

**BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & CULTURE COMMITTEE**

**4.00pm 23 JANUARY 2014**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Councillors Bowden (Chair) Hawtree (Deputy Chair), Brown (Opposition Spokesperson), Fitch (Group Spokesperson), Buckley, Janio, Mac Cafferty, Smith, Morgan and C Theobald

**PART ONE**

**44. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS**

**Death of Chris Cooper**

Before proceeding to the formal business of the meeting The Chair, Councillor Bowden referred to the sad and unexpected recent death of Chris Cooper a security guard based at King's House who had also assisted at Council meetings. He had always carried out his duties with enthusiasm and good humour and would be much missed. Councillor Hawtree the Deputy Chair concurred with The Chair's words as did other Members of the Committee.

**41a Declaration of Substitutes**

41.1 There were none.

**41b Declarations of Interest**

42.2 There were none.

**42c Exclusion of the Press and Public**

42.3 In accordance with Section 100A of the Local Government Act ("The Act"), the Economic Development and Culture Committee considered whether the public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any item of business on the grounds that it is likely in view of the business to be transacted or the nature of the

proceedings, that if members of the public were present during it, there would be disclosure to them of confidential information as defined in Section 100A(3) of the Act.

- 42.4 **RESOLVED** – That the press and public not be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any item on the agenda.

#### **45. MINUTES**

- 45.1 **RESOLVED** - That the Chair be authorised to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2013 as a correct record.

#### **46. CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

- 46.1 The Chair explained that although he would be referring to a few highlights as part of his communications a full text in respect of recent and upcoming events would be recorded in the substantive minutes of the meeting.

### **Economic Development**

#### **LGC Awards**

- 46.2 The Chair stated that he was pleased to announce that Brighton & Hove had been for the Local Government Chronicle (LGC) Awards in the 'Driving Growth' category. The city's submission had been made on behalf of the Greater Brighton Economic Board following the review of its Economic Strategy and submission of its City Deal bid.
- 46.3 Brighton and Hove was one of seven local authorities to have been shortlisted for this category, which it was understood was the most popular and competitive. A presentation had been made to the judging panel earlier that week and the winners would be announced in March.

#### **City Deal**

- 46.4 Negotiations were progressing well and the city was in the last stages of the process. It was hoped that over time benefits would accrue not just to Brighton & Hove but also its neighbouring authorities and partners in Adur DC, Worthing BC, Lewes DC and Mid Sussex DC. The Chair stated that he was also grateful for the support of the opposition parties on this and was hoping a positive announcement would be received in the near future.

#### **Dressed for Success 2013**

- 46.5 The council had provided support to local independent shops through "Dressed for Success". Twenty five retailers had been given expert tuition on how to make the most of their windows in the run up to Christmas and this had been followed by a public competition to boost awareness and to encourage more people through the doors. Over 2,000 public votes had been received and seven winning shops had been announced at an awards event on Tuesday 14 January 2014.

- 46.6 The overall winner, MIY Workshop, of North Road, Brighton had won a year's free partnership with VisitBrighton. The owner Wendy Ward had said: "We were given sensible, practical steps to make a great window. It boosted staff morale and certainly got my shop noticed!"

### **Ride the Wave**

- 46.7 The city's largest free business support programme had returned funded and led by the City Council, and delivered by the Brighton & Hove Chamber of Commerce. "Ride the Wave" provided practical advice and training to help new and existing businesses become more resilient and to grow. Workshops would start at the end of January and would run until April 2014; more information on the scheme could be found on the council and chamber websites.

### **Regional Growth Fund bid successful**

- 46.8 The Chair explained that the business support partnership led by the City Council had secured just over £1.79m from the Regional Growth Fund. This new programme would offer much needed finance for businesses along with a suite of business support packages for all stages of business development from new business start up to supporting innovation and new market development with established businesses. The fund would also help resource an on-line business support finder called the 'Business Navigator' which would help businesses find the help and support that they needed. Businesses wishing to apply for a grant could go to the Coast to Capital website ([www.coast2capital.org.uk](http://www.coast2capital.org.uk)) and download the Expression of Interest form; more information on the business support programme would be available on the council's web pages shortly.

### **Shine On London Road**

- 46.9 "Shine On London Road" had seen artists provide an alternative to off-the-shelf Christmas lights and had sought to attract more people to the up-and-coming London Road area. Funding had been provided from the Portas Pilot, the Arts Council and the City Council arts team to set up five installations including sculptures, interactive projections and a sound art trail. The project had been launched to a packed Emporium Theatre on Small Business Saturday (7<sup>th</sup> December). It would run into early January and had received positive coverage in the local press and on social media.

### **Libraries**

#### **Mood-boosting Reads from 6<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> January**

- 46.10 The Chair explained that the Libraries service had been awarded some funding from Public Health to promote the value of reading to support and cheer people who might be feeling down and might potentially develop mental health issues. The service was keen to encourage everyone in Brighton & Hove to read for health and enjoyment, visit the library, talk about books and nominate their favourite mood-boosting read. There was also a desire to signpost people to the 5 Ways to Wellbeing: Connecting, Being Active, Taking Notice, Keeping Learning and Giving, to promote positive mental health and build emotional resilience. The aim of the campaign was to create a Mood-boosting Top

Twenty list of books, chosen by the people of Brighton & Hove, which would then be promoted in libraries etc. Individuals could join in by nominating their favourite mood-boosting to book at [libraries@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or by completing and returning one of the mood-boosting postcards available in libraries and Mind shops. People were being urged to advise of their favourite feel-good read, why they liked and who they were.

## **Tourism & Venues**

### **Visitor Services**

- 46.11 VisitBrighton's Visitor Services team had launched a recruitment drive for the new City Champions volunteer ambassador programme. It was hoped 50 volunteers would come to offer their time welcoming and helping visitors to the city and ensuring they got the best from their stay. Full details could be found on the VisitBrighton website at <http://www.visitbrighton.com/city-champions> The launch was picked up well by local and national media and had resulted in a piece appearing on BBC SE Today programme and an article in the Daily Mail.

