

BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL

DOWNS COMMITTEE

31st January 2011

Report of: The Director of Neighbourhoods

Title: The Downs 150 year Celebrations

Ward: N/A

Officer Presenting Report: Vicki Abel, Project Development Officer

Contact Telephone Number: (0117) 9223868

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be noted.

Summary

To update the Committee on preparations for the 150 year celebration of the Downs Act.

The significant issues in the report are:

- Programme of events without HLF funding.
- Programme of events with HLF funding

Policy

1. Not applicable.

Consultation

2. Internal:

Cellan Michael, Estates Manager
Robert Westlake, Downs Ranger.
Amanda Grubb, Festivals and Events Officer.
Tony Whitmore, Principal Accountant
Frances Horner, Senior Solicitor

3. External:

Sylvia Townsend, Councillor and member of the Downs Committee.
Mandy Leivers, Avon Wildlife Project.
Francis Greenacre, Merchant Venturer and member of the Downs Committee.
Martin Collins FODAG
Robin Hayward FODAG

Context

4. At the last Downs Committee meeting in November, £25,000 was confirmed for the project from the Downs Reserve. An additional bid for £25,000 has been submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund to support the project. The outcome of this application is likely to be known by the end of February 2011.
5. The Working group are now able to continue progressing the programme of events listed in option 1
6. Events listed in option 2 will be progressed by the group once HLF funding confirmed.
7. Lead Officers or co-ordinators to lead on each event or activity have been identified.
8. Amanda Grubb from the Events team is leading on the Picnic (22nd May 2011)
9. An Officer from Marketing and Comms. will lead on the opening event

Proposal

10. The following events will be held with the funding confirmed by the Downs Committee. (Total budget £25,000)

OPTION 1

- Initial Opening Event/Photo opportunity
- Display of historic photographs in Central Library.
- Geo. Physics Survey of Clifton Camp to complete work started in 2010.

- Series of guided walks throughout the year.
- Commemorative tree planting
- Fun Run. (tbc)
- Victorian themed picnic.

The following events will be held in addition to those listed above if HLF funding is secured. (total budget £50,000)

OPTION 2

- History Trail with information boards and trail leaflet.
- Oral History Project.
- Cricket Match.

Please note: The Cricket match has been included in option 2, however if the contingency (£2500) included in option 1 is not used it will be possible to go ahead with the cricket.

11 Other Options Considered

No other options considered

12 Risk Assessment

A risk assessment has not been carried out.

13 Equalities Impact Assessment

Not applicable.

14 Legal and Resource Implications

Legal:

The Clifton and Durdham Downs Act (Bristol) Act 1861 provides that the Downs should remain as a place for the resort and recreation of the citizens of Bristol, and that a committee should be appointed to manage them. The recommendations in this report are within the powers of conferred by this statute duties with which the Council must comply in connection with this issue.

Legal advice given by:

Frances Horner, Senior Solicitor

15 Financial:

(a) Revenue
£25, 000 from Downs Reserve.

(b) Capital

Land

The land is under the control of the Downs Committee.

Personnel

Not applicable.

Appendices:

None

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers: None