

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR ANNE CRAMPTON'S REPORT

Leisure over view

2014/15 Our leisure centres continue to do well, we have optimal membership numbers although we have the capacity for more we are constrained by the lack of car park spaces.

The artificial pitch in Yateley is being well used with more teams than ever using the new surface. Hockey has relocated and in their place we have junior football teams whose number is also increasing.

Again in Yateley, the boilers are being replaced in the leisure centre and will be fully installed and operational by the end of the financial year.

HART and Frogmore leisure centres are having some redecoration mainly to improve the reception areas which were looking a little shabby.

The Fleet pond restoration project is on target, this year's phase will be completed by March. Dredging will take place and reed beds will be upgraded.

There will be a fish free zone to help other forms of pond life to flourish

. A picnic area will be created with new tables and seats and we are revamping the main entrance. All will be completed by March. An upgrade of the roadway into the pond will be completed by September.

Yateley pond's project plan is complete and tree felling will begin in February. In the spring and summer we can't do much but in September we will begin dredging. In spring 2016 the seating and pathways will go in.

For 2015/16 we are developing a leisure centre app. Members will be able to check availability of classes' equipment etc and book on line via the app.

For those with disability, as well as having a session in the pool for them we will try to be more inclusive by having a lane adapted for those wishing to use the pool alongside everyone else every Thursday afternoon. The GP referral scheme is being extended. We now have qualified instructors in the gym and fitness studios who can work with those who have a disability mental or physical. As this is new we don't have any assessment of how successful it is but will be reviewing in 7 or 8 months' time.

HART has a higher than national average of Malignant Melanoma, an aggressive skin cancer.

Though the numbers are small there is a strong and clear link between malignant melanoma and sunbed usage particularly in the under 35 age group.

I therefore feel we must phase out our current sun beds with a view to having none in the very near future.

HEALTH and WELLBEING

We were funded last year by Hampshire and public health for a number of health related projects. The increased risk drinking project is due to report in the spring and the Gypsy and Traveller survey looking at bricks and mortar Gypsies and Travellers use of health facilities has given an initial report. We conclude from the survey that there is an issue with GP access or lack of understanding of the role of a GP for children's health in HART and that there are barriers to accessing dental services in HART and East Hampshire. 60% of 16 to 24 year olds say they never exercise. 2/3s of the respondents smoked and there were low levels of literacy. When asked if they had had their children vaccinated only 33% said yes.

We are now working on interventions such as social media DVDs and word of mouth to help improve the health of this often overlooked population.

Our Community agents are now in place. The Blackwater Community agent is in post and Fleet and Yateley are going through training.

There is sadly no funding for projects in 2015/16.

Our priorities for this year will be tackling overweight. Reducing the incidence of falls and hip fractures in the elderly. Improving the breast feeding rates and reducing smoking in pregnancy.