### **Brighton Centre and VisitBrighton conference sales**

- 46.12 In the latter half of 2013 the Brighton Centre and VisitBrighton conference sales had confirmed the following key events for the City:

§ Eco Technology Show @ the Brighton Centre, 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> June 2014

§ Institute of Scientific and Technical Communicators Conference @ Thistle, 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Sept 2014, 300 delegates

§ British Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Surgeons Conference @ the Brighton Centre, 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> November 2014, 400 delegates

§ International Pulsed Power Conference @ Hilton Brighton Metropole – 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2017, 800 delegates

### **VisitBrighton Marketing**

- 46.13 A dedicated 'Winter Fun' microsite had been launched in November to promote the City in the run up to Christmas and over New Year. The site had attracted over 100,000 visitors in two months. Several media trips organised had taken place in Sept – Nov 2013 to promote Brighton & Hove as Christmas shopping break destination. There had been coverage in both the regional & national press. One trip organised for the Press Association had resulted in a feature which had been syndicated across 31 major regional papers in the UK. In total VisitBrighton had hosted over 100 travel journalists in 2013, resulting in positive national & international coverage with an equivalent advertising value of over £5million – a new record. <http://www.visitbrighton.com> was used by over 2 million individuals in 2013; the highest ever recorded figures and an 18% increase on 2012. Over 20,000 downloads of the FREE VisitBrighton mobile app had also been made during 2013.

### Royal Pavilion, Arts & Museums

- 46.14 December had seen the return of another series of successful Royal Pavilion Christmas themed events. Six day of events in the run up to Christmas had seen 1,157 children visiting 'Mr Claus' (as one child had insisted on calling him), and with associated admissions £16,046.35 of additional revenue had been received over the course of the event. This did not include associated income from retail. After a number of years of waiting and research the restoration of the Royal Pavilion Saloon would now be realised due to funding secured by the charity, The Royal Pavilion & Museums Foundation, which now had 6,000 members. It would take two years to restoring the Saloon to its former grandeur will take two years to complete.
- 46.15 Royal Pavilion & Museums' (RPM) five sites had all been awarded Accredited status under the Accreditation Scheme. Accreditation was a baseline quality standard for museums, administered by Arts Council England. Accredited Museums were required to review and re-submit their application periodically and this required extensive and rigorous checks and revisions being evidenced to show they managed and ran their service. Achieving this status was extremely important for RPM in many ways - not least, as without Accredited status it was ineligible to apply for external funding from bodies such as Arts Council England, the Heritage Lottery Fund and a host of other charitable trusts.

### Sports and Leisure

#### Saltdean Lido Update

- 46.16 Saltdean Lido Community Interest Company (CIC) were in the process of developing their first stage Heritage Lottery Fund bid with them aiming for it to be ready for submission in February 2014. It was anticipated that an initial decision would be received April/May 2014. The CIC were also developing other grant applications and finalising their fundraising strategy including community events for the year ahead. The CIC had recently made a new appointment to their board, a local based chartered accountant who would lead on financial planning and strategy, there had also been further appointments to the events and fundraising committee. Saltdean Lido was the first property to be included on the council's list of Assets of Community Value and the CIC hoped that this would be beneficial when they were making their grant applications.

#### Withdean

- 46.17 The Chair stated that the improvements to the Withdean Sports Complex had been officially unveiled at a civic opening the previous month and gave his thanks to those committee members who had been able to attend. This £3M project had resulted in new, extended and improved health & fitness facilities, changing rooms and reception space all of which had been well received by users. The number of visits to participate in health and fitness activities at Withdean in December 2013 has increased by 28% on the previous December, and this boost to participation was very encouraging.
- 46.18 **RESOLVED** – That the content of the Chair's Communications be noted and received.

#### 47. CALL OVER

- 47.1 Items 56, "Coastal West Sussex and greater Brighton Local Strategic Statement"; 57, "Local Aggregate Assessment for East Sussex and Brighton & Hove"; 59 "Maintenance of Historic Buildings" and Item 60 "Brunswick Town Painting Scheme" at Risk were agreed without discussion.

## 48. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

### 48a Petitions

- 48.1 Two petitions had been received as set out below.

#### **Save the Hippodrome for Live Performances**

- 48.2 The following petition had been received containing 1083 signatures.

"We the undersigned petition the council to use its best endeavours and take every opportunity to bring the Hippodrome in Middle Street back into use as a versatile space for live performance in accordance with aspirations expressed in the CP5 Culture and Tourism section of the proposed City Plan (February 2013).

#### **Justification**

As a Grade II\* listed building with an interior of national historical importance, the Hippodrome is the only surviving space of its kind and size in the city. It is top of the Theatre Trust's list of English theatre buildings at risk.

In seeking to promote cultural tourism, the City Council should be aware of the need for a larger theatre capable of attracting top-class theatrical, musical and dance productions. The Hippodrome could be used in a variety of modes; as a proscenium theatre, as a theatre-in-the-round or with a thrust or open stage, for 'circus' type of performances similar to the Roundhouse in Camden, London.

Such a venue would significantly enhance the city's appeal to visitors, attracting audiences from across a wide area, including London, helping to make Brighton the principal cultural hub of the south-east region. It should be recognised that converting the space into a multi-screen cinema would not contribute anything to this aspiration. Indeed, over-provision of cinemas, leading to unsustainable competition, could lead to a net loss of venues."

- 48.3 Mr Fisher the lead petitioner was invited to address the Committee for 3 minutes in support of his petition following which the Chair, Councillor Bowden responded in the following terms: (1099 signatures in total e petition and paper petition)

- 48.4 The Chair, Councillor Bowden responded in the following terms:

"The wonderful building that is the Hippodrome is clearly at risk, at risk of redundancy and demolition. The Local Authority does not own that building. Live Nation the owners,

have exhausted the possibilities of refurbishing the venue as an operational music venue and have had to look more laterally at what could be done to save the building. The potential scheme that has come forward as far as pre-planning discussions from Alaska working with a cinema operator is at very early stages. English Heritage has been consulted and due planning process will take its course.

The Local Authority, is looking to make cuts of around £125m over the next 5 years. The call on remaining funds, the prioritisation of spend and working out what local authority does and doesn't do going forward is going to get harder and harder. What I can say with certainty at this point, is that there really is no chance that there would be any public funding locally, either from the Local Authority or from the Arts Council, either capital or revenue, towards the restoration of the Hippodrome for theatre or indeed any other purpose.

