



FAREHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

CIVIC OFFICES CIVIC WAY FAREHAM HAMPSHIRE

Minutes of the Leisure Overview Panel

*Minutes of a meeting held on 17 September 2003
at the Civic Offices Civic Offices*

PRESENT:

Councillor T G Knight
(Chairman)

Councillor J V Bryant
(Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: Mrs J M Eastman, J M Englefield (deputising for Councillor R H Price), J S Forrest, Mrs R A Godrich (deputising for Councillor Mrs M E Ellerton) and Mrs M R Nadolski

Also Present: Councillors Mrs C L A Hockley (Executive Member for Leisure), Mrs K K Trott and D J Murray.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs M E Ellerton and R H Price.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Leisure Overview Panel held on 23 July 2003 be confirmed and signed as a correct record ([le-030723-m](#)).

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with Standing Orders and the Council's Code of Conduct, the following Members declared an interest in the matters indicated:

Councillor	Subject	Minute No/Nature of interest
Mrs R A Godrich	Genesis Youth Centre, Locks Heath – Development Plan	Min. 7 - Fareham Borough Council representative on Genesis Centre Executive Committee
T G Knight	Fareham Community Centre	Min. 5 -Fareham Borough Council representative on Crofton Community Association Management Committee

4 DEPUTATIONS

The Panel received deputations from the following persons who addressed members on the items indicated:-

Deputation	Subject	Agenda Item
Mr E Cowton (for Fareham and District Model Railway Club)	Fareham Community Centre	6
Mrs A Sitch (for Fareham Community Association)	Fareham Community Centre	6

5 FAREHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

(Minute 5 of 6 March 2003 refers)

The Panel considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Community Strategy which invited the Panel's views and comments on the current options for relocation of the Centre's users (copy of report [le-030917-r01-cba](#) circulated with the agenda and appended to signed minutes)

The Panel took into account the points which had been raised by the deputees (see minute 4 above), which covered the operational and financial difficulties in relocating, faced by a particular user group (Fareham and District Model Railway Club) and the concerns raised by Fareham Community Association regarding the proposed conversion of the Octagon Lounge at Ferneham Hall to a self-contained community facility.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor Murray addressed the Panel on this matter.

Members discussed in detail the proposals for transitional financial assistance to those user groups (referred to in paragraph 14 of the report) who could not be accommodated at Ferneham Hall. The Panel was advised that the rates of transitional financial assistance suggested ie 50% of the cost difference in year 1 and 25% of the cost difference in year 2, had been arrived at taking into account the current available details of the costs for alternative venues. It was noted that there was no guarantee what these costs might be after 31 March 2004 and for that reason, the offer of transitional financial assistance had to be conditional upon the user group relocating within the current financial year when it was possible to quantify the amount of revenue support involved.

The Panel was referred to the proposals suggested in paragraph 17 of the report and following further discussion and consideration of the matter it was AGREED that the Executive be advised that in the Panel's view:-

- (i) the proposal that the Octagon Lounge at Ferneham Hall be converted for use as a community facility for many of the current users of Fareham Community Centre and for other community groups that may emerge be supported;
- (ii) the proposal that transitional financial assistance be offered to existing user groups that cannot be accommodated in the new facility be supported. This would be at a rate of 50% of the difference in cost between current charges and the cheapest alternatives in year one and 25% in year two (on condition that they wished to relocate in the current financial year); (Voting: 4 for and 3 against - including the Chairman's casting vote in favour); and
- (iii) that the Executive give favourable consideration to any future applications for matched funding assistance from former user groups of Fareham Community Centre.

6 PRESENTATION – FLORAL BEDDING AND SPONSORSHIP DISPLAYS WITHIN THE BOROUGH

The Panel received a presentation from Mr Matt Wakefield, Horticultural Development Officer, regarding floral bedding and sponsorship displays throughout the Borough.

