

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL 7 JULY 2021

Culture

1. We are set to launch our Middlesbrough Lottery that will raise funds for cultural events and a range of other good causes and charities across the town. Tickets go on sale July 27 and can be purchased from the website that will soon go live at www.middlesbroughlottery.co.uk

I believe it's a fantastic way to help some fantastic causes raise much-needed funds following a difficult year.

2. Middlesbrough Council was successful with the bid to Arts Council England and secured over £300,000 from the Cultural Recovery Fund. The fund has supported Middlesbrough Town Hall, Middlesbrough Theatre, Middlesbrough Mela and Middlesbrough museums.
3. Middlesbrough Mela was successful with its bid to Tees Valley Recovery Fund, securing £24,000. Mini Melas will take place on August 8, 14 and 15.
4. Middlesbrough Town Hall has taken another step closer to normality and begun to deliver a range of socially distanced gigs and events. The government restrictions in place significantly alter the audience numbers allowed within the venue and the operational procedures in place.
5. The Town Hall will continue to be fully hired each week day by the Ministry of Justice up until the end of June when the Middlesbrough Nightingale Court will close. From July onwards the Town Hall will begin to take further steps back to normality.
6. Middlesbrough Theatre's open air season has been booked and returns to the Town Hall Courtyard this summer with performances of The Great Gatsby, Romeo and Juliet, Pride and Prejudice and for the little ones David Walliams' Mr Stink. The season continues its outdoor tour with a stop at Newham Grange Farm.
7. Captain Cook Birthplace Museum is due to reopen in July for the first time since 2019. The museum will reopen with a new exhibition To Boldly Go which is a touring exhibition co-commissioned by Middlesbrough Museums and its NPO partners.
8. Umar Butt the new Museum Community Co-producer continues to develop his work in connecting communities. He is currently developing a community

photography exhibition which will be displayed as part of an outdoor exhibition within Albert Park this summer.

9. Plans to develop the Teesside Archives service alongside the Dorman Museum to improve access to the collections of both services, expand gallery space and provide an on-site store that complies with up-to-date standards, are now being developed. The first step of this journey is to rehome the archives 'front of house' to the Dorman.

In the short-term the archive collection will be stored off-site, so how users access the collection will change. A reading room will be provided within the Dorman Museum available for use by all researchers.

10. May 2021 saw the opening of the new discovery centre in the farm after significant capital investment in the building.
11. Planning for the first Orange Pip Market since Covid restrictions have lifted is underway for the event on the 31st July.

Parks

12. We delivered a well-received Holiday Hunger Programme at the parks in Easter and are currently programming a host of activity in Albert Park to see a full summer of fun programme.

Communities

13. Our Amazing Alleys project continues to go from strength to strength. Three more alley improvement initiatives in Camden Street, Willows Road and Leinster Road are now complete. A number of other alley improvements are in progress. We are planning to use the publicity regarding the completed projects to attract yet more interest.
14. Heads of terms have been received for the Locality Working Hub at the Cooperative building on Linthorpe Road.
15. Community activity and engagement has increased dramatically since easing of covid restrictions with a monthly community litter pick and weekly recycling litter pick taking place. A recycling initiative - which covers over 1700 properties in Newport - is scheduled to improve recycling rates and reduce waste in back alleys.
16. Planter projects at two local schools Newport and Ayresome are underway. Newport School will adopt two on street planters on St Pauls Road for community greening and we are also developing a flag mural project with the school.

We are working with Ayresome School to wild flower the Ayresome Garden entrance and we are looking to develop mural work at the school entrance to brighten the area and engage young people in the ward.

Community safety

1. Additional CCTV installs have taken place on Portman Street and in Tennyson Street Alley.
2. School patrols have been taking place daily and utilise the CCTV enforcement car and traditional foot patrol. Schools where parking issues are prevalent have had enforcement patrols each morning.
3. From 01/04/2021 - 31/05/2021 the Neighbourhood Safety Wardens have dealt with 2669 service requests. I have included just a few examples of this fantastic work below:

- Wardens were patrolling Brinewells Green and surrounding area when they were approached by a resident who said she was concerned about her 11 year old son who was getting involved with older boys who were causing issues with ASB and setting fires in the area. Wardens talked with her son and encouraged him to think twice about getting involved with the older youths. Wardens asked what he was interested in. He said boxing and football and was invited to a football session in North Ormesby.

He seemed like a good boy but has faced challenges in recent years with his brother and his grandad both passing away. Our team will make sure to check up on how he is.

- Neighbourhood Safety Wardens organise and join in weekly football sessions in North Ormesby to divert children and young people away from antisocial behaviour and to engage them in positive activities.
- In response to complaints from Acklam residents re. dangerous parking on Hall Drive, wardens issued PCNs and warnings

4. There has been a substantial increase in reports of motorbike nuisance around the Middlebeck Close area. Operation Endurance will be running in the area on three separate dates over the next three months. NSOs will be joining police on these days in the hope to seize any illegal motorbikes in the ward.

Residents have also reported an increase in groups gathering in this area, drinking and being rowdy. We have had discussions with the youth worker at The Junction Foundation who will be starting outreach in the area in the near future to ensure this area is covered.

5. The Neighbour Safety Team and Cleveland Police have been involved in Operation Endurance. Leaflets were delivered in key hotspot areas including Hemlington, Ladgate and East Middlesbrough encouraging residents who are suffering from motorbike nuisance to report it through 101 or Crime Stoppers. The Operation was a great success and officers seized three off-road motorbikes. An 18-year-old male was reported for summons for alleged driving offences and his bike also seized in the Thorntree area.
6. The Environmental Wardens continue to be extremely busy and are receiving high volumes of service requests within the borough. In March we launched a new initiative to deal with environmental crime. From this Middlesbrough Council Environmental Flying Squad was created. The team now have four Area Care

Operatives based within the team. We now respond to all service requests relating to environmental related issues and investigate and clear waste all in one swoop. We have recently appointed two further officers to join the team so we can increase and improve our response times and increase positive outcomes when dealing with environmental related issues.

The team have dealt with 1180 service requests between April 1 and May 31. Within this total 118 of these service requests related to reports of abandoned vehicles, 948 requests for dumped material/fly tipping and approximately 100 service requests relating to stray dogs and dog related issues such as fouling.

I can confirm that the team have now obtained in excess of 80 pieces of evidence within fly tips right across the borough and are on with taking positive action.