It would be devastating to see the loss of the building for future generations. The plans coming forward have a good deal of due process to go through and the authorities are engaging with those as they develop.”

48.5 **RESOLVED** - That the contents of the petition be received and noted.

#### **Save Brighton Speed Trials**

48.6 The following e petition had been received containing 12,430 signatures.

“We the undersigned petition the council to accept the application by the Brighton and Hove Motor Club to run the 2014 Brighton Speed Trials on Madeira Drive.

#### **Justification:**

The Speed Trials is part of Brighton's heritage having run in the area since 1905. Thousands of people come down to the seafront for an entertaining fun-packed day out for the whole family to watch race cars and motor bikes compete along Madeira Drive.

The event has grown over the years and now even enjoys international acclaim. It has the full support and backing of the Motorsport Association and adheres to their strict rules of safety.

The end of the Speed Trials will be the end of an era for Brighton. It will have a major negative financial impact on tourism and trade in the area and mean the loss of one of the highlights on Brighton's seafront entertainment calendar.

Please sign the petition and help keep the Speed Trials going.

A decision will be made by the council's Economic Development and Culture Committee at a meeting on 23 January 2014.” (12,430 signatures e petition)

48.7 Mr Watts the lead petitioner was invited to address the Committee for 3 minutes in support of the petition.

48.8 The Chair, Councillor Bowden responded explaining that a report relating to the “Brighton Speed Trials” appeared at Item 51 on that afternoon’s agenda and would form the subject of full discussion and debate at that point in the meeting.

48.9 **RESOLVED** - That the contents of the petition be received and noted.

#### 48b Written Questions

48.10 The following written question had been submitted by R Lowe

##### **Brighton Ultra-Fast Broadband**

“How will the ultra fast broadband work in practice, will it cover the whole city, or is it only provided to businesses/companies at present?”

48.11 The Chair, Councillor Bowden responded in the following terms:

“The government’s Super Connected Cities Project aim to provide grant funding to improve digital connectivity. Brighton & Hove City Council was successful in bidding for this funding. Initially the government was allowing the funding to be spent on improving fixed broadband infrastructure so that parts of the city that have not benefited from the commercial roll out could have the infrastructure improved. However, the government subsequently advised that the funding could not be used for fixed infrastructure as it carries the risk of being considered ‘state aid’ – distorting the commercial market with public money.

Instead the emphasis of the project has moved towards a connection voucher scheme, which will offer vouchers of £250 to £3,000 for small businesses and charity/third sector organisations to install internet connections that achieve a step change in connectivity.

The connection voucher scheme is nationally designed and will be locally administered, with it expected to open in Brighton & Hove in mid to late February. The Council will focus initially on marketing of the scheme on the Creative, Digital and IT sectors, before widening out to other businesses.

The connection voucher scheme will only be open to small businesses and charity/third sector organisations. It will not be open to private individuals, though most domestic next generation broadband connections would fall below the £250 minimum voucher value anyway.

We are also exploring using the funding to improve wireless connectivity in the city, building on the Metro Wireless concession which will see council owned street furniture used to host equipment which will create a network of new wireless access points across the city centre. These access points will be operated by the successful bidder.

49.12 Mr Lowe then asked a supplementary question (as permitted) and asked whether the bid made had taken into account educational providers and third sector organisations such as the Community Centre. The Head of City Regeneration stated that the existing arrangements did include the ability to create “hot spots” in public buildings. He believed



that this included local colleges and the local universities but would check on the point in order that a written response could be provided to Mr Lowe on this point.

48.13 **RESOLVED** – That the question and response given be noted and received.

#### 48c Deputations

48.14 It was noted that two Deputations had been referred to the committee from the meeting of Full Council on 12 December 2013. It was noted that as both sets of Deputies had had the opportunity to speak at council no further speaking rights were permitted at the Committee.

#### (i) Article 4, Planning Requirements & HMOs

48.15 The Committee considered the Deputation put by Ms Harding at Full Council on 12 December 2014 (which had been circulated with the Committee papers for that days meeting):

48.16 ‘As you can see from the deputation in front of you, I’m concerned about the quality and completeness of the data that we hold in the city about houses of multiple occupation.

Under the Article 4 Planning Rule we make decisions based on this data; if there are too many recorded houses of multiple occupation in certain areas, no one will be allowed. This affects me because I live in Hollingbury Road. When we did a quick assay of our road we find about twice as many houses of multiple occupation as are recorded on the Council’s Licensing List but why should it concern you?

I think the reasons that it should concern you are that as an organisation committed to open data; you should try to ensure that your data is as clear, complete and concise as possible. By underestimating the number of houses of multiple occupation, we run the risk as a city on missing out on rebates for houses where Council Tax is not paid, this should be a real concern in these times.

The Article 4 arrangement for allowing planning permission for HMO’s is a 5 year trial. If we do not base this on correct data, we do not make our decisions on correct and accurate data. We cannot fairly evaluate the trial and see if it has been successful or not also if we do not hold the list which is accurate about houses of multiple occupation we will not be able to protect the tenants therein which is a responsibility that we hold.

I would ask that we make better use of the data that we hold and encourage more preparation between private sector housing group and the planning services so that we can provide a better service.”

48.17 The response given by Councillor Mac Cafferty at the meeting of Full Council was noted and received.

48.18 **RESOLVED** – That the contents of the Deputation be noted and received.

(ii) **Brighton Speed Trials**

48.19 The Committee considered the Deputation put by Mr Taylor at Full Council on 12 December 2014 (which had been circulated with the Committee papers for that days meeting):

48.20 The City of Brighton and Hove is somewhere we can all be very proud of, I'm particularly proud of Brighton and Hove being one of the newer Cities. One of Brighton's greatest assets is that it is a City of great diversity. It welcomes everyone no matter what their background or lifestyle, it allows a freedom of expression that gives power to the individual. It doesn't criticise, pass judgement or persecute minority interests. In simple words; no matter who you are, what you like or even dislike you will find it somewhere in the City of Brighton and Hove.

