

Minutes of Community Well-Being Delivery Group meeting held on Monday 21 July 2009

Present

John Coombe Chairman, Jane Sharp HAPP Manager, John Pollard HAPP, Richard Allen Cornwall Council - Leisure, Maxine Hardy Cornwall Council – Localism, Bella Richards Hayle Football Club, Don McGeorge Hayle Area Forum, Alan Conquest Countryman Volley Ball Club, Richard Horwell Hayle Town Council, Malcolm Stephens Hayle Activity Centre, Bob Mims Hayle Water Sports Association, Graham Williams Hayle Surf Life Saving Club, John Wallis Hayle and District Bowling Club, Richard Sims Hayle Canoe Club, Harry Blakeley Hayle Town Council and Margaret Tanner Hayle in Bloom and Churches Together, Rachel Bromley Hayle Netball Club and Claire Casey HAPP.

Apologies

Brian Capper, Chris Lello, Roy Angove, Paul Birch, Keith Dibley, Tatia Mitchell, Clive Polkinghorne and John Williams

Chairman's Welcome

John Coombe welcomed everyone and introduced Richard Allen and Maxine Hardy. He then pointed out that as Tom Daly had just won the world gold high diving platform medal, it seemed an appropriate evening to discuss sports facilities. Having mentioned that the group had not met for ten months, he outlined the evening's agenda and invited Richard Allen to speak.

Cornwall Council – West Cornwall priorities for Sports and Leisure facilities and Activities (Richard Allen, West Area Manager)

Richard Allen introduced himself explained he had previously worked for Kerrier District Council. He had now been in post for just four months and his priorities had been to:

- a) transfer staff into new structures at Cornwall Council and bring everyone together into one service
- b) find out about existing facilities and the sports offer in the 'Penwith' area
- c) work through new corporate arrangements under Cornwall Council
- d) start delivering services

The emerging Service Plan covers 3 main areas: facilities, outreach and community leisure (or sports development).

Facilities

Existing facilities are Helston Sports Centre, St Ives and Penzance Leisure Centres, Jubilee Pool and Hayle Pool. They are involved with Hayle Pool via assisting with grant funding for life guards. There are also a number of other facilities in the area run by the private and voluntary sectors.

Outreach

They run an activities scheme all year, including term-time and school holidays. The Summer 2009 programme will be launched next week. This is partnership-based and involves schools, other agencies and charities across

the area. Whilst the average project is dependent upon minimal budget from the Council and is largely self-sustaining, some activities are run on more of a commercial basis, such as the mobile skate park which generates income that sustains community activities.

Community leisure (or sports development) - four sub-divisions:

- *Community Sports Networks* – this is a focal point for all the sports agencies. Active Penwith was the first one in the County to get going and this serves the former Penwith area. Energise West serves the Kerrier area. The network allows key players come together and work in partnership with local sports clubs to deliver action plans. In their first year, they have been very successful in drawing down funding to deliver several key projects.
- *The Hub Club* - Carn Brea is a purpose-made facility being developed to support local sports clubs and provide a “one stop shop” for sports clubs and anyone interested in participation.
- *Sports Development Team* – the team is involved in several projects including the Jubilee Pool development plan; St Just Sports Centre and Hayle Open Air Pool. A CC officer, Ceri Harvey, has been allocated to look at the future of the Hayle Open Air Pool and she will be working with the Town Council, pool users and local clubs to put together a development plan.
- *Stage 1 Lottery application for 3 projects totalling £500,000.* We should know within the next 4 weeks whether we are through to Stage 2. The three projects are:
 - Community cycling project – this will build up the cycling infrastructure across the West;
 - An outreach development project – this will be aimed at young people across the West. It will be tailored to fit community needs and link with the community networks.
 - Water sports project - we are hoping to appoint an officer for three years who will bring together water sports provision and will link schools, clubs and the private sector in the West, Hayle could play a key role. At the moment this is very fragmented, particularly for surfing and windsurfing. There are two watersports facilities within the Hayle area, these are the Hayle Open Air Pool (owned by hayle Town Council) and a disused building at Godrevy (owned by the National Trust).

(Richard Allen has since advised us the dates for the lottery project have now been changed by Sport England –

- *Stage 1 notification is end of September.*
- *Stage 2 notification is January 2010*
- *Project start, subject to funding is April 2010.)*

John Coombe invited Jane Sharp to outline HAPP's position.

