

## **Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Panel Update – October 2019**

### **1. Community/Voluntary Sector - Grants and Community Development, Woodlands, Parks and Open Spaces, Arts, Heritage and Special Events.**

#### **Community / Voluntary Sector**

**Grants** – There is still one outstanding devolved grant payment due to monitoring information not being received by the Council. A further request for the information to be submitted will be sent to the organisation.

There were 11 applications to the Small, Arts and Health and Wellbeing grants funding. 9 were approved for funding by the Grants Committee in September.

Corby Clinical Commissioning Group have agreed £5,000 match funding in partnership with the Council to support small Health and Well Being projects up to £2,000 for 2019/20.

One Off Grants – 84 Organisations applied for a share of the £300k allocated for 2019/20 to voluntary and community organisations, of these 20 organisations were awarded funding. Quarterly monitoring is being collated and will be presented to the Grants Committee in December.

**Corby Lottery** - The Grants Committee has agreed to distribute an equal share of the £14,680 Corby Lottery ticket sales funding received over the past year to current lottery good causes. This is funding the Corby lottery receives that has not been allocated to any particular good cause by the ticket purchaser.

On Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June a Corby Lottery bolt on Summer Sizzling Prize Draw for a BBQ and a £50.00 food voucher took place. The promotion of this prize draw increased those playing the lottery by 15 supporters. The number of tickets sold each week continues to be steady over the past 6 months, fluctuating been 1022 -1046 tickets. Future prize draws are; Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Autumn Prize Draw – Win an evening at the theatre and restaurant voucher and Christmas Prize Draw – Win a hamper on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December.

**Community Centres** - Structural repair work budget approved for Beanfield Community Centre and works will be completed this autumn.

Contract awarded for replacing the heating systems at Kingswood Neighbourhood Centre, Danesholme Communicare Centre and the Autumn Centre. Works will start at the Autumn Centre before the end of October.

Stephenson Way Community Centre – Has had a number of committee members stand down and is recruiting new Committee Members at their next AGM.

#### **Woodlands, Parks and Open Spaces**

Capital project is now underway at East Carlton Countryside Park. Planning permission approval granted. A new café counter has been installed as part of the first phase of the improvements planned.

The contract has now been awarded for improvements to open space pathways at West Glebe, Coronation Park, Breck Close, Boating Lake, Burghley Drive and Kingsley Drive. Works are to commence by the end of October.

Corby Woodland Project – coppicing season has begun on site. Volunteers are in decline and a possible HLF bid is being explored for a Community Engagement Officer post. Bulk firewood sales are increasing due to a large number of seasoned wood now available.

Fully Fused Ltd has been commissioned to provide the firework display after Kimbolton Fireworks went into administration earlier this year.

Due to difficulties with recruiting volunteers the Halloween evening event at East Carlton Park will not be happening. A variety of daytime children's Halloween activities have been organised during the half term at East Carlton Park instead.

A report is being presented to One Corby Policy Committee in November with regards to improving cycling pathways between the Railway Station, Tesco Store and Town Centre. It is proposed this is completed in partnership with NCC Highways.

### **Arts & Heritage**

Corby Heritage Centre exhibition "Corby Steelworks: Loss of an Industry" finished in September and is replaced by "Corby and The Newton Rebellion". This exhibition looks at the involvement of families from Corby in the Midland wide rebellion that took place in the early 18<sup>th</sup> Century against the land enclosure by wealthy landlords which effectively took land from small landowners with ancient farming rights. The Villagers that rose up against the landowners paid a heavy price for their cause with many imprisoned and some executed for their heroic efforts to protect their livelihoods. The exhibition is on from Mid-September and ends in February 2020.

Corby Heritage Centre is working with some local schools in an outreach capacity taking objects to them that explain Corby's ancient history, including objects such as Roman plaster and coins from the Weldon Villa, Steelwork films and parts of the PLUTO pipeline. It is hoped that this work can be expanded over time.

Corby Heritage Centre is in the final stages of obtaining a Gold Roman Coin from the British Museum's Portable Antiquities scheme. The coin was found in the Cottingham area and may have been used as bullion by Vikings living or trading in the area, this gives the council collection its first object connected to the Vikings. The coin will form the basis of any future talks around Corby's connection to the Vikings and provides a link to that part of Corby's past.