A decision has been taken by Brighton and Hove Council not to accept the Brighton and Hove Motor Club application to run the 2014 Brighton speed trials on Madeira Drive. From the comments passed on to the club, this is predominantly due to a view that this event does not fit in with a modern Brighton. We believe this decision would be detrimental to the City both now and in the future.

A great City is not judged solely on the present day which by its nature is transitory and fast moving, but it builds on the foundation of its past to create an exciting future, Brighton is renowned as the City of many cultures and prides itself on its longstanding combination of both the modern and the old. Its history is known throughout the United Kingdom and Worldwide.

The Brighton speed trials is at the very heart of that heritage, Brighton has the very real and unique privilege of being the only holder of a specific act of Parliament that enables a motorsport trial of speed to take place on the public highway. It is ironic that at the same time as Brighton's considering this decision there is work taking place at Westminster by the Motorsports Association to campaign for greater access to the public road network on mainland Britain for motorsport activities.

Progress is being made in this regard with enthusiastic support from Local Authorities that recognise the huge benefits accrued by such events. Brighton has the enviable advantage but must surely seek to retain it's unique position with the valuable legislation that it enjoys.

The idea for the speed event in Brighton was first suggested in 1902 however it wasn't until 2 years in 1905 that a local man Sir. Harry Preston persuaded the town corporation

to surface Madeira Drive using the pioneering material of tarmac as its surface and this was in fact the first of it's kind.

The Town Council collaborated with the Automobile Club of Great Britain and Ireland later to become known as the Motorsports Association, to organise an event know as Brighton Motorweek which ran from the 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> July and consisted of a series of Motor races.

The first event ran westwards from Black Rock to the Aquarium, the opposite direction to which the race currently runs, it attracted over 400 entries timed by the flying Kilometre. During the first event there were 3 world records set. The BHMC believe the trials have and continue to bring considerable economic benefit to the town resulting in hoteliers, restaurateurs and all manner of retailers enjoying the impact of the event.

Motorsport is often misunderstood as a sport casually dismissed as an environmental catastrophe which in fact the opposite is true. Motorsport and it's engineering challenges have driven the development of all major environmental benefits to the internal combustion engine allowing ever greater efficiency in the power extracted, furthermore the rate of change within the sport enabled progress of mainstream technologies to be significantly sped up.

This has included hybrid technology and kinetic energy recovery systems. We urge the Council not to throw away history but instead to look for inspiration to their forefathers on the Town Council. The loss of this even will also result in the closure of Brighton and Hove Motorclub after nearly 100 years and the loss to the Council of a tenant.“

48.21 The Chair, Councillor Bowden referred to the report at Item 51 on that day's agenda entitled "Brighton Speed Trials". He confirmed that full discussion and debate would take place when considering that item.

48.22 **RESOLVED** – That the contents of the Deputation be noted and received.

## **49. MEMBER INVOLVEMENT**

### **49a Petitions**

49.1 There were none.

### **49b Written Questions**

49.2 There were none.

### **49c Letters**

#### **Brighton Speed Trials**

49.3 A letter received from Councillor K Norman had been circulated to Members with their agenda papers. Councillor Norman's letter expressed his concern regarding potential refusal to grant landlord's consent to enable the Brighton Speed Trials to take place on Madeira Drive in 2014.

- 49.3 Councillor Norman was permitted to speak for 3 minutes in support of his letter. It was noted that a report setting out four options for consideration by the Committee appeared at Item 51 on that days agenda and would be the subject of full discussion and debate.
- 49.4 Councillor Norman stated that he was seriously concerned that the Brighton and Hove Motor Club could be denied closure of Madeira Drive preventing them from running the Brighton National Speed Trials, a historic and world famous event. It was his understanding that refusal was likely to be recommended in consequence of the very unfortunate and extremely rare death of a participant which had occurred during the event in September 2012. The event was widely respected as evidenced by the huge number of signatures received on the petition in support of it, believed to be the highest number ever received. It was acknowledged as being organised and run to very stringent standards and it was very important to note that the Coroner had found no fault whatsoever with the organisers or the measures in place surrounding the event; there was no risk to Members of the public attending the event as spectators.
- 49.5 Councillor Norman also made reference to the financial benefits for the city which arose in consequence of the large number of visitors attending the event who used the services offered by local businesses located in the nearby Colonnade and elsewhere in the city. Councillor Norman stated that he considered it was very important that the tragic accident should be seen within the context of the facts surrounding it and the long and unblemished history and safety of this event.
- 49.6 **RESOLVED** – That the contents of Councillor K Norman’s letter be received and noted.

#### 49d Notices of Motion

##### Brighton Speed Trials

- 49.7 A Notice of Motion by the Labour and Cooperative Group referred from the meeting of Full Council on 12 December 2013 had been circulated to Members for information with their papers for that days meeting.
- 49.8 **RESOLVED** - That the contents of the Labour and Cooperative Group Notice of Motion be received and noted.

#### 50. SPECIAL EVENTS – MADEIRA DRIVE ROAD CLOSURES 2014

- 50.1 The Committee considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which set out the proposed programme of special events on Madeira Drive in 2014 and sought approval for the associated road closures.
- 50.2 It was noted that prior notification had been received of a proposed amendment by the Conservative Group in the following terms:

“Paragraph 2.3 That the committee authorises the Assistant Chief Executive, after consultation with the Chair of the Committee **and the opposition spokespersons**, to make any alterations to the events programme as necessary and to approve new applications”.

Proposed by: Councillor Vanessa Brown  
Seconded by: Councillor Carol Theobald

- 50.3 Councillors Brown and C Theobald stated that the Opposition spokesperson's had been consulted in the past and they sure that this would happen in respect of future events they wanted to ensure that this was agreed formally.
- 50.4 Councillors Buckley and Hawtree stated that in future it would be useful If additional information could be provided as background showing the amounts raised/charged by organisations and in respect of their financial viability. The Assistant Chief Executive confirmed that consideration would be given to how this could done without being cumbersome, for example by submitting a split report which provided members with commercially confidential information. It was noted that differing the level of fees and charges payable by community groups/for community based events was different from that for commercial groups/ organisations.
- 50.5 Councillor Hawtree noted that there were a number of automobile based events in addition to the annual vintage car rally.
- 50.6 A vote was taken and on a vote of 8 with 2 abstentions the recommendations set out below including the substantive amendment were agreed.
- 50.7 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the committee grants consent for the 2014 programme for special events on Madeira Drive and the associated road closures as listed in Appendix 1 to the report ;
- (2) That the committee authorises officers to enter into formal agreements with event organisers to determine conditions, fees and levels of support as appropriate; and
- (3) That the committee authorises the Assistant Chief Executive, after consultation with the Chair of the Committee and the opposition spokespersons to make any alterations to the events programme as necessary and to approve new applications.