HAPP's position

Jane handed round a report document which summarised progress to date. She suggested that it would be beneficial to determine what sports facilities are available at the moment, what the demand might be and where the gaps were. As sports funding was becoming harder to secure, it might be that we could make some of the smaller projects happen (such as equipment or storage space), whilst still developing the business case for larger projects (such as sports buildings/centres). At the back of report was an outline, based on Sport England guidance notes, showing the different stages and information needed when putting a business case and/or feasibility together.

John Coombe thanked Jane for her report.

John then invited those clubs present to have their say. He started with asking Malcolm Stephens to speak about the Hayle Activity Centre.

Hayle Activity Centre

Malcolm Stephens informed the group that he was the founder member of the Hayle Activity Group. This was set up as a Not for Profit charitable organisation. Committee members are local representatives from the Hayle and District areas. The committee's principal remit is the acquisition of a piece of land, the construction of an Activity Centre, appointment of a Management Committee (to run the Centre) and to oversee the long-term sustainability of the Centre. Malcolm explained that research has shows that more than 85% of the area's population are in favour of a new activity centre. The proposed project will receive the full support of the community health, police, social services, children's centre, churches, Penwith housing and many other national sporting and social organisations.

It is vitally important that the centre is of sufficient size, i.e. eight courts, in order to achieve the maximum flexibility and long-term sustainability. The proposed centre will consist of a multi-disciplined combined multi-sports/community hall able to seat 600+ people, a multi-point techno gym, a dedicated climbing centre, stage, sauna, shower/changing facilities to cater for 76 persons (male and female), an Ofsted-registered crèche, bar/refreshment facilities, a cyber centre and a reception area.

It will provide facilities that will cater for a full range of indoor community activities, such as disability sport including wheelchair sport, badminton for seniors, juniors and up to County standard, netball for juniors, seniors and up to County standard, five-a-side football for all age groups and cricket, plus the likes of five-a-side indoor football during the winter and practice nets for cricket. It would provide the opportunity for the cricket club to start a league involving other cricket clubs from the surrounding districts.

It will have a gymnastics club, trampolining and rock climbing. There will be a full-size volleyball court, indoor archery, basketball, martial arts, roller hockey, aerobics, short tennis, boxing, table tennis, group fitness, extreme sports. It will have a kinetic gym for serious illness rehabilitation. It will generate a half century club for morning activities and have a healthy walking and cycling club. It will have a youth dance club and a dance studio. It will be suitable for multi-sports sessions for corf ball. We have been asked to build a mums club to be run as a parent and toddler group. It will give the opportunity for concerts, conferences, exhibitions, seminars, youth parties and many other activities. It is designed as a multi-purpose hall.

The land for Stages 1, 1A and 2 (there are three stages) is being donated to the Hayle Activity Group for the use of the residents of Hayle by the Runnells family. It is a 2½ acre site adjacent to Penpol Sports Field and the Hayle Tennis Club. We consider the catchment area to include a population in excess of 35,000 which includes St Ives, because a considerable number of the activities that we can provide are not available in St Ives. The numbers are swelled by visitors.

Bob Mims commented that the project should be the whole, it should not be pared down. It should make provision for indoor sports which is so desperately needed in West Cornwall.

Other clubs

John Coombe invited those around the table to speak in turn about their club's situation. The points raised are outlined in the table below:

Speaker/Club Represented	Facilities/Requirements
Richard Sims, Hayle Canoe Club	The main problem is changing facilities. The club has two 20ft containers and one 40 foot container for storage, these are located on the quay. The club has put sheets of ply between the two containers to create makeshift changing rooms, but they leak quite badly. We've no running water, toilets or shower facilities. To pay for the services to be linked up to install toilets would have been £7,000. We'll have to move the containers when the harbour development happens. Apart from that, the club is going well. Links have been re-established with the schools through the Penwith Sports Partnership.
John Wallis, Hayle and District Bowling Club	The old club closed in 2000. After several years raising money, we built a new green in 2006 and a clubhouse in 2008. We still need money for proper changing rooms, at the moment we're using a Portacabin. Altogether we've raised about £¼ million and need another £50k to finish. None of the monies came from Sport England. There are now 80 members, which is far more than we expected and total usage is well over 1,000 people every year including visiting teams and County games. The County presidents and Vice Presidents are coming in September. The actual club is doing quite well.
Bella	We've just started a scheme for the under-8s (fun football). We

