

**MILLENNIUM SUB COMMITTEE  
6 APRIL 1999**

Present: Councillors Egan (Chairman), Barnard, Blatchford,  
Fawcett, Flood, Mrs Pile and Ryan.

Also Present: Councillor North  
Parish and Town Council Representatives:  
A Scorer (Bracknell Town Council), Mrs D Pidgeon (Sandhurst  
Town Council), Mrs B Brown (Warfield Parish Council).

**19 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Sub Committee held on 25 January 1999 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**20 Voluntary Sector Liaison – Update (Item 1)**

The Director of Leisure Services reported on progress to date in the dissemination and co-ordination of information regarding Millennium celebrations throughout the Borough.

The latest edition of "Town and Country" had included a feature on the Millennium Diary making voluntary organisations and Community Groups aware of the Borough Council's plan to draw together a definitive list of events taking place in Bracknell Forest in the months before and after December 31 1999.

The Millennium Toolkits referred to at the last meeting had now been distributed to over 200 voluntary organisations as well as the Town and Parish Councils.

A copy of the publication "Thames Valley Millennium – Special Events Guidance to Organisers" issued by and on behalf of the Emergency Services and Local Authorities of Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Berkshire was issued at the meeting and would be distributed to every school, library and youth & community centre.

As part of its role in supporting and enabling the activities of voluntary organisations as they prepare their celebrations and contributions to the Millennium the Council, through the Voluntary Grants Panel, could make small grants available from its Grants Budget for the Voluntary Sector towards the cost of organising such events.

Members suggested that the Council should make every effort to make it relatively easy and inexpensive for organisers of events, such as street parties, to obtain the necessary permissions. It was stressed that any event proceeding without having obtained the necessary authorisation would be required to apply for it retrospectively at the full economic cost and that this view be forwarded to the relevant Committees.

**RECOMMENDED** that

- (i) the Voluntary Grants Panel examine the possibilities of identifying a specific sum of money for the development of community led Millennium projects; and
- (ii) the Planning and Transportation Committee be requested to consider making a nominal charge for any requests for street parties.

**21 Update on Parish and Town Council Activities (Item 2)**

The representatives of the Town and Parish Councils present gave an oral update on activities being planned.

Binfield was organising a firework display on the evening of 31 December preceded by a torchlight procession. A "Car Park Party" was being planned for the summer.

Bracknell Town Council was upgrading the Elms Recreation Ground as its main project and there would be a joint celebration to mark the completion of the work and the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the creation of the New Town.

Warfield was going to use the millennium celebrations as a means of strengthening the relation between long-standing residents and relative newcomers. A detailed programme of events had been submitted for inclusions in the Millennium diary.

Sandhurst was planning to erect commemorative plinths on the road and to bury time capsules. The Churches were planning an event on Sunday 11 June 2000.

**22 Millennium Events (Item 3)**

The Director of Leisure Services reported on progress in the organisation of events planned to celebrate the Millennium.

The Youth Games were progressing well and although there had been some late changes to the rules of entry it was anticipated that Bracknell Forest would be entering teams in each section.

There had been no progress with regard to the proposed music and light spectacular featuring Jean Michel Jarre despite several efforts to contact the promoter and it was the Officers' view that the promotion of such an event required resources in excess of those available in Bracknell Forest.

*Other Events*

Work was continuing with organisation of other events, including sports, arts and a schools carnival to be held during the Year 2000 as part of the Millennium celebrations. These were existing events and would provide a basis to celebrate the Millennium in an appropriate way. Many events would be organised at a local level within Parishes and local communities and being small scale could benefit from support from the Council. It was proposed therefore to offer each Parish/Town Council up to £2000 for such events on a cash-match basis.

In addition to the events it was suggested that as a permanent reminder of the event the road running from Twin Bridges Roundabout to the Rackstraw Roundabout be renamed Millennium Way.

**RECOMMENDED** that

- (i) a large scale concert in the Borough for the Millennium be not pursued;
- (ii) where possible all Council run events in the year 2000 be enhanced to recognise the Millennium;
- (iii) Strategy and Policy Committee be requested to agree in principle that a sum of £120,000 be included in the 2000/2001 Revenue Budget to support Council managed and supported events and other significant and enduring projects subject to detailed information being provided;
- (iv) Strategy and Policy Committee be requested to agree in principle to an allocation of £2000 for each Parish/Town Council on a match-funding basis to support local millennium events; and
- (v) the Highways Sub Committee consider the suggestion that the A3095 between Twin Bridges roundabout and the Rackstraw roundabout be renamed Millennium Way.

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm and concluded at 8.40 pm.

**CHAIRMAN**