## 51. BRIGHTON SPEED TRIALS

- 51.1 The Committee considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive setting out proposals received from Brighton & Hove Motor Club (BHMC) to stage the Brighton Speed Trials on Madeira Drive in 2014 and outlining reasons why it might not be appropriate to grant landlord's consent. It was noted that a letter of support for continuation of the event had been received from Simon Kirby, the MP for Brighton Pavilion and that following publication of the report 14 further letters expressing support for the event had also been received.
- 51.2 It was noted that the BHMC was a tenant of the council occupying premises in Madeira Drive as a private club with 200 members. The review of the Speed Trials event had focussed on the unique circumstances of the event itself and not the club's occupation of these premises, or the wide range of motor rallies that took place on Madeira Drive each year.

- 51.3 The National Speeds Trials, organised by BHMC Ltd, had been held on Madeira Drive in September for many years (the first was held in 1905) but had not taken place in 2013 pending the outcome of an inquest place into a fatality at the 2012 event. Following the findings of that inquest The Motor Club had indicated their desire to hold the event in 2014.
- 51.4 Although the report from the Coroner's Inquest had cleared the event organisers or any other party of any blame for the fatality that occurred in 2012, officers were very mindful of the safety issues in relation to this event. While motor sport was inherently dangerous, the council could not ignore that a fatal accident and serious injury had occurred at the Speed Trials in 2012 and that if the event took place again there was the potential for further loss of life and serious injury.
- 51.5 Madeira Drive was a public highway and as such was not a purpose built modern sprint track. The Highways section had confirmed that the surface of the road was designed and maintained for normal road traffic ie at 30 mph, not vehicles racing at speeds exceeding 100 mph. As Madeira Drive was not a purpose built modern sprint track and included items such as street furniture appropriate for a public highway, it was inevitable that the level of risk for such an event was enhanced. Whilst there was a level of risk at purpose built motor sport facilities, it was a risk that could be more easily managed at such venues.
- 51.6 The Speed Trials were the only event, which resulted in the closure of businesses on Madeira Drive. This is due to the health and safety requirements of the track licence granted by the MSA. These include Yellowave, Adventure Golf, Grace's Place Café, Concorde II, Beach Cruiser Bike Hire as well as the Volks Railway. In addition, the Martlet Kayak Club, boat lockers, and beach chalets were unable be used on the event day. These businesses would clearly benefit if they were able to stay open. The Committee were therefore requested to consider the options available to them as set in paragraph 2.1-2.4 of the report and to determine the approach that they considered to be the most appropriate.
- 51.7 Prior notification of a joint amendment by Conservative and Labour and Cooperative Groups had been received. The Chair confirmed that he had also added some wording which had had been accepted by the proposer and seconder and that this had been circulated to all Members in advance of the meeting. If the Committee were in agreement that he was now putting the amended substantive recommendations in order for Members to vote on them.

~~That the Committee consider which of the following options is appropriate:~~

~~2.1 That the committee does not grant landlord's consent to stage the Brighton Speed Trials on Madeira Drive in 2014.~~

**2.2 That the Committee grants landlord's consent to stage the Brighton Speed Trials on Madeira Drive on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2014 and for the following 2 years (in line with other events that are agreed for 3 years) and that the Brighton & Hove Motor Club, during this 3 year period, work together with the Safety Advisory Group to address any outstanding safety concerns. The consent be further subject to a condition requiring the organisers to fund all associated costs**

**including essential safety requirements needed for the event to take place on the basis that the organisers will retain income from the event.**

~~2.3 That the committee defers any decision to enable officers to seek further advice from the Safety Advisory Group so that a further report can be provided to the committee as soon as possible.~~

2.4 That in the event of option 2.2 being agreed the committee approves a payment of a hire fee for the event by the organisers if it takes place.

Proposed by: Councillor Vanessa Brown

Seconded by: Councillor Brian Fitch

51.8 Councillor Bowden, the Chair stated that he was happy to accept the proposed amendment to which he had added additional wording which he hoped would be acceptable and could become the substantive resolution of the Committee. This is set out below:

**That the Committee grants landlord's consent to Brighton & Hove Motor Club, subject to any guidance given by the Safety Advisory Group to the council and the conditions of any permit or licence issued by the Motor Sports Association and the Auto-Cycle Union, to stage the Brighton Speed Trials on Madeira Drive on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2014 and for the following 2 years (in line with other events that are agreed for 3 years), further subject to a condition requiring the organisers to fund all associated costs, including essential safety requirements needed for the event to take place, on the basis that the organisers will retain income from the event and will fully indemnify the council against any compensation claims made against it as a result of accidents during the Speed Trials in the future.**

Proposed by Councillor Geoffrey Bowden

Seconded by Councillor Hawtree

51.9 Councillor Bowden explained that he hoped that this new composite amendment could become the substantive motion and would be acceptable to the Committee because as well as providing a degree of certainty for the event organisers which would assist them in terms of their longer term planning and fundraising it also sought to ensure that any risk was covered by the organisers in an appropriate manner.

51.10 Councillor Brown stated that she had put forward the proposed amendment as she considered it was important for the organisers to have the security of knowing that the event could go forward for a period of 3 years as this would assist with their longer term planning and fund raising. Councillor Brown stated that it was important to note the exemplary way in which event had always been organised and run, the Coroner's report had absolved the Brighton and Hove Motor Club (BHMC) of any blame. The fatality in 2012 had been the result of a tragic and rare accident and it should be noted that all potentially dangerous sports carried an element of risk which those taking part accepted, those taking part needed to meet rigorous standards and to be experienced. Safety checks were made to the course and vehicle before and during the event and subsequently and no fault had been found. The Council itself placed stringent conditions on any permissions granted. Councillor Brown did not consider that the arguments

made relating to the disbenefit to some traders as a result of the road closure were valid as the closure was for a short period and was counterbalanced by the significant benefits that it provided for the city as a whole.