Richards, Hayle Football Club	also have ladies and veteran teams. A new building is going up to replace the one which burnt down.
Rachel Bromley, Hayle Netball Club	At the moment we have to travel to Penzance (Mounts Bay School) or Penryn to train and play as there are no suitable facilities in Hayle. League rules changed so we can't use the Football Club any longer. The secondary school courts are not big enough either to meet match requirements. There are about 40 members. We finance the use of facilities from our subs.
Bob Mims, Hayle Water Sports Association	<p>The Water Sports Association was formed 12+ years ago. Its original objective was to try and provide a roof to the swimming pool and incorporate a home for all the craft based water sports clubs. At that time there were quite a number of clubs, there still is. The Rowing Club now goes to Stithians. Other clubs involved were the Canoe Club, the Gig Club and the Sailing Club (this was called the 'St Ives Sailing Club').</p> <p>The project would have provided everything under one canopy. Lack of finance prevented it from going ahead. Sport England said that they would not provide or even consider money for roofing an existing swimming pool. Later, Sport England monies went to facilities in St Ives and Penzance. Planning permission was obtained for a reduced scheme designed to incorporate the swimming pool at a later date. The concept was ground floor storage, with club room and other club facilities on the first floor. Planning permission ran out February 2009.</p>
Graham Williams, Hayle Surf Life Saving Centre	Our clubhouse is fairly new, but we have to send 100+ members to Carn Brea Swimming Pool or Penzance Swimming Pool for two sessions a week. Lots of the children are members of Carn Brea Swimming Club and/or St Ives Swimming Club, because there's no Swimming Club in Hayle. Our main interest is to have a Hayle Swimming Pool and some storage down at the quay.
Alan Conquest, Countryman Volley Ball Club	At present they use Ludgvan Hall, but its really too small. To play national Volleyball we have to travel a lot, either to Truro or somewhere else with a big enough hall. We're the biggest volleyball club in Cornwall and are accredited. We've won divisions one and two last year and expect to do so again this year. But we can't run competitions here.

Further discussion established the following:

Cornwall Sports Facilities Audit – this has just been completed for Cornwall Council by KKP consultants. It looks at sports facilities and identifies areas of potential growth. This document will be key in informing and prioritising Cornwall Council funding and external funders. No-one present at the meeting had been contacted about the audit, however Richard explained that local research had been carried out by his sports development officers. If the audit report does not reflect Hayle's requirements, then we will need to ensure our needs are understood by Cornwall Cornwall.

Malcolm reported that based on the initial proposal for the Hayle Activity Centre, Sport England had indicated they might consider a figure of around £870,000. SITA might offer about £70,000, which would have to be matched. One difficulty is the issue of 20% of St Ives Swimming Pool's users coming from Hayle, meaning any new facility in Hayle would impact on the viability of other facilities. However, because St Ives and Penzance have better sports facilities, this should not mean that there is nothing in Hayle. To secure funding from Sport England they will need to be convinced there is a case for a facility in Hayle. The fact is that St Ives has no space to build a Leisure Centre. Malcolm said he hoped Cornwall Council will support the idea of a Hayle Activity Centre, as this would help secure funding.

John Pollard explained that a long time ago the politicians of Penwith decided that Penzance was the right place to put Penwith's sports facilities, not Hayle. The community fought against this. Perhaps with Cornwall Council we'll now be able to have joined up thinking.

With a view to sharing facilities in Hayle, it was pointed out that there is no Sports Hall at the school, nor a court in Hayle where sports like netball can be played. So it is not a matter sharing, but the facilities to share.

Richard Allen re-iterated that if their Rurality bids succeed, then Hayle will be a focal point for the watersports project starting January next year. He went on to say that in the run up to 2012 games, the focus for Sport England is on delivering activities, coaching and supporting smaller projects, rather than the capital build of new big facilities.

John Pollard said it was important that Richard, Jane and Maxine get together before the next meeting and present to this group some ideas of ways forward using the data from the meeting and research on the availability of grants.

John Coombe asked that everyone came to the next meeting to discuss further.

Any Other Business

Margaret Tanner reminded everyone that Hayle was representing the South West in the national finals of the Britain in Bloom competition this year. Judging is on the 3rd August. She also invited everyone to the Songs of Praise next Sunday (26 July) at the recreation ground.

Date and Time of next meeting

John Coombe thanked all for coming and confirmed that the next meeting was arranged for 15 September 2009, which would continue discussions on sports and leisure facilities in Hayle.

Meeting closed 9.15 pm

ACTION

Jane Sharp, Richard Allen and Maxine Hardy to meet prior to next meeting.