Mr Wakefield informed the Panel that spring and summer displays of floral bedding were designed "in-house" and were varied each year. Reference was made to a number of projects which had been developed to engage the support and involvement of the community, for example, the "Host of Golden Daffodils Project". Sponsorship displays began in 1999 as part of "Fareham in Bloom". There were now seven main sponsors and the project was totally self-financing. Maintenance of the floral displays was intensive and carried out by the Council's public spaces team headed by Mr Brian Whitehead, Operations Manager.

It was the view of all Panel members that the floral displays on the roundabouts and throughout the Borough were greatly appreciated by both residents and visitors alike.

It was AGREED that :-

- (i) Mr Wakefield be thanked for his very interesting and informative presentation: and
- (ii) Mr Whitehead and his team be also thanked for their contribution in maintaining the Borough's floral displays.

7 GENESIS YOUTH CENTRE, LOCKS HEATH – DEVELOPMENT PLAN

(Minute 10 of 19 March 2003 refers)

The Panel considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Community Strategy which provided details of the Annual Development Plan for the Genesis Centre for 2003/04 (copy of report [le-030917-r02-jmi](#) circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

Members were reminded that at the Panel's meeting on 19 March 2003, it had been agreed that the Annual Development Plan for the Centre would be presented to the Panel in September 2003 by representatives of Genesis Youth Centre.

The Panel was addressed by Mr Sal Thirlway, Senior Youth Worker Hampshire County Youth Service, who was joined by Mrs Tessa Short, Chairman of Genesis Management Committee. Mr Thirlway gave an overview of youth service work in Fareham and went on to explain more specifically the projects, identified in the Development Plan, which were currently taking place at the Genesis Centre. He also advised members of the youth service aims for the future development of the Centre. At the invitation of the Chairman, the Panel was also addressed by Mr Ray Barnard, Hampshire County Youth Service Manager.

A "question and answer" session followed as the Panel considered each section of the Development Plan in more detail. Arising from discussion, it was agreed that Mr Thirlway would provide the Panel with written details of the number of young people who had attended various project sessions during 2003/04. In general, it was the view of members that there was a need for greater usage of the building by young people(Friday and Saturday evenings were mentioned), and more provision of activities and programmes within the Centre which the Panel felt would meet the needs of a wider number of young people in the community.

Following further discussion and consideration of the matter it was AGREED that :-

- (i) a further review of Genesis Youth Centre take place in six months time, ie at the meeting on 3 March 2004;
- (ii) that the written details requested from Mr Thirlway be circulated to all Panel members as soon as the information is available; and

- (iii) that the Genesis Centre representatives be thanked for the presentation and the information provided to the Panel.

8 OVERVIEW PANEL WORK PROGRAMME – 2003/2004

The Panel considered a report by the Director of Leisure and Environment regarding the Panel's Work Programme for 2003/2004 (copy of report [le-030917-r03-jke](#) circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes). Members noted the amendments to the Work Programme detailed in section (ii) of the report.

Referring to the programme for the meeting on 12 November 2003, the Panel was informed that until an appointment has been made to the post of Environmental Partnerships Manager, a presentation and report on that matter would have to be deferred. It was proposed that, in consultation with the Chairman, the Director of Leisure and Environment would agree at which future Panel meeting the matter should be considered.

Regarding the item on Foreshore Recreation, (including beach and river use), which has now been moved to the Work Programme for the meeting on 14 January 2004, the Chairman informed Panel members that they might wish to consider inviting other interested parties/representatives to attend the meeting when this matter was discussed.

It was AGREED:-

- (i) that (as referred to above), the presentation and report on Development of Partnerships scheduled for the meeting on 12 November 2003, be deferred and considered at a future meeting (as agreed by the Director of Leisure and Environment, in consultation with the Chairman of the Panel);
- (ii) that an item (and presentation) on the Review of Community Centres be added to the list of items for consideration at a future meeting of the Panel;
- (iii) that arising from Minute 7 above, an item concerning the review of the Genesis Youth Centre be added to the work programme for the meeting on 3 March 2004; and
- (iv) that subject to the matters referred to in (i) and (ii) above, the Panel's Work Programme for 2003/2004 as detailed in the report be endorsed.

(The meeting started at 6:00pm
and ended at 9.29pm)