- 51.11 Councillor Fitch concurred with the points made by Councillor Brown. The event had been taking place in Brighton since 1905 and the huge level of support, the highest number of signatories to a petition ever, indicated the esteem in which this event was held. He was firmly of the belief that the unfortunate tragedy that had occurred should not cloud any decision regarding its future. Provided that the necessary measures were in place (as proposed by the amendment), he considered that permission should be granted.
- 51.12 Councillor Buckley stated that she was disappointed that there had been a lot of conjecture regarding the motivations of the Green group, she considered that the proposed amendment (as amended by the Chair) represented a reasonable way forward, with any liabilities properly covered, an approach which she felt able to support.
- 51.13 Councillor Morgan stated that he was impressed by the manner in which BHMC had addressed the concerns which had been raised in a detailed and comprehensive way. He considered that the health and safety concerns had been properly addressed and it was clear that the highest standards would continue to be met. The event had a long tradition and was representative of the diversity of Brighton.
- 51.14 Councillor Smith concurred stating that he considered that the event was part of the heritage of the city and that there were compelling reasons for it to continue.
- 51.15 Councillor C Theobald considered that a strong case had been made for this event to continue and had been impressed by the arguments put forward by those who had spoken in support of its continuance.
- 51.16 A vote was taken and Members voted unanimously that the resolutions as set out below be agreed.
- 51.17 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the Committee grants landlord's consent to Brighton & Hove Motor Club, subject to any guidance given by the Safety Advisory Group to the council and the conditions of any permit or licence issued by the Motor Sports Association and the Auto-Cycle Union, to stage the Brighton Speed Trials on Madeira Drive on 6th September 2014 and for the following 2 years (in line with other events that are agreed for 3 years), further subject to a condition requiring the organisers to fund all associated costs, including essential safety requirements needed for the event to take place, on the basis that the organisers will retain income from the event and will fully indemnify the council against compensation claims made against it as a result of any accidents during the Speed Trials in the future; and
- (2) That the Committee approves a payment of a hire fee for the event by Brighton & Hove Motor Club.

## 52. EVENTS IN PARKS AND OPEN SPACES 2014



- 52.1 The Committee considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive seeking landlord's consent for events in parks and open spaces in 2014.
- 52.2 Many of the events listed in Appendix One to the report had taken place before and retained their traditional place in the calendar of outdoor events. The council had licensed a range of parks and open spaces including the Old Steine, Hove Lawns, the Seafront and Madeira Drive to hold events. However, a balanced approach was required to prevent over use of these areas.
- 52.3 Outdoor events played a major role in the city being a leisure destination and therefore contributed significantly to the economic impact that tourism brought to the city. The latest economic impact assessment had valued the contribution of tourism to the city's economy at £800m per year and it supported 18000 jobs (13500 full time equivalents). The economic impact of events staged in the city was largely through hotel, restaurant and retail spend.
- 52.4 Several new or altered event applications had been received for 2014 and were summarised in the report itself and in appendix 1. Consultation had taken place as detailed in the report and no substantive issues had been raised in respect of the calendar of outdoor events.
- 52.5 Councillor Buckley referred to the applications made by Zippo's Circus which involved the use of live animals. She was concerned that the Council's Animal Welfare Policy which had been in place since 2011 might require updating in relation to the use of live animals in performances. The Legal Adviser to the Committee explained that any amendments to the existing policy would require approval by another Committee. It was agreed that officers would investigate which would be the most appropriate Committee to consider any changes to the existing policy and to advise Councillor Buckley accordingly.
- 52.6 Councillor Smith sought clarification that there was sufficient space for the funfair to take place on the Level following its refurbishment. It was confirmed that there was and that officers would ensure that that it could operate as it had previously.
- 52.7 Councillor Fitch proposed that for consistency the recommendations set out in the report should be amended to reference to the respective Opposition spokesperson's being consulted in addition to the Chair. This was seconded by Councillor Brown. The Chair, Councillor Bowden agreed that he was happy for be included as the substantive recommendation and this was put to the Committee.
- 52.8 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the committee approve the events listed in the report;
- (2) That the committee authorise officers to enter into formal agreements with event organisers to determine conditions, fees and levels of support as appropriate; and
- (3) That the committee authorises the Assistant Chief Executive, after consultation with the Chair of Committee and the opposition spokespersons to make any alterations to the events programme as necessary and to approve new applications in accordance with the Outdoor Events Policy.

**53. SHAKEDOWN MUSIC FESTIVAL 2014**

- 53.1 The Committee considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive seeking landlord's consent to stage Shakedown Music Festival at Waterhall on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2014.
- 53.2 It was noted that Shakedown has taken place at Stanmer Park for three years, since 2011 and that in 2013 the event had attracted 15000 spectators on the first day and 4000 spectators on the second day. The organisers had therefore requested a change of venue to Waterhall, having outgrown the available site at Stanmer Park. The organisers had also indicated that they wished to focus on a one day event rather than spread the event over two days.
- 53.3 The Head of Sport and Leisure drew Members attention to the updated report which had been circulated and which included information received from the South East Coast Ambulance Service and Sussex Police confirming the arrangements they would want to see in place for the event.
- 53.4 Councillor C Theobald sought confirmation that neighbouring Ward Councillors in Withdean had also been fully consulted and also expressed concern regarding the potential for noise nuisance to occur if there were after event parties after the event ceased at 11.00pm. The relatively narrow access/egress arrangements were also a cause for concern as at end of the event a number of vehicles/pedestrians would be trying to leave the site at the same time, arrangements to ensure reinstatement of the site post event, particularly bearing in mind potential effect on the water table in the event of wet weather also needed to be made. Councillor Smith stated that he was aware that concerns had been expressed previously regarding the terminal hour for the event.
- 53.5 The Events Manager explained that a de-brief always took place following any major event and that this informed arrangements for any subsequent event. Meetings had taken place with Southern Water regarding appropriate arrangements which would include the provision of chemical toilets on site. A Licence would need to be granted by the Licensing authority which would stipulate a number of conditions which would need to be complied with including the terminal hour for the event.
- 53.6- Councillor Hawtree stated that when the event had been held at Stanmer Park the previous year there had been concerns about the effectiveness of the alcohol policy employed. It was explained that a robust policy would be in place in as part of the on site security.
- 53.7 Councillor Janio stated that he hoped that the sports clubs using the site had also been consulted and that all relevant safety arrangements were in place. It was confirmed that the Police and Ambulance Service had been fully consulted and their comments were set out in the report. Councillor Janio stated that he fully supported the event but wanted to be full assured that those attending could enjoy themselves safely.
- 53.8 Councillor Fitch stated that whilst he understood the concerns expressed he was satisfied that all appropriate arrangements had been put into place, noting that there were very few events in the city for young people of the targeted age range. Councillor Mac Cafferty referred to his role as the Chair of the Brighton & Hove Music Trust and to