## **2. Well-Being Services - Sports Facilities/Healthier Lifestyles/Sports & Play Development**

### **Corby East Midlands International Pool**

The swimming pool has recently hosted the Northampton Summer Swimming Festival. This swimming event is used as a qualifying round for national and international swimmers to gain qualifying times for national finals. Corby's Swimming Club's 50m 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Open weekend event attracted over 1000 swimmers.

The National Skills Diving organisers have approached the pool to host the national final in July 2020. This is a fantastic opportunity for Corby to host this prestigious competition that is usually hosted in London, Edinburgh, Sheffield Luton and Leeds.

In July the Pool celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with the help of local and regional media, past and present staff and customers. The Mayor hosted an evening where he presented a number of certificates to children from the swimming lesson and diving program. Customers were also invited to coffee mornings and the cutting of the cake alongside offering free swimming for children, goodie bags and beach balls with the day ending in a diving display from Corby Steel Divers.

Summer pool activities were really popular this year with a mix of rookie lifeguard, surf and turf activity sessions and start diving taster sessions. This was complimented by the holiday swimming promotion costing under 16's just £1 to swim.

A successful TATA Kids of Steel Triathlon was delivered through a mix of partners including the Sports Development Team, British Triathlon and TATA steel. The event was attended by the Corby and Oundle School Sports Partnership and attracted in excess of 1,200 children.

Capital projects continue with the refurbishment of the enclosed showers and cubicles in the changing village, painting, deck level grill replacement, entry gate system and LED replacement, all due to be completed by December 2019. Further works to be completed include the refurbishment of ventilation and pool filters, starting blocks, new lane ropes and UV filtration system.

### **Corby Health and Fitness.**

A number of recent promotions to increase sales have been delivered including a 12 week Festival of Fitness, come and try 3 day passes at community events, outdoor cycling classes at the recent "Get Active Day" and the annual membership offer. Work is now underway on developing the Corporate Membership Scheme.

The team has reviewed and refreshed the studio timetable introducing GRITT training, boot camps, aqua classes, aqua circuits and swim on referral. Les Mills virtual classes are also available at Lodge Park Sports Centre allowing members to access a range of classes 7 days a week.

The past year has seen 332 GP referrals with a 61% completion rate against a target of 40%. Cancer Rehab training funded through Public Health will be completed in November with final assessment in December 2019 allowing referrals from January 2020.

**Golf Course** - The Mayor has opened the new practice facilities as part of a partnership between Corby Borough Council and Priors Hall Golf Club funded by the Mick George Sports Fund, CBC Small Grants and by the Golf Club totalling £2k. The Priors Hall Golf Club volunteers continue to provide invaluable support in making improvements to the course.

The Golf Course hosted a number of county competitions such as the Hollingsworth Final and the Izzard Trophy.

#### **Healthier Lifestyles:**

**Public Health Funding** has been awarded to six Corby projects through its Health and Wellbeing forum, Culture & Leisure officers have worked closely with bidders to develop accountability agreements and delivery plans for projects which include:

• Cancer Rehabilitation	£4,760
• Pop Up Greenpatch	£57,495
• B Active Family project	£41,326
• Community in Sheds	£39,320
• Children and Young People Mental Health Project	£32,420
• LEAP project	£29,500

All projects are at various stages of delivery and need to be completed within the next 12 months.

**50 Healthcare professionals** received a presentation on Culture and Leisure Services that not only gave an overview of the variety of activities but also provided a number of options that GPs/nurses could signpost patients to. Following this Officers have been invited to present at Woodsend Patient Participation Group and to attend a meeting with Social Prescribers from Lakeside Surgery.

**Northamptonshire Healthy Workplace Standards:** Following an assessment from Public Health, CBC has been awarded “Embedded Status” within the Northamptonshire Healthy Workplace Standards in the areas of Leadership, Absence Management and Health and Safety. These are the first three modules of 12 with CBC being only the second business in Northamptonshire and the first Local Authority to achieve the awards. Officers will be gathering evidence to support further modules.

**Walking for Health:** a new health walk started in August leaving from Hazelwood Neighbourhood Centre. The walk is volunteer led and advertising has been increased to try and increase the number of people attending.

**Homeless:** Public Healthcare has supported a clinic for the homeless at West Glebe Pavilion providing flu vaccinations prior to the winter months as well as screening for hepatitis, TB, HIV status and possibly liver scanning.

