

Report to Cabinet

Subject: Annual Programme of Community Events 2017/18

Date: 2nd February 2017

Author: Community Investment Manager

Wards Affected

All

Purpose

To request Cabinet approval for the 2017/18 Annual Events Programme.

Key Decision

This is not a key decision.

Background

- 1.1 Gedling Borough Council's Community Event Service have traditionally organised and delivered a range of high quality community events across the borough with a programme of play days, themed children's activity days and two major community events forming the basis of a dynamic programme catering to all sections of the community. All events and activities are free and much valued and supported by residents in the borough.
- 1.2 Many events are delivered in close partnership with local voluntary, community and residents organisations and every opportunity is provided to showcase and promote the skills, talents and services of Gedling residents and groups. New and additional events are often requested, with some new events being reflected in this report. Whilst the programme of 18 events is challenging, particularly given the limited resources of just one full time officer delivering the major events, themed activities and play days, it is nevertheless deemed achievable with a focus upon partnership.
- 1.3 In January 2017 the Portfolio Holder for Community Development made the decision to remove the Gedling Show from the annual events programme and to explore options for a new annual event on Gedling Country Park in its place for 2018. This decision reflects the Council's commitment to continually refreshing the events programme in the light of new developments, and our aim to support and grow community led proposals that meet the Council's priorities, i.e. the Gedling Country Park event, Skate

Jam programme and Gedling Arts Festival.

Proposal

- 2.1 It is proposed that the Council delivers a programme of events in 2017/18 as detailed at Appendix 1. This includes a launch event for the new visitor centre at Gedling Country Park when it is opened in early summer 2017.
- 2.2 It is accepted that resources are limited and that successful delivery of the demanding proposed programme is dependent on:-
 - no new events being added to the programme, in order to ensure that planned events are delivered to a high standard to agreed timescales and within existing resources;
 - electronic booking systems being maximised;
 - Gedling Play Forum being encouraged to develop their capacity to ensure they can continue to support the delivery of the Council's events programme.

Alternative Options

- 3.1 Not to approve the programme of events for 2017.

Gedling Borough Council recognises the importance of community events in terms of supporting community development, inclusion and cohesion therefore this option does not support the current corporate priority to deliver a programme of community events.

- 3.2 To approve a different programme of events.

The programme is kept under annual review and can be adjusted subject to changing priorities, however the proposed 2017/18 programme is deemed viable and effective in the current operating environment.

Financial Implications

- 4.1 The delivery of the events programme is subject to budgets being approved by Council for 2017/18.

Appendices

- 5.1 Appendix 1: Proposed event programme 2017/18

Background Papers

- 6.1 None

Recommendation

7.1 That the Community Event Programme for 2017/18 set out in Appendix 1 be approved.

Reasons for Recommendations

8.1 To enable a programme of events to be delivered during 2017/18 within the resources available in the Community Relations Service area.