

SUMMER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to apprise Members of this year's summer holiday programme.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 A wide range of activities was on offer for children and young people. More minority sports or more unusual activities were on offer, helping to increase interest in the programme. Activities in Hullbridge, Canewdon, Great Wakering and Rayleigh were provided in association with the Parish and Town Councils who all contributed towards the overall cost. Hullbridge Parish Council contributed £720, Canewdon Parish Council £65, Great Wakering Parish Council £100 and Rayleigh Town Council £800. A grant of £150 was also received from the Essex County Lawn Tennis Association towards the cost of providing the short tennis at Great Wakering.

3 SWIMMING

- 3.1 This was the fourth year the swimming scheme operated. Five schools were involved and for the second year, Doggetts Primary School was offered free of charge. One afternoon session at Rayleigh Primary School had to be cancelled due to pool plant problems.
- 3.2 All of the venues proved popular with an overall increase of 120 attendances on last year. When the scheme was first introduced in 1999 there was a total of 1,434 attendances and this has grown to 3,458 attendances.
- 3.3 A breakdown of the attendances for each venue is detailed below:

	Venue	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Total
Week 1	Great Wakering	47	67	34	52	73	273
	Doggetts	13	27	26	21	20	107
	Rayleigh Primary	71	84	42	34	37	268
	Riverside58	58	74	71	87	95	385
Week 2	Great Wakering	31	15	43	38	11	138
	Doggetts	24	6	33	22	0	85
	Rayleigh Primary	5	canc	58	10	12	85
	Riverside	20	28	93	43	34	218
Week 3	Doggetts	19	31	32	29	15	126
	Riverside	25	39	88	74	91	317
	Sweyne	54	78	106	57	112	407
	Sweyne (adults)	6	1	10	7	7	31

Week 4	Doggetts	18	28	22	22	17	107
	Sweyne	103	84	88	70	101	446
	Sweyne (adults)	7	6	0	5	7	25
Week 5	Sweyne	BH	83	118	113	111	425
	Sweyne (adults)	BH	3	1	0	11	15

4. DAY CAMPS

4.1 The summer day camps were provided by Holmes Place on behalf of the Council. Out of a possible 2,000 attendances, there was a take-up of 1,866. The sessions held at Grange Community Centre this year were far more popular than in previous years with nearly every session fully booked. This may be attributed to the closure of Park Sports Centre.

5 SPORTS DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

5.1 This year, there was a diverse range of activities on offer that offered a departure from the more run of the mill sports such as football and rugby. Activities such as ice skating, circus skills and skateboarding added to the excitement of the activity programme.

5.2 The success this year was overwhelming with 1,035 attendances compared to 490 last year.

6 ARTS DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

6.1 Although the Arts Development Officer had only been in post a short time, workshops were arranged for Rayleigh and Hockley Libraries. Professional artists worked with those participating, following the theme "Our Reading World" which was the subject of the libraries' Big Read this year.

6.2 The workshops were held on Saturdays and attracted whole families, catering for a total of 115 attendances.

6.3 The Arts Development Officer also contributed to the success of the skateboarding and BMX day that was held in the Market Car Park in Rayleigh by organising a "spray can art" event.

7 CUSTOMER FEEDBACK

7.1 In line with best value, customer feedback questionnaires were issued and a total of 125 were returned. For information, the comments made are appended.

7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The provision of sport and leisure activities for young people contributes towards the reduction of youth crime and youth nuisance.

8 PARISH IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Canewdon, Great Wakering and Hullbridge Parish Councils and Rayleigh Town Council were partners in the delivery of some of these activities.

9 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The swimming programme cost £10,838 this year to deliver, which was well within the allocated budget of £12,000. As there is no guarantee that the Council will be given free use of Doggetts School pool in future years, it is requested that if Members decide to continue with this initiative, that the budget remains at £12,000.
- 9.2 The day camps run by Holmes Place cost £8,860 to run this year and there was £8,600 allocated in the budget. The cost increased due to more venues charging for their use and for the requirement now to pay casual staff holiday pay. If Members decide to continue with this initiative next year, the budget would need to be increased to £9,100.

10 RECOMMENDATION

It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

- (1) That Members note the success of the scheme this year.
- (2) That the swimming initiative continues and that a budget of £12,000 is included in the draft budget for 2003.
- (3) That the Day Camps continue and that a budget of £9,100 is included in the draft budget for 2003. (CD(F&ES))

R Crofts

Finance & External Services

Background Papers:

Holiday booking records.

