HADLEIGH FARM
LONDON 2012 OLYMPIC GAMES MOUNTAIN BIKE EVENT
Newsletter March 2011

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Essex County Council
Since the last update in October there has been good progress at Hadleigh Farm, on the development of the London 2012 Olympic Mountain Bike Venue, despite some challenging weather.

Alongside completion of the first phase of works to the venue it has been great to see the local community getting involved and inspired: the carpentry trainees from The Salvation Army Training Centre have completed an information board for the viewing point, Canvey Island Community Choir has achieved an Inspire Mark for their Sing Up project, and an exciting competition to name four features on the site has recently been launched to schools across the county.

London 2012 recently announced the testing programme for all their venues, including Hadleigh Farm. On 31 July 2011 around 100 of the world's best mountain bike riders will come to Essex for the Hadleigh Farm International. This will be their opportunity to ride the new Hadleigh Farm Mountain Bike Course. Spectator admission will be available for up to 5000 visitors and tickets will be on sale for the event in May.

It has been a busy start to 2011 and I look forward to the coming year as momentum builds towards 2012.

Councillor Stephen Castle  Essex County Council, Cabinet Member for Education and the 2012 Games

Managing Traffic during Events

The effective management of the transport operation and traffic in the area will be critical to the success of the events at Hadleigh Farm. London 2012 are working closely with the local authorities and emergency services to achieve this with minimal disruption to residents and business in the local area. The transport plans for the events will (in line with all other London 2012 events) place a strong emphasis on the use of public transport, making extensive use of the Leigh on Sea rail link to London. There will be no parking for spectators at Hadleigh Farm with spectators’ cars being directed to park and ride sites.

However, there is still a need to put in place traffic and parking plans that prevent spectators from parking around venues, keep traffic moving and, most importantly, protect local residents and businesses to enable them to carry on with their day to day lives and activities.

A temporary local area traffic management and parking plan will be put in place around the venue. This will include a variety of temporary traffic measures to ensure that Games and local traffic is managed in a coordinated way and parking is properly controlled. Measures could include temporary parking controls in the wider area and additional temporary road closures, parking restrictions, banned turns, one way operations or changes to junctions on the routes and side streets closest to Hadleigh Farm.

At present the measures for Hadleigh Farm are still to be finalised but it is very important to highlight that these are being designed to
its use could have a direct beneficial impact on the local community and Essex artists.
For more information or to register an interest in using the facility, please contact Andrew Ward at andrew.ward@essex.gov.uk

**Hadleigh Community Legacy**

**Essex Summer of Art**

In 2009 the art trails of Essex came together under the Essex Summer of Art umbrella to make a fantastic summer of artistic events across the county. Since then local artists have exhibited work in a number of art trails across the county at various venues. A new art trail will be added in Castle Point in October this year.

**Open Weekend**

Open Weekend is part of the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad which encourages people to take part in sport, arts and culture. In 2010 there were events at Hadleigh Country Park which included a map reading challenge in Hadleigh Country Park and a living well and archive exhibition with The Salvation Army at its Training Centre and Tea Rooms. This year Open Weekend will be back from 22 - 24 July 2011 and ideas are being sought for community events in Castle Point over that weekend.

**Sing Up Canvey Island**

In February more than 250 pupils from nine schools on Canvey Island took part in a singing competition inspired by the Olympic Movement. The singing-Olympiad was the culmination of a musical project by Essex County Council and Royal Opera House, who had been working in partnership with nine Canvey schools since October 2010 to deliver a range of vocal workshops to the Year 5, 6 and 7 pupils.
Alongside this Inspire Marked activity, a community choir has now been established, with a further choir to be developed in Hadleigh at the Old Fire Station later in the year.

**Canvey Community Choir**

Following the success of Sing Up the Canvey community choir is now up and running and delivering a varied repertoire ranging from jazz to Gospel. Open to anyone and everyone over the age of 16, the choir continues to look for singers to swell its numbers. The choir meets on Wednesday evenings at Northwick Park Primary School from 16.30 – 18.00. For more information and to sign up please contact: Sharan Allsopp, Canvey Schools Partnership Coordinator, 01268 682273.

**Walk your Way to the Games**

Walking your Way to the Games is a series of led walks that are taking place throughout the county. Castle Point, Rochford and Southend have recently teamed up to provide 5 led walks for the community to take part in. Forthcoming walks in the local area are scheduled for 16 March and 20 May.

**Essex Carrying the Flame**

Essex Carrying the Flame is a London 2012 education framework set up by Essex County Council to inspire a new generation of children and young people and support a legacy for the 2012 Games in Essex. A number of projects are being delivered to schools through this framework including a county cycling event, health festivals, sportshall athletics and mini games events.

**Rural Activities Fund**

Last year parishes and village communities were encouraged to take advantage of the Rural Activities Fund to help with the costs of hosting sporting and physical events that took place over Open Weekend. The fund for 2011 Open Weekend events will be launched on 15 March 2011.

**Cycling your Way to the Games**

New for spring and summer 2011 we are looking to develop ride leader training and led rides for Cycling your Way to the Games. If you are interested in become a ride leader please contact the Essex Legacy team for more information.
2. Assorted users
Using the feedback received during early consultations on the Olympic Mountain Bike Venue, it is clear that the wider area (particularly Hadleigh Country Park) is used for a wide range of recreational purposes - all of which need to be thoroughly considered as legacy proposals are developed.

No specific projects have been identified as yet, however the following themes are to be explored as improvements to the area are considered, covering both the area being used for the Olympic Mountain Bike Events and Hadleigh Country Park:

“Walking”
“Cycling”
“Horse Riding”
“Running”
“Engagement with Nature”
“Engagement with History”
“Visitor Facilities and Parking”
“Signage and Way Finding”

3. A Mountain Biking Legacy
As was strongly supported throughout the consultation process, Essex County Council remains committed to retaining the course developed for the London 2012 Games by adapting it to make it suitable for public use. (The existing course at Hadleigh Farm is not currently open for general public use as it has been designed for use under event conditions and is not safe for public access). The next stage of defining the detail of the Mountain Bike Legacy is to establish which groups would use the facility in the future and how that will be managed.

The next stage
Initial feedback is welcomed on the above themes. Additionally a short questionnaire will be available to download during April at www.essexlegacy.org/hadleighfarm and will also be posted or emailed to all those who have registered to receive the Hadleigh Farm Newsletter.

Please ensure you have registered your details through london2012@essexlegacy.gov.uk or by calling 01245 433 138.
Key Dates

Dates for all the events to be held at Hadleigh Farm are given below:

31 July 2011  LOCOG Test Event: Hadleigh Farm International

London 2012 Olympic Games

11 August 2012  Women’s Cross Country: race and victory ceremony
12 August 2012  Men’s Cross Country: race and victory ceremony

All events at Hadleigh Farm will be ticket access only. Tickets must be purchased in advance. More information can be found at www.tickets.london2012.com

Tickets will not be available for sale on event days.