REPORT OF LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE

(Meeting held on 7 March 2000)

1. TOWARDS A CULTURAL STRATEGY (REPORT B) (MINUTE NO. 74)

The Committee has agreed a draft Cultural Strategy document for publication, with a view to consulting with partner organisations on its final content.

The purpose of producing a Cultural Strategy for the District is to promote closer cooperation among providers of cultural services, such as the arts; media; sports; parks; museums; libraries; built heritage; countryside; play-grounds; and tourism. With the exception of museums and libraries, this Committee has an involvement in the provision of all of these services.

Partner organisations will now be invited to comment on the preparation of the District Council's Cultural Strategy. Comments received will be fed into the Council's Best Value review, which will help contribute to the process of continuous improvement of the Council's services.

2. COMMUNITY USE OF HANGAR FARM, TOTTON (REPORT C) (MINUTE NO. 75)

The Committee has agreed the allocation of up to £144,000 in developers' contributions in support of Totton and Eling Town Council's scheme for community facilities and open space provision at Hangar Farm, Totton. The scheme comprises the securing and structural renovation of the building. It is a first phase that will allow basic community use. The Town Council has considered the operation of the building in this phase and has made revenue provision for it.

The request for developers' contributions was made in two respects. Firstly, an allocation of £114,000 from those funds held for community facilities and secondly, an allocation of up to £30,000 from funds held for open space.

The cost of the first phase is £262,200, which will make the building secure and usable.

An allocation of £114,000 from community facilities will only leave a very small sum for other schemes. It is anticipated however, that this scheme is the only remaining one which will require major investment. Also, it is likely there will be other funds to accrue from further development and it has always been envisaged that the other reserved community site in the south of the development area, will be largely self-funded within the community. It was therefore suggested that the sum be allocated from community facilities funds. It was also suggested that the allocation from open space funds should be subject to further clarification on the design and operation of the scheme.

Given these allocations there will be a capital shortfall of £118,200. The Town Council will seek other sources of funding, such as from historic building grants. After seeking to raise as much as possible through other means, the Town Council will meet the remaining shortfall. The revenue implications of the scheme will also be met by the Town Council.

This scheme will secure the future of a listed building and will at the same time provide local opportunities giving an outlet for many people to make positive use of leisure time.

3. DOGS ON BEACHES (REPORT E) (MINUTE NO. 77)

The Committee has agreed to commence consultations for the introduction of byelaws for the control of dogs on beaches.

The draft scheme has been drawn up to control dog fouling on four beach areas in the District:-

Barton-on-Sea Hordle Cliff Milford (Westover) Calshot Beach

Consultation will be based on requiring dogs to be kept on leads in the summer season in certain areas. This measure is favoured because it will make identification of the dog with its owner easier and having the dog close at hand is more likely to encourage greater rates of clear up.

If the scheme is implemented, there will be a need to adopt byelaws for dogs on leads. The process will take a good deal of time. It means that any implementation will not be until the summer season of 2001, which allows scope for more consultation in taking the idea forward.

A further report will be brought to the Committee on the results of the consultation exercise, before any final decision is made. Any recommendation for the adoption of byelaws will be submitted to the Council for determination.

4. GRANT AID FUND APPLICATIONS (REPORT G) (MINUTE NO. 79)

The Committee has made grant allocations to the 18 organisations listed below.

The Committee deferred a decision on a grant for ArtSway, pending further information on the implications for that organisation should District Council funding be reduced.

The Committee has reviewed its level of grant to Southern Arts and has reduced its funding from £3,998 in 1999/00 to £500 in 2000/01.

Members have also asked for a report on summer holiday play schemes.

The total amount of the grants made was £35,285 and a further report on the allocation of the balance of the budget is to be made to the next meeting.

Name of Organisation	Amount of Grant (£)
South and West Concerts Board	500
Southern Arts	500
New Forest Ninth Centenary Trust	5,800
New Forest Branch of Learning Alliance	1,300
Lymington and New Milton Pre-School Learning Alliance	1,500
Ringwood and District Pre-School Learning Alliance	1,200
Forest Bus	3,000
New Forest (East) Sports Councils - Operation	850
New Forest (East) Sports Councils – GA Funding	4,000
New Forest (South) Sports Councils – Operation	880
New Forest (South) Sports Councils – GA Funding	2,585
New Forest (West) Sports Councils – Operation	1,095
New Forest (West) Sports Councils – GA Funding	325
Ringwood Disabled Swim Club	750
Boldre War Memorial Hall	4,000
Provisional allocation for Summer Holiday Play Schemes	7,000
TOTAL	£35,285

(GA = General Administration)

Councillor J A G Hutchins JP CHAIRMAN

(Ctteemtg/cttee/Ls070300) Report