

COUNCIL: 27 SEPTEMBER 2018

CULTURE & LEISURE STATEMENT

Flat Holm Heritage Lottery Funding

I am delighted to advise Members that the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) has confirmed that the Council's funding application under the Heritage Grant Scheme has been approved for progression to Development Phase. The funding will enable the Council, in partnership with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and the Flat Holm Society, to ensure the long-term sustainability of the island through investment in infrastructure, an increase in volunteer activity and the development of educational and tourist engagement programmes. The value of the project, when taking into account other contributions from non-HLF grant sources, has the potential to reach circa £2million.

Cardiff Commitment

I am also pleased that services within my portfolio continue to deliver on the Cardiff Commitment and to provide apprenticeships, traineeships, and a wide and diverse range of work experience opportunities. Working with partner organisations, the Parks, Sport, Harbour Authority & Leisure Services within the Economic Development directorate has, at the close of Quarter 2 in 2018/19, provided 44 such opportunities.

In addition to this, the Council's Leisure Services partner, GLL, has recently appointed six Leisure Apprentices on a one-year basis. The apprentices were inducted on 17th September 2018 and, in addition to gaining essential practical experience, will attain a NVQ in Customer Service and the National Pool Lifeguard Qualification.

Major Events

Since the Council last met on 19th July 2018, the Council and its officers have been working hard to deliver and support a rich and diverse programme of events and attractions for our residents and visitors. These included the 2018 Adrian Flux British FIM Speedway Grand Prix, the Pride Cymru Big Weekend, the Cardiff Bay Beach, the Cardiff Harbour Festival, the 2018 Extreme Sailing Series and, of course, the National Eisteddfod returned to Cardiff with a new and innovative no-fence model that was very well received by all who attended. I am sure that Members will wish to join me in thanking all those involved in the development and delivery of an exceptional summer of varied and accessible events and activities for our residents and visitors alike.

Homecoming Celebration for Geraint Thomas

Thousands attended the celebrations held in Cardiff on 9th August 2018 to welcome home Wales' cycling superstar and 2018 Tour De France winner, Geraint Thomas MBE. He is the first Welshman to win the Tour de France and only the third British cyclist to do so following previous wins by both Sir Bradley Wiggins and Chris Froome OBE. Geraint was given a hero's welcome outside the Senedd in Cardiff Bay before leading a peloton of young riders from Welsh Cycling accredited go-ride clubs up St Mary Street to the front of Cardiff Castle where he went on stage to be presented to the crowds gathered on Castle Street, which was closed for the event.

Born in Birchgrove, Cardiff and educated at Whitchurch High School, Geraint began to cycle at the age of 10 for the Maindy Flyers Cycling Club and has gone on to win three World Championships; two Olympic gold medals; and now the most prestigious cycling race in the world – the Tour de France. Cardiff is immensely proud of his historic sporting achievement and his tremendous contribution to both Welsh sport and to cycling.

Cardiff Story Museum

I am sure that Members will be pleased to learn that the Cardiff Story Museum team are working closely with House of Fraser to ensure that the long history of the store, as well as the stories of those who have lived, worked and shopped there, is not lost following the announcement in June 2018 that store was earmarked for closure in 2019. The museum's manager and curator have met with the store manager to view the store's archive, furniture, objects and photographs, and to discuss plans for preserving and recording the store's heritage. The team has already held two coffee mornings with former Howells and House of Fraser employees so that they could record their stories and memories of working at the Cardiff store. We will continue to liaise with the store over the coming months as its future becomes clearer.

Public Space Protection Order Consultation

The Council has the responsibility for the management and maintenance of public spaces across the city, including parks, adopted highways, sports grounds, schools and cemeteries. We are currently consulting on a proposed Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) that would introduce dog control measures in an effort to tackle anti-social behaviour in the city in relation to dogs and, specifically, dog fouling. The response to date has been good, with over 1,000 responses being submitted in the first three days of the consultation, which started on 10th September 2018 and ends on 22nd October 2018. Further details relating to the consultation are available on the Council's website at: <https://www.cardiff.gov.uk/ENG/resident/Leisure-parks-and-culture/Public-Spaces-Protection-Orders/Pages/default.aspx>

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Cabinet Member for Culture & Leisure
21st September 2018