

Committee(s): Ordinary Council	Date: 8 December 2021
Subject: Community & Health Committee Chairs Update	Wards Affected: All
Committee Chair: Cllr Cliff Poppy	
Report of: Kim Anderson, Corporate Manager – Communities, Leisure & Health	For Information

Discover Winter

Discover Winter provides families with a number of activities over the winter to encourage footfall back to our high streets and is supported by the Welcome Back Fund.

The festive light were switched on outside the Town Hall by the Mayor Brentwood For more information <https://www.discoverbrentwood.co.uk/events>.

The programme includes:

- Thursday 9 December • Late night shopping until 8pm
- Saturday 11 December • Christmas in Brentwood High Street with entertainment and a special visit from Santa, 11am-4pm • Santa's Big Red Chair with free photo at The Baytree Centre, 11am-4pm • Jack Frost puppet show at the Brentwood Theatre, 11.30am Wednesday 15 - Friday 24 December
- Brentwood High Street Market
- Thursday 16 December • Late night shopping until 8pm
- Saturday 18 December • Christmas in Brentwood High Street with entertainment, 11am-4pm • Brentwood Theatre Community Cinema: Home Alone, 6pm
- Saturday 18 - Friday 24 December • The Night Before Christmas family show at the Brentwood Theatre, 11am, 1.30pm and 5pm Sunday 19 December • Brentwood Theatre Community Cinema: White Christmas, 8pm
- Thursday 23 December • Crown Street last-minute late-night shopping until 8pm

King George's Playing Fields

Works on the new pavilion building remain on target for completion in February 2022. The Majority of the cladding is in place along with the glazing. Most of the works now are the internal fit out. The contract for the main operator is being finalised and will be in place by January/February 2022. The fencing line around the splash pad has been revised.

Works to the senior play area started in October and are due for completion in January 2022. As part of the works a tree screen has put in place for those residents just behind the play area.

Hutton Recreation Play Area

Works have been completed for the Hutton Recreation Play area and it was officially opened by the Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Mark Reed on 5 November. Over a 100 people attended the official opening with free face painting and goodie bags for the invited children. Options for CCTV on the site are currently being considered.

Community Support Network

The Community Support Network is still providing support to residents during the Covid pandemic. Meetings are currently being held monthly. Monies received from ECC to support the most vulnerable are being allocated to the help hubs to enhance the support that they provide.

Essex Activate Clubs

Active Essex, Essex County Council and Thurrock Council are working with a network of locally trusted organisations to deliver *Essex ActivAte* clubs, on behalf of the Department for Education.

These clubs are free for children and young people who are eligible for benefits based free school meals. Plus, Essex County Council have extended the offer to provide free spaces for children from low income working families who would benefit from this support. Clubs will take place over multiple days of the Winter Break, predominantly from December 20th - 23rd. Every club will be inclusive, with trained SEND and Mental Wellbeing ambassadors at each venue. Each club will provide it's own unique variety of physical and enrichment activities, as well as fun food education. Children and young people will receive a tasty and nutritious meal each day that they attend a club. Specialist SEND and Mental Wellbeing Hubs are available across the county, offering tailored sessions run by specialist coaches. In Brentwood Camp Epic and West Ham doing the mainstream (kids on free school meals) and then Chat 1st doing the Mental Wellbeing Hub and Essex Wildlife Trust doing the Special Education Needs.

Community Connect Trailer

The Community Connect Trailer has been out in the community over the autumn months in the following locations:

Sat 18 Dec – Brentwood High Street – all day. The programme for the trailer in 2022 is currently being finalised.

Brentwood Community Fund

The Brentwood Community Fund has now closed to applications and a separate report is before members tonight to agree the allocation of the funding.

Brentwood Centre

The Council has appointed SLM (Everyone Active) to manage the Brentwood Centre for the next two years. The Council has weekly meetings with the operator, who provide a monthly report on the agreed KPIs.

