
CROWN HILL ART PROJECT

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to apprise Members of an art project that will be taking place and will appear on the wall at the top of Crown Hill, Rayleigh, and to ascertain whether Members wish to support the project in kind.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 A local ceramist and sculptor contacted the Council with a view to undertaking an art project involving local schools and sheltered housing schemes in Rayleigh. The project will involve creating a mosaic mural, celebrating Rayleigh over the centuries and will be a permanent feature on the wall at the top of Crown Hill. A copy of a photograph of the wall is appended together with a map of the location.
- 2.2 The current owner of the site has been approached and in addition to offering his support, has made a financial contribution towards the initial stage of the project. No planning permission is required. Examples of photographic work previously undertaken by this artist are appended for information. It is intended that the mosaic mural on Crown Hill will be to a similar high standard. A coloured copy will be made available at the meeting.
- 2.3 The materials and adhesives used will be suitable to withstand vibration from nearby traffic. The finished mosaic will also be treated to combat graffiti.

3 THE PROJECT

- 3.1 A project team has been established which consists of the Rochford Youth Arts Partnership, representatives from Sweyne Park and Fitzwimarc Schools and Rayleigh Town Council. This Committee is invited to elect a Member to represent the District Council if they so wish.
- 3.2 The project team has successfully applied to the Essex County Council Arts in Essex fund to enable the design brief to be produced. The design brief will evolve from meetings with residents in local sheltered housing schemes and work with local schools. The design will incorporate Rayleigh's history and contemporary themes to reflect the views of younger residents. It is hoped that the project will help to break down the generation gap.

- 3.2 Once the design brief has been approved by the project team, and public consultation has been undertaken, an application will be submitted to the Regional Arts Lottery Programme to fund the actual artwork. No financial assistance is being sought from the Council. Members are requested to approve support in kind such as officer time and provision of meeting rooms and assistance with the public consultation.

4 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The wall currently attracts unsightly graffiti. It is hoped that by involving local youths in the design and production of the artwork they will have ownership of the project and that this practise will cease.

5 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The finished mosaic will create a visual impact for anyone entering Rayleigh via this route.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 As detailed in the report there will be no financial implications for the Council except Officer time.

7 PARISH IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The project will take place within the Rayleigh Town Council area. The Town Council are supportive of the project.

9 RECOMMENDATION

It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

- (1) That the Crown Hill Art project be supported in kind, on the understanding that no financial contribution will be made towards the cost.
- (2) That a member be nominated to attend the project team meetings. (CD(F&ES))

R Crofts

Corporate Director (Finance & External Services)

Background Papers:

None

For further information please contact Eva McIlwaine on:-

Tel:- 01702 318120
E-Mail:- eva.mcilwaine@rochford.gov.uk