#### **West Glebe and Hazelwood Neighbourhood Centre:**

**Corby Community Shed:** having successfully gained funding from Public Health, CBC will be working in partnership with the Kingswood and Hazel Leys (KHL) Big Local to develop a Community Shed in the grounds of Woodsend Bowling Club. A planning application has been submitted with the outcome expected in November. The Project is aimed at (but not exclusive to) older people who often experience social isolation/exclusion/loneliness, frailty and mild/moderate mental health issues.

**West Glebe:** a number of special events were held over the summer months including the Sausage and Cider Festival, Corby Carnival, 300<sup>th</sup> Park Run, B-Active Family Fun Day and Cyclocross as well as the official opening of the Park improvements (seating and picnic area; table tennis; outdoor fitness rig) by the Mayor of Corby. All events were well attended. The benches on the Park have recently been painted by the Friends of West Glebe.

### **Sport and Play Development**

**Shape Dance:** Following the successful award of Heritage Lottery funding Shape Dance have started their 50 years celebrations by forming a reunion dance group who have worked throughout the summer to film a routine that will be shown at the annual Christmas shows. Nearly 70 ex dancers took part in the classes and the performance at East Carlton Park.

30 dancers recently attended a master dance class with Louie Spence in Leicester, they took part in a technique class with Louie and then other professional choreographers took classes in Musical theatre, Contemporary and Commercial dance. The trip was part funded by the Travers Foundation and a selection of photographs and videos of the day will be shown at the Christmas show.

**Table Tennis England** - Awarded £2,986 from PING! to fund 2 outdoor tables at East Carlton Country Park. The tables have been well received being used by all ages and abilities. Corby SMASH Table Tennis Club also ran 3 successful coaching sessions on the outdoor tables and more sessions will run next year. CBC is working with PING! to identify more possible sites across the Borough for tables.

**B-Active Family Fun Festival** – The event (featuring National Playday and Cyclefest) was held in August at West Glebe. Over 4,000 people from babies and toddlers right through to great grandparents attended the 'Free' event. Various organisations also attended the event to promote family health and well-being services. The Friends of West Glebe in partnership with Corby Borough Council obtained the funding for the event, which was awarded from Northamptonshire Community Foundation.

**SPLAT** – The SPLAT play-scheme ran every week day during the summer holidays. Each week had a theme such as 'Get Active' and 'Spy week' and had a programme of daily activities for the children to choose from. Between 16-44 children attended daily. The play-scheme is based at Lodge Park Sports Centre and is Ofsted registered.

**Stephenson Way (Penn Green) Play Area** – £60,000 in funding has been awarded to the Council by Communities Foundation (WREN) to rejuvenate the Stephenson Way Play area in Corby. The project will be going out to tender and live on the portal for play companies to submit their design bids in mid-October 2019. There will be comprehensive consultation with the local school and community to help choose the winning design and the new play area will be in place by spring 2020.

**B-Active Family Project** – This new project starting in November 2019, will support the Corby community to participate in regular physical activity as a family unit, to improve their physical and mental wellbeing. The project will offer a variety of physical activity and sports sessions to Corby residents and up skill a network of community volunteers. A 25 hour a week post is currently being recruited and a network of coaches and instructors will deliver the activity sessions. This is a 1 year long funded project and aims to engage 250 families + 300 more through festivals and events.

**Sports Awards** – This year's annual Corby Sports Awards is on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Best Western Hotel. The event is funded by sponsorship from local businesses and organisations and winners go onto the Northamptonshire Sports Awards in November 2019.

### **3. General**

**Safeguarding** – A total of 4 Safeguarding training courses have been held for staff in 2019 with future training courses planned for November and in December at the Council Depot. These are available for all Council staff to attend. An internal audit is also being undertaken for Safeguarding and will be completed by December 2019.

**Corby Visitor Forum (Love Corby)** – The group is now known as Love Corby Networking Group. The quarterly meeting format has changed to networking events. The first meeting in this new format took place on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July at The Best Western Hotel. It was a free event and open to all businesses/organisations whether a subscriber or not, 52 people attended the event.

The next networking meeting will take place in November. Currently the number of subscribers to Love Corby is 36. Mandy Young MBE is the chair person for the group and Graeme Miller from Ace Furniture has joined the Marketing Group which continues to meet monthly. Love Corby is a bronze member of Surprise Northamptonshire. A facebook competition will be held at the end of October to continue to raise the profile of Love Corby to residents and businesses. Prizes have been donated by Love Corby subscribers.