A visioning workshop follow up and proposals were presented to the Leisure Strategy Working Group about the future development of the Brentwood Centre. The Group were asked to provide any comments on the presentation and the slides were circulated for any further comments and these would be fed back to the consultants.

Community and Sports Awards

The Community and Sports Awards took place on 21 October at the Brentwood Centre, with the International Hall transformed for the night. The event was well received by all of those that attended.

15 awards were given out to the Community and 10 for the Sports Awards: the winners were as follows:

Community Award winners

- Dr.Jeganathan and the vaccination team
- Audrey Clark for the Brentwood Community Tree
- West Horndon Help Hub
- Dean Weedon
- Daily Brentwood Café
- Butterfly Meadow for Our Grieving Hearts
- Foodbank Community
- Moses Basket
- The Condriacs
- Lighthouse Furniture Project
- Doddinghurst and Kelvedon Hatch Help Hubs
- Special Needs and Parents (SNAP)
- Manna Meals
- Doddinghurst Road Church – Brentwood Foodbank
- The Hermit Volunteers
- Brentwood Mutual Aid

Sports Awards winners

- Chat 1st
- Anthony Sherwood
- Trailnet
- Hutton Cricket Club
- Tony Harkins
- Essex Dance Theatre
- Peter Green
- Brentwood Health Walks Volunteers

Football Hub

The business plan is being further developed with the key stakeholders to ascertain the expected income and expenditure of the hub, the rationalisation of space within the built facility such as the amount of dedicated community/educational space required and the overall design of the facilities. In addition to the business plan is the build costs and operating model. The Council is looking to submit a planning application in December 2021/January 2022.

Suicide Awareness Campaign

Brentwood Borough Council is working with Thurrock and Brentwood MIND to raise awareness of suicide in the run up to Christmas. The 'Let's Talk About Suicide Essex' campaign was launched on 10.09.21 on World Suicide Prevention Day to offer the people and businesses of mid and south Essex FREE suicide prevention training, highlighting how to spot the signs of someone who may be in crisis and then signpost them to support. The Council will be supporting the campaign by lighting the Town Hall in green from the 6th - 12th December, along with other key landmarks across the County. We will also be promoting the free 20-minute, online training that is available to anyone, to help save lives across the county this Christmas. A series of signs with positive affirmations and signposting to crisis helplines, are being planned to display in key areas at the multi-story car park. All information is on www.letstalkbaoutsuicideessex.co.uk.

Dunton Hills Garden Village - Community Arts Commission

For the past 6 months, artist Laura Malacart has been working with community organisations and individuals to compile a list of street names that will be used in the Dunton Hills Garden Village development. Laura has worked with marginalised group, youth organisations, schools and communities to explore heritage, experiences, and the ethos and aspects of the proposed masterplan at Dunton Hills. Laura's street name database is accompanied by a short film exploring the complexity and responsibility of naming streets plus the process of her work. The work was jointly commissioned by the Essex Cultural Diversity Project who are an Arts Council England portfolio organisation, working strategically across the County with the culture and heritage sector, the B.A.M.E communities and voluntary sector to help develop skills, promote culturally diverse work, and increase opportunities for participation and engagement.

Memories of Brentwood Concert

On 16th October, Brentwood Dementia Action Alliance (run by BBC) hosted its first live concert, aimed at vulnerable residents including those living with Dementia and their carers. It helped to raise awareness of the illness.

The concert, held at St Thomas' Church, central Brentwood welcomed 150 people to listen to the David Pickthall Big Band at 5pm on 16th October, will hopefully be the first of many events and activities.

As well as raising awareness of Dementia, the concert raised £430 for charity (Alzheimer's and the Mayors charity).

Community Halls update

Members will be aware of the report that went to the September Community & Health Committee in relation to the Community Halls Tender exercise. Officers have since engaged with a number of interested third parties who have expressed an interest in managing one or all of the halls. An options paper will be developed and agreed in line with the delegated authority with the Director of Environment and Communities and the Chair of Community and Health Committee to agree which options are agreed.