the important role that music played to the life of the city and to the offer available for young people.

53.9 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the committee grant landlord's consent for Shakedown Music Festival at Waterhall on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2014; and

(2) That the committee authorises officers to enter into formal agreements with the event organiser to determine conditions, fees and levels of support as appropriate, subject to the organisers meeting all required conditions.

#### **54. FEES & CHARGES 2014/15- ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE DIRECTORATE**

54.1 The Committee considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive setting out the proposed fees and charges for 2014/15.

54.2 It was noted that the fees and charges for services were reviewed annually in line with the Corporate Fees & Charges Policy. As a minimum, all fees and charges are increased by the corporate rate of inflation which has been set at 2.5%. This is the same percentage by which income budgets will be increased. For the Sports Facilities and Golf Courses Contracts there is a formula to calculate the inflationary price increase linked to the All Items Retail Prices Index Excluding Mortgage Interest Payments (RPIX). The increase calculated for 2013/14 is 3.43%.

54.3 The council's Financial Regulations require that any increases proposed over and above inflation are agreed by the council, they also state that it is good practice to report on fees and charges that are rising by inflation only.

54.4 This combined report presents the review of fees and charges across five service areas: Venues, Seafront, Sports Facilities including Golf Courses, Outdoor Events and Royal Pavilion and Museums. The changes would be implemented from April 2014. Revised copies of Appendix 5 were circulated, which showed some slight reductions to the level of charges originally proposed at golf courses.

54.5 The Head of Sport and Leisure explained that the majority of fees proposed for the sports facilities had been increased by 3.4% but that with rounding some fees had a slightly adjusted percentage change. Above inflation increases were proposed for health and fitness and the new all weather pitch at Stanley Deason Leisure Centre due to the improvements in provision. The level of charges proposed including those for golf courses were based on charges across the region for use of similar facilities and compared with them favourably.

54.6 Councillor Morgan enquired whether consideration had been given to applying a sliding scale of fees to enable local community groups and charities to hire facilities, especially Hove Town Hall and the Brighton Centre similar to the charges for Outdoor Events. In response it was explained that there was often flexibility in charges for community groups. Councillor Morgan stated that this was not apparent from the report also, that it was important that this was publicised. There would not be take up from community based groups if they were unaware that there was the ability to negotiate in this way. The Assistant Chief Executive stated that she would ascertain the information provided to

community groups when they were contemplating making a hiring and would convey that to Councillor Morgan.

54.8 Councillor Brown referred to the fact that approval had been given for weddings to be held in Preston Manor and enquired whether there had been an increase in the number of bookings as a result. It was confirmed that there had not been an increase to date. However the venue was due to be marketed at a forthcoming wedding fair which would showcase the city's offer and there had also been a number of enquiries.

54.9 Councillor C Theobald referred to the charges for use of the Royal Pavilion, these were very high when it was taken into account that the constituent elements of the package e.g., the cost of catering, charge for the ceremony etc., were in addition to venue hire. Councillor Theobald also considered that the venue might be more attractive if it would be possible for its capacity to be increased from 90 to 100. It was explained that the capacity for the State Dining Room had been set at 90 in order to comply with fire regulations. That capacity could be increased by hiring the Music Room too but an additional charge was payable for that. Very careful thought was given to the level of fees charged which also took account of the Pavilion's uniqueness and the demand for its use which was high.

54.10 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the committee approves the fees and charges for Venues for 2014/2015 in Appendix 1 to the report;

(2) That the committee approves the fees and charges for Outdoor Events for 2014/15 in Appendix 2;

(3) That the committee approves the fees and charges for the Seafront for 2014/15 in Appendix 3;

(4) That the committee approves the fees and charges for Sports Facilities for 2014/15 in Appendix 4;

(5) That the committee approves the next 3 years fees and charges for Golf Courses in Appendix 5;

(6) That the committee approves the fees and charges for the Royal Pavilion & Museums for 2014/15 in Appendix 6; and

(7) That the committee grants delegated authority for officers to negotiate hire fees where commercially necessary outside the approved fees & charges.

## **55. SHOREHAM HARBOUR JOINT AREA ACTION PLAN**

55.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director for Environment, Housing and Development detailing the content of the draft Shoreham Harbour Joint Area Action Plan and requesting that the document be approved in order to enable it to be displayed for a ten week period of public consultation.

55.2 It was noted that this was the first full draft of the Shoreham Harbour Joint Area Action Plan (JAAP) which aimed to set out a 15-20 year plan to guide the regeneration of

Shoreham Harbour. The JAAP was a Development Plan Document (DPD) which would sit underneath the City Plan (and Adur Local Plan) to provide further detail on the Shoreham Harbour regeneration area. The JAAP formed part of the Local Development Frameworks for Brighton & Hove and Adur District and if adopted as a Development Plan Document (DPD) the policies within the JAAP would be a material consideration in determining all planning applications within the JAAP Harbour area.