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CUSTOMER COMMENT ANALYSIS

Activity	Comment
Circus skills	<p>Really enjoyed, didn't want to leave.</p> <p>More for 5 years and upwards. Was disappointed that they had to cash in by selling items at the end – felt like a captive audience – unfair on parents.</p> <p>Hope they do it next year. Needed more activities for 6 year olds.</p> <p>Had great fun</p>
Ice skating	<p>Great fun.</p> <p>It was nice to see something different offered to the children, something that most children would not get the chance to try.</p> <p>A little disappointed at first as we thought the rink was a little small for the number of children. The organiser did well in entertaining the children and they had a good time.</p> <p>The rink was a little small for the number of children attending.</p> <p>I thought the ice rink could have been a little bigger.</p> <p>A local pool would be an asset to the community. There's plenty of room to add one on to the sports centre. As Wakering has grown so much, I feel the facilities need to grow as well.</p> <p>Excellent, great fun</p>
Badminton	<p>This has been valuable for my children and I would like to see it repeated next year. Also, my children are getting older, please could you continue to provide these types of activities for the older children.</p> <p>Would have liked cycling nearer and more badminton too – would like badminton for children at Wakering Sports centre. Excellently organised activities. Would also like to see judo – the nearest one in the area is Hockley.</p>

Athletics	Would love to attend a weekly local group
Cycling	<p>Would like to do level 2</p> <p>It gave her more confidence on her bike. I would like to know about any future courses.</p> <p>I was surprised and very concerned that the children were not signed in and out more formally.</p> <p>Course leaders were very knowledgeable and capable. Would have preferred to have the children signed in and out.</p>
Basketball	<p>It was a very good experience, the kids loved it.</p> <p>It was fun. Good value for money as there was no cost.</p>
BMX/Skateboarding	<p>BMX competition on the dirt course. Music to be added</p> <p>More BMX and skateboarding parks. Can you please build a skate park in Rayleigh?</p> <p>More skateboarding competitions.</p> <p>Half pipe at Ashingdon Park.</p> <p>More local facilities in Rayleigh for skateboarding. King Georges is an ideal position. The park in Hullbridge works well, we think it would be appreciated in Rayleigh.</p>
Cricket	<p>Gym, climbing wall, archery and karate wanted. Please ensure that adequate adult numbers comply with the 1 adult to 10 children ratio. The cricket activity had at least 16 children but only one adult in charge. He did an excellent job. His 14 year old helper should not count as the other adult member. If the coach had to go to hospital with one of his pupils, would or should the helper be left with all the other children? **</p> <p>It was a very good experience, the kids loved it.</p>
Kite flying	Really enjoyed, didn't want to leave.
Tennis	On the occasion that my son attended, there were a lot of children present, in my opinion too many.

<p>Netball</p>	<p>More holiday activities It would be helpful if the leaflets were available earlier.</p> <p>Very well supervised.</p> <p>More netball, 4 days is not enough. More, more, more, great stuff.</p> <p>My daughter was talking about netball every minute when she got home. She has learned a lot this week. This course I feel was well run and all the children looked as if they were having a wonderful time. The coaching was first class.</p> <p>More netball over the six week holiday, or, longer courses.</p> <p>Would have attended more but ran out of time. Could you distribute the booklets earlier please?</p>
<p>Swimming</p>	<p>More swimming in Rayleigh.</p> <p>All the activities on offer were very good.</p> <p>Supervision by lifeguards was very impressive.</p> <p>Very good lifeguards. Activities for adults, evenings and weekends.</p> <p>Very enjoyable.</p> <p>For adults to go in with their children.</p> <p>Excellent value for money.</p> <p>Archery, fencing and roller-skating wanted.</p> <p>It was very well supervised. Very good value for money.</p> <p>Inflatables (bouncy castle etc.)</p> <p>Excellent value.</p> <p>All very well organised.</p> <p>Swimming only open in Wakering for 2 weeks, maybe have it open all holiday.</p>

	Athletics taster days. I had to travel to Chelmsford for such an opportunity.
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** The cricket was for ages 8 – 12 years. The Children Act ratios of 1 adult to every 8 children applies to under 8's. There were 21 children on the course. The senior coach and RDC staff were confident that the staff to children ratios were adequate. All staff have mobile 'phones and have emergency contact numbers for the office and for the parents/guardians of those children taking part. No significant hazards were identified in the risk assessment produced by the coach.