COUNCIL – 6 JANUARY 2020

STATEMENT BY CLLR TONY RANDERSON
CABINET MEMBER FOR LEGAL, DEMOCRATIC AND GOVERNANCE

BEREAVEMENT SERVICE

Recent major refurbishments/improvements to Woodlands Chapel’s catafalque (coffin resting platform) and hatch doors have been carried out. New donation and lobby tables have also been purchased. The team have had positive feedback on the new upgrades from service users. Furthermore, a section of gas pipework serving the cremators has been replaced to comply with latest gas safety requirements.

EVENTS

Armed Forces Day National Event Scarborough – 27 June 2020
A Planning Conference took place on 18 November jointly chaired by Scarborough Borough Council and the Royal Navy. The initial meeting ensured that all participants should have met their counterparts involved in the planning and delivery of this significant event, outlining future planning timelines, events, associated arrangements and the roles and responsibilities of the various contributing organisations. This major event is intended to be spectacular and will benefit from significant military assets and VIP guests.

ICT services have developed and launched the official website for the occasion to be held in Scarborough on 27 June 2020. Initial feedback has been excellent. The website will attract more content as we move closer to the event day and can be viewed at https://www.scarborougharmedforcesday.co.uk/

Open Air Theatre

It is very pleasing that a number of acts were announced before Christmas and the sales for these acts are extremely encouraging. 2020 is shaping up to be a good season with a number of high quality acts already booked to perform and more to come in the new year - Lionel Ritchie, Supergrass and Westlife were recently announced.

Outside of the concerts the venue is being used more for a number of additional events. The ‘Tipi Bar’ erected in September opened for Oktoberfest and is hosting parties and weddings through to March 2020. The Council receives a rental fee and profit share for this venture.

Scarborough Sparkle again proved to be a huge success attracting over 20,000 visitors for the event held over the weekend of 29th November – 1st December 2019. The event featured Ice Rinks, Frozen Experience, Yorkshire Coast Radio and over 50 food, drink and craft stalls. An evaluation of the event was carried out over the weekend and the responses to this were very positive around the Open Air Theatre and events at the Open Air Theatre other than just concerts.
Work is continuing around the independent evaluation that I requested for the Open Air Theatre and it is hoped to have the final report early in the New Year. I am aware that the company that we are using has been carrying out telephone surveys of a number of businesses and accommodation providers and the initial responses are clearly showing the value the venue brings to the Borough with many people wanting to see more events happening at the Open Air Theatre.

I will be providing a full report on the evaluations carried out of the venue and the Sparkle event in due course.

**Surf Festival**

On 5th October 2019 Scarborough Surf Festival took place. The event was a huge success receiving very positive feedback from all of the local surf shops, charities, exhibitors and the general public. A number of local surf shops have confirmed that they are on board and willing to offer free surf lessons and water safety sessions for the 2020 Surf Festival, which will be held on Saturday 3rd October 2020. We are currently looking to expand the event to fill a bigger footprint on the North Bay by inviting more stalls (charity and food), utilising the Piazza and possibly involving Hairy Bobs Skate Park.

**Autumn Daze**

Autumn Daze took place on Saturday 26th October in Peasholm Park and despite very miserable weather throughout, many families attended the event and took part in all free activities. Scavenger hunts, primitive fire lighting, various autumn craft sessions and face painting were just a few of the free activities on offer throughout the day. We are currently discussing dates to repeat this event in 2020 with Hidden Horizons (local company which provided many of the activities at the event).

**Sandy Paws**

Sandy Paws will be held in Whitby on Saturday 25th April 2020 at the Bandstand area and a small section of the beach. This event, formerly ‘Paddles and Paws’, aims to inform the public about the seasonal dog ban and informs how to be a more responsible dog owner. Animal charities and animal themed stalls will attend the event along with a talk from Peter Wright (The Yorkshire Vet) and a fun dog show on the beach.

**Evron Centre**

The Evron Centre has seen an increase in the take up of Business units/Office space throughout the month of November with a further two Office unit leases secured. Both are local Filey businesses. The Centre has only one vacant office to let.

It is pleasing to report that The Evron Centre has been appointed as the chosen venue for the new Filey Literature Festival in 2020 which will be held on 22nd May - 24th May 2020.

A new Activities Group for the partially blind and disabled launches at The Evron Centre on Monday 9th December 2019. The Group will meet every Monday 10:30pm - 12noon in the Concert Hall.
Falsgrave Community Resource Centre

Falsgrave Community Resource Centre has recently launched a new Saturday Afternoon Activities group ‘Julie Cannon Drama, Singing and Dancing classes’. This is proving popular with local residents.

The centre is benefitting from Increased repeat bookings : Cambian Group, Humber Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, North Yorkshire County Council with further bookings now been secured throughout 2020 and into 2021.

The newly formed Edgehill Warriors Table Tennis team has proved successful with a number of new enquiries received for Coaching sessions. The first coaching session will commence on Friday 17th January 2020 from 5-6 pm for four weeks run by professional local coach, Ashley Hodgson. The free sessions are available for Ages 13 +

Following the success of last year's Food Fiesta the event will be held again in September 2020. The event will consist of a New Street Food Village and bars. The main hall will also be a venue for live music showcasing new local bands.