- 55.3 The Joint Area Action Plan was being produced in order to identify a set of realistic, deliverable, locally supported and sustainable proposals for Shoreham Harbour and to manage the impacts of development over time. The Plan was a joint Plan because it had been produced by the City Council, Adur District Council and West Sussex County Council. The Shoreham Port Authority had also been closely involved in its production. The area covered by the JAAP stretched from the Shoreham Footbridge in the west through to Hove Lagoon in the east. Shoreham Harbour was distinct from its surroundings due to its concentration of industrial and other employment uses, many representing port-operational and port-related activities. However, closely linked were the neighbouring residential communities of Shoreham-by-Sea, Shoreham Beach, Southwick, Fishersgate, Portslade and West Hove that would be influenced by any future development plans.
- 55.4 The Head of Planning and Public Protection further explained that the Joint Area Action Plan was being produced in order to identify a set of realistic, deliverable, locally supported and sustainable proposals for Shoreham Harbour and to manage the impacts of development over time. The Plan would be produced jointly by the City Council, Adur District Council and West Sussex County Council. The Shoreham Port Authority had also been and would continue to be involved in its production. The document would be subjected to full public examination and would therefore need to have a compelling narrative.
- 55.5 Councillor Fitch referred to the discussions which had taken place at when the Committee had considered an earlier “draft” of the document at its meeting in September 2013 and the view expressed that their preference that no development in the vicinity of Aldrington Basin should be higher than that of the recently Vega flats development. It was understood however, that the Portzed development would exceed that height and Councillor Fitch queried whether there were any inconsistencies in the document. The Head of Planning and Public Protection confirmed that wording set out in the local authority’s own action plan accorded with that contained in the development plan and would be referred to when guiding future development proposals.
- 55.6 Councillor Janio referred to the transport strategy as referred to at paragraph 1.8.17 of the document. He was fully in agreement that a range of measures would be necessary to prevent traffic becoming grid-locked between Hangleton and Portslade and that until that had been addressed the existing problems would continue. The Head of Planning and Public Protection confirmed that the need for a fully developed strategy were recognised and points such as that made by Councillor Janio would be fed into that process. In answer to further questions it was confirmed that the local Ward Councillors would be kept informed and would be fully engaged in the process.
- 55.7 Councillor Mac Cafferty welcomed the document and looked forward to seeing further refinements and improvements made to it as the process moved forward.

55.8 **RESOLVED** – That the Committee notes the content of the draft Shoreham Harbour Joint Area Action Plan and approves the document for a ten week period of public consultation

**56. COASTAL WEST SUSSEX AND GREATER BRIGHTON LOCAL STRATEGIC STATEMENT FOR DELIVERING SUSTAINABLE GROWTH 2013-2031**

56.1 The Committee agreed the recommendations set out in the report without discussion.

56.2 **RESOLVED** – That the Committee approves the Coastal West Sussex and Greater Brighton Local Strategic Statement including the terms of reference and memorandum of understanding.

**57. LOCAL AGGREGATE ASSESSMENT FOR EAST SUSSEX AND BRIGHTON & HOVE**

57.1 The Committee agreed the recommendations set out in the report without discussion.

57.2 **RESOLVED** - That the Local Aggregate Assessment 2012/13 for East Sussex and Brighton & Hove be approved and published.

**58. REVIEW OF SECTION 106 DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS TEMPORARY RECESSION MEASURES**

58.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Environment, Development and Housing providing a update on the current practice of prioritised and reduced Section 106 developer contributions temporary “recession” measures. The Committee were requested to note this update and to extend the (revised) Developer Contributions Temporary Recession Relief Measures until 2015.

58.2 It was noted that the current measures had first been introduced in 2010 to be reflective of the economic situation. The report represented the fourth annual review and provided an opportunity to renew these temporary measures and to further extend this process in consideration of the ongoing economic situation and the need to deliver new development, particularly housing.

58.3 Councillor Morgan stated that he generally supported the proposals considering that it was very important to ensure that the percentage requirement for affordable housing was only commuted to a sum for off site provision in exceptional circumstances.

58.4 Councillor Buckley stated that she did not consider that this approach represented the right way forward at the present time. She referred to her own ward Goldsmid where there had been a number of developments which fell below the threshold for section 106 contributions such developments placed additional pressure on local school places and sports and recreational facilities. The Head of Planning and Public Protection confirmed that seeking contributions for smaller developments was not precluded but enabled there to be a debate as to the levels required.

- 58.5 Councillor Hawtree referred to the fact that house prices across the city were continuing to rise however any recovery was still very fragile. It was important that policies dovetailed with one another and that they did not contradict one another. It was clarified that no charge was made for providing pre-application/ early application advice to householders.
- 58.6 Councillor Brown stated that she considered that it was important for developers to have clarity and a level of certainty and provided it was not abused this could be useful. Councillor Janio concurred with that view.
- 58.7 The Head of Planning and Public Protection confirmed that this approach was applied very carefully and was being kept under review.
- 58.8 Councillor Mac Cafferty stated that whilst the value of the monies accruing from such agreements was small around, 1% of all development costs it did none the less provide a very valuable contribution.
- 58.9 **RESOLVED** - That the committee notes the update and extends the (revised) Developer Contributions Temporary Recession Relief Measures until 2015.

#### 59. MAINTENANCE OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

- 59.1 The Committee agreed the recommendations set out in the report without discussion.
- 59.2 **RESOLVED** - That the Committee endorse the updated register of listed buildings that are considered to be 'at risk' (Appendix 1) to the report.

#### 60. BRUNSWICK TOWN PAINTING SCHEME

- 60.1 The Committee agreed the recommendations set out in the report without discussion.
- 60.2 **RESOLVED** - (1) That the committee agrees that the council continues to specify Crown Sandtex Classic Stone Gloss for use in the original Brunswick Estate under the Hove Borough Council Act 1976 for the next repainting in 2015;
- (2) That the interval for redecoration under the Hove Borough Council Act 1976 be kept at 5 years; and
- (3) That the specification provided for guidance purposes be amended in accordance with the advice given by Hirst Conservation in their report dated August 2013.

#### 61. MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE

- 61.1 The Committee considered the circulated schedule which provided an update on the current progress of major projects across the city.
- 61.2 **RESOLVED** – That the contents of the schedule be noted and received.

#### 62. ITEMS REFERRED FOR COUNCIL

62.1 There were none.

The meeting concluded at 6.10pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of