed their HIV status to family or friends.
- 5.6 The Sussex Beacon therefore operates a number of services to meet the often complex and long term needs of those who are HIV Positive
- 5.7 The Half Marathon event itself is open to 8000 runners many of who are members of the city's already established running clubs. As already stated in this report this is the Sussex Beacons major fundraising event of the year.

### Sustainability Implications:

- 5.8 Sussex Beacon has taken into account many sustainability issues and is actively working towards becoming a sustainable event which benefits the local community as much as possible. Areas currently incorporated into their sustainable event plan are recycling, waste management and minimisation, volunteering, supporting local business and supporting other local charities.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.9 The proposed event will not have any implication on the prevention of crime and disorder. All significant outdoor events are considered by the City Safety Advisory Group. This group is made up of senior officers from Brighton & Hove City Council, Sussex Police, East Sussex Fire & Rescue, South Coast Ambulance Service, Health (A&E Emergency Planning Representatives). All major events are taken to this group for members to provide a strategic overview and to offer advice to event management companies to ensure that events held in the city are safe and well managed.

Risk & Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.10 Any risks will be monitored as part of the overall event management plan and the event will be subject to a full site-specific risk assessment.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.11 The event takes place in the city and as detailed in the background information a number of major roads in the city will be closed between 9am and 12pm while the half marathon takes place therefore there will be some disruption to residents. However, this is a well established and well attended fundraising event that brings significant financial support to a locally based charity to continue to provide much needed services to its clients.

**6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):**

- 6.1 The Half Marathon has now reached the point where it is no longer safe or practical to take the number of runners entering the race via an alternative route. The only safe option is for the event to take place on the route detailed in this report.

**7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 Landlord's consent is required for the staging of events within Brighton & Hove.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

**Appendices:**

1. Plan showing the route

**Documents in Members' Rooms**

1. A3 Plan of the route produced by the AA

## **Background Documents**

1. Proposal from Sussex Beacon

