

**MILLENNIUM SUB COMMITTEE
20 JULY 1998**

Present: Councillor Egan (Chairman), Councillors Barnard, Blatchford,
Fawcett, Flood, Good and Mrs Pile

Substitute Member: Councillor Jones

Also Present: Councillors Bettison and North

Apologies for Absence were received from:
Councillor Mrs Keene

9. Substitute Members

In accordance with Standing Order No. 38 Councillor Jones attended the meeting as a substitute for Councillor Mrs Keene.

10. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Sub Committee held on 17 June 1998 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

11. General Report (Items 1 to 7)

The Director of Leisure Services introduced a general report covering items 1 to 7 of the agenda; under the following headings:

(i) Religious Celebrations

The Director of Leisure Services had attended a meeting regarding "Churches Together", a group representing 21 churches across the Borough with the aim of co-ordinating and planning various activities around the millennium. The group was being led by Reverend Flint and the Director of Leisure Services had met with him to offer appropriate support to that group once its plans were underway. It was proposed that as this group was leading on religious activities, the Council should not proactively pursue these areas themselves.

(ii) Arts

The Director of Leisure Services had met with Tim Brinkman, Director of South Hill Park and had identified an opportunity to develop the South Hill Park Bracknell Festival in the year 2000 in order to develop arts activities for the millennium. Contact had been made with the Council's arts adviser regarding a proposed arts activity in schools to generate images of the Borough which could be reproduced onto banners to be placed across the Borough.

(iii) Sports

Investigation was currently being undertaken into either a one-route half marathon or a full marathon within the Borough for the year 2000.

(iv) History

No progress had as yet been made although there would be the option of contributing to the Open University's initiative of "History for the Millennium".

(v) Environment

No progress had as yet been made.

(vi) Co-ordination within the Council

Each department had now identified an officer who would be the first point of contact for millennium activities.

(vii) Information for the Community

The Community Council for Berkshire and the Berkshire Association for Local Councils had called a public meeting to stimulate celebratory activity and provide ideas and information regarding the millennium. It was felt that the community co-ordinating role within Bracknell Forest Borough would be required and could be undertaken by the Sub Committee. However, more work was required in order to understand all the initiatives across the Borough and therefore it was proposed that the Partnership Officer co-ordinate a meeting involving the local community to develop ideas. It was considered that the millennium celebrations toolkit could be made available to the local community and that from the meeting organised by the Partnership Officer, a draft diary of events could be produced in order to act in anti clash capacity.

12. **Grant Aid**

(i) Arts

The Director of Leisure Services outlined the possibility of applying to the Heritage Lottery Fund for financial help towards a millennium community play. Funding had also been sought for a public art project. This could involve decorating underpasses with the millennium theme across the Borough.

(ii) Sports

The Director of Leisure Services outlined the proposal that the Council participate in the National initiative "Millennium Youth Games". An application would be made to the Sports Council to fund the event but the Council would be required to make a partnership contribution within the region of £1,500.

(iii) Future Activity

From the original list of activities developed by the Sub Committee, it would be necessary to develop a realistic working programme that could be achieved in the timescale available. It was proposed that suggested activities under the headings of historical, environmental and sports being brought forward to the next meeting of the Sub Committee for consideration.

The Sub Committee considered the information presented to them in the officer's report and **RESOLVED** that:

- (i) a public meeting be called to identify those organisations in the Borough planning events around the Millennium;
- (ii) it does not take a lead role in developing religious based events - this being led by "Churches Together";
- (iii) up to £1,500 be made available for participation in "The Millennium Youth Games" subject to the Director of Leisure being satisfied that the details of the games do not disadvantage Bracknell Forest;
- (iv) the funding made available from Strategy and Policy Committee of £10,000 be noted; and
- (v) the Millennium Festival Toolkit be developed to include local information and this be made available to Community Groups – funded from the Sub Committee's Budget.

It was also **RECOMMENDED TO THE STRATEGY AND POLICY COMMITTEE** that the constitution of the Millennium Sub Committee be amended to provide for the inclusion of one non-voting representative nominated by each local Parish and Town Council.

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm and concluded at 9.10 pm.

CHAIRMAN