

THE NATIONAL PARALYMPIC HERITAGE TRUST
Councillor Mordue
Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources and Compliance

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To request Cabinet approval for AVDC to be a member of a new charitable trust, formally a company limited by guarantee and provisionally to be known as The National Paralympic Heritage Trust. The other members will be the British Paralympic Association, Wheelpower, and Bucks County Council. The formation of the new entity is being progressed by Wheelpower, on behalf of the members, and the legal work is being funded by a 'Start Up' grant obtained from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The Trust will take responsibility for collating, maintaining and preserving the heritage of the Paralympic movement and making it available for new audiences in a physical and virtual form.

2 Recommendation

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| <p>2.1 That the National Paralympic Heritage Trust, an independent charitable company, limited by guarantee, be formed in partnership with the British Paralympic Association, Bucks County Council and Wheelpower (British Wheelchair Sport).</p> <p>2.2 That the Chief Executive after consultation with the Leader of the Council, be authorised to approve and establish the company structure and associated detailed arrangements.</p> <p>2.3 That two trustees be appointed to the Trust Board - one Member, appointed at the discretion of the Leader, and one officer appointed at the discretion of Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader.</p> |
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3 Executive summary

- 3.1 The National Paralympic Heritage Trust will map, conserve and make accessible to national audiences, collections and archives relating to the British Paralympic story. It will create an accredited permanent heritage centre at Stoke Mandeville Stadium, the birthplace of the Paralympic movement, a national network of satellite exhibitions and a virtual museum. The project will also run outreach activities.
- 3.2 In doing this the Trust will raise awareness about the story of the Paralympic movement which has changed lives, by changing the attitudes and expectations of disabled people, their families and the wider community. This is helping to improve access and remove discrimination for the 10 million disabled people in the UK.
- 3.3 It will also raise awareness of the local area as the birthplace of the Paralympic movement, and the pioneering medical work that is undertaken at the National Spinal Injuries Centre. Thus helping to meet the objectives of the Bucks Legacy Board to use the unique selling points of the area to provide better and more inclusive opportunities for all of our residents, businesses and visitors.
- 3.4 It is envisaged that, as a second stage of development, the Trust will be the body to commission the Paralympic Heritage Flame Lighting ceremony associated with the 2018, and all future summer and winter Paralympic games.

4 Supporting information

Legacy of London 2012

- 4.1 Following the success of the London 2012 Paralympic Games, which was the largest, and most successful Paralympics, AVDC and its partners established the Buckinghamshire Legacy Board, a partnership which brought together public, private and voluntary sector partners to build on the legacy of London 2012.
- 4.2 The key objective of the Bucks Legacy Board is to use the unique selling points of the area to provide better and more inclusive opportunities for all of our residents, businesses and visitors. The Board has been successful in delivering the Heritage Flame Lighting ceremony in 2014, and securing Stoke Mandeville as the home of the Paralympic Heritage Flame for all subsequent Paralympic Games.
- 4.3 The profile of the area, as the home of the Paralympics, is helping to attract investment, such as the recent Local Growth funding for the Aylesbury Waterside North redevelopment scheme, announced in January 2015.

Paralympic heritage

- 4.4 Stoke Mandeville is recognised as the birthplace of the Paralympic movement, through the pioneering work of Dr Ludwig Guttmann. The archives and related heritage collections related to the Paralympic movement are currently held by a number of organisations including, but not limited to: the British Paralympic Association, Wheelpower (British Wheelchair Sport), the National Spinal Injuries Centre, the Bucks Museum and the Wellcome Trust; as well as individuals who hold memorabilia and oral heritage, that have not been recorded.
- 4.5 Stakeholders have agreed that collections are at risk and the concept of a museum, with Stoke Mandeville Stadium as the base, has existed since 2008. Wheelpower, a sports focused charity, has been leading the heritage programme with the support of the former Chief Executive and Trustee of the River & Rowing Museum Foundation in Henley, Mr Paul Mains, who has extensive experience of establishing and running a Museum, and the heritage sector. Arts Council England have also contributed to the costs of this development and particularly funded a paid consultant.
- 4.6 In 2014 discussions took place with the Bucks Legacy Board at which the parallel objectives and future aspirations of the Board, and the heritage programme were recognised. The Board supported the Heritage Lottery Fund application for the creation of a new independent Charitable Trust and as key supporters of the Bucks Legacy Board it was agreed that both BCC and AVDC would be given the opportunity to be part of the new Trust.
- 4.7 The current proposal is for the National Paralympic Heritage Trust to be created as an independent charitable company, limited by guarantee, with four founding members - Wheelpower, The British Paralympic Association, Bucks County Council and Aylesbury Vale District Council.
- 4.8 The Trust will map, conserve and make accessible to national audiences, collections and archives relating to the British Paralympic story. It will create an accredited permanent heritage centre at Stoke Mandeville Stadium, the birthplace of the Paralympic movement; a national network of satellite exhibitions; and a virtual museum. The project will also run outreach activities.
- 4.9 In doing this the Trust will raise awareness about the story of the Paralympic movement which has been changing lives since the 1940's, by changing the attitudes and expectations of disabled people, their families and the wider

community. This is helping to improve access and remove discrimination for the 10 million disabled people in the UK.

- 4.10 It will also raise awareness of the local area as the birthplace of the Paralympic movement, and the pioneering medical work that is undertaken at the National Spinal Injuries Centre. Thus helping the Bucks Legacy Board partners to use this unique selling point of the area to provide better and more inclusive opportunities for all of our residents, businesses and visitors.
- 4.11 As a charitable organisation the Trust will be eligible for external funding that the constituent partners would not be able to access. An application to the National Heritage Lottery is due to be re-submitted in September 2015, having been amended following feedback from the Heritage Lottery team, which included a requirement to develop the governance structure of the Trust.
- 4.12 Another output of the Trust will be to commission the Paralympic Heritage Flame Lighting ceremony associated with the 2018, and all future summer and winter Paralympic games; the project management of the Flame Lighting ceremony has so far fallen to AVDC.

5 Options considered and reasons for recommendation

- 5.1 The option for consideration is whether or not to be part of the founding members of the National Paralympic Heritage Trust, and the reasons for recommending that the council is involved are:
 - 5.2 The Trust will provide unique opportunities to raise awareness of the local area and its contribution to medical progress and the recovery and life opportunities for disabled people. This will help to ensure that the area continues to benefit from the legacy of London 2012.
 - 5.3 The involvement and commitment of the district and county councils in the formation of the Trust adds gravitas to its application to the National Heritage Lottery Fund
 - 5.4 As a charitable organisation, and an accredited Museum, the Trust will be eligible to apply for external funding that the council is not able to access.
 - 5.5 As a member of the charity, the council will be able to nominate two trustees, to a board of at least eight, to manage the business of the charity.
 - 5.6 There is no financial risk to the council as a member of the charity.

6 Resource implications

- 6.1 The Council is not required to provide financial support to the Trust on an ongoing basis, and a start up grant has already been received from the Heritage Lottery Fund. A small amount of seed-corn funding and the time of officers and Members to support the Trust is required, and can be met from existing resources.
- 6.2 There is a potential saving in officer time to the council as the Trust plans to take on responsibility for the Paralympic Heritage Flame Festival.
- 6.3 As a charitable organisation, and in due course an accredited Museum, the Trust will be eligible to apply for external funding that the council is not able to access.
- 6.4 The council is not committing to fund the activity of the charity; and its liability will be limited to £1 by the articles of association.

Contact Officer
Background papers

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None