

Workington Town Council

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Minutes of the Culture Committee of Workington Town Council, 6pm Tuesday 22 May 2018 in the Town Hall, Workington

J Wright (chair)	Apologies
M Bainbridge	Present
M Heaslip	Apologies
H Harrington	Present
J Holliday	Absent
A McGuckin (vice chair)	Present*
B Miskelly	Present
J Osborn	Present
M Rollo	Present*
M Suddart	Apologies
B Cannon (Mayor)	Not present, apologies
D Rollo (deputy Mayor)	Present

* arrived at 18.16, item 5.

In attendance: Town Clerk, Events Officer

C18.1 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs M Heaslip, M Suddart and J Wright. Additionally the committee received apologies from Cllr B Cannon, who as Mayor, is an ex-officio member of the committee. The meeting was chaired by the Vice Chair in the chair's absence. Cllr Osborn observed that his name was missed off the list of committee members on the agenda. The Clerk apologised, and corrected the record to show that Cllr Osborn had been appointed to the committee at the Annual Meeting.

C18.2 Declarations of Interest

None

C18.3 Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

No issues.

C18.4 Minutes of the previous meeting

The committee received the minutes of the meeting on 27 March 2018, and affirmed them as a true record.

There was a query about the Memory café events, and how they linked to the activities of the town's Dementia Awareness Alliance. It was explained that the events were scheduled at

a time when a member of staff regularly attended DAA meetings. Although this was no longer the case, it was agreed that the events should still go ahead, and the DAA would be kept informed.

C18.5 Culture Programme 2018-19

The committee received an update from the Events Officer on the current programme of Cultural Events in the town.

Workington Go! had taken place successfully, with good weather and numbers up to 339 participants (from 143 in the first year). Councillors congratulated the events team on delivering such a professional event. There was some discussion about the food offered in Vulcan Park and it was agreed that the Events Officer would investigate whether some form of healthy eating/café facility could be introduced for next year.

Party in the Park was the next scheduled major event, on 2 June in Vulcan Park. Local music charity Soundwave have been commissioned to programme the main stage with suitable local bands, there will be a local business market, funfare and children's entertainment.

The advance publicity for the performance of Romeo and Juliet by Oddsocks Theatre Company was being distributed. The show will be free to view in Hall Park on 29 June. Better lighting, quieter power supplies and an expanded food offering were all being factored in.

The Events Officer reported that the Twinning Association had requested that Party in the Park be held on 25 May 2019, to coincide with a visit from Selm, Germany to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the town's Twinning. It was further suggested that the date of the Mayor Making ceremony be moved to the previous evening (24 May 2019), so that guests from the twin towns could be present.

The committee then discussed a number of ideas for events coming from Allerdale Borough Council. The Borough's Assistant Operations Manager had proposed that the Town Council take over the operation of the Festival of Running, which was not currently taking place this year. It was agreed that with the appropriate support of the local running club, an event of this nature would sit well with the council's programme of events, and that this should be investigated for 2019. A series of Funding Proposals had been submitted by Borough Council Officers on the day of the meeting, which meant they could not be fully decided upon, however the committee examined them briefly to help town council officers give feedback to the proposer on their likely success. The Committee was very open to suggestions for future years for appropriate cooperative ventures, but these would require proper scheduling and budgeting from the Town Council. The suggested proposals appeared to be for the current financial year, in which it would be difficult to justify an unbudgeted call on the Council's reserves.

Resolved: To note the report and propose to the Full Council the suggested date change for Mayor Making to tie with Party in the Park 2019. To give appropriate feedback to Borough Council officers on their proposals for funding, which will be considered at a future meeting.

C18.6 Proposals for Funding

a) National Youth Chamber Choir

The Committee considered a proposal from Workington Rotary Club and Rosehill Theatre that the Council funds a matinee performance by the National Youth Chamber Choir at St John's Church on 4 November 2018. The proposers were seeking a council contribution of £3,000 for the event, which it was suggested would enhance the town's reputation as a Cultural centre. There was some discussion about the nature of the event, and the likely impact it would have on the cultural vibrancy of the town. It was noted that, as with the discussion of the previous item, the proposal was for an event in the current financial year, which was unscheduled and unbudgeted. In this context, the committee again did not feel that the proposal justified a call on the council's reserves.

Resolved: To decline the proposal that the Town Council funds the visit of the National Youth Chamber Choir'.

C18.7 Remembrance Day 2018

The Events Officer reported that the Assistant Events Officer had been helping to convene a working group pulling together the various groups who were planning activities for Remembrance. These included craft activities in schools, the Sea Cadets holding a memorial ball and a number of other activities. The chair welcomed the initiative and encouraged other councillors to take part. The committee considered a proposal that the town council purchases two 'Silent Soldiers', 1.45m-high silhouetted figures made from dibond and produced by the Royal British Legion. It was suggested that soldiers be installed at the Mandelion and at the corner of Moorclose Road and Church Road, Harrington (at Beckstone Bridge). The figures cost £250 each, of which £150 goes direct to the Poppy Appeal.

The committee went on to discuss the size of the budget allocated to the 100th year anniversary of the First World War. Noting that it had been increased on previous years, but that the committee was now considering offering grants to other groups for them to buy their own 'Silent Soldiers', it was suggested that the budget be raised to £4,000 to allow sufficient headroom for the town's activities. This would require approval from the Policy and Resources Committee, either as a virement, or to be drawn from unallocated reserves.

Resolved: To purchase two 'Silent Soldiers' for installation in the town, subject to appropriate permissions.

Resolved: To seek an increase in the budget allocation for Remembrance 2018 from the Policy and Resources Committee.

C18.8. Applications for Community Grants

The committee considered an application for a Community Service Grant from the Carnegie Singers to help towards the costs of a Spring Concert at the Theatre Royal. The committee noted that the Carnegie Singers had not required very much in the way of grant funding and confirmed that they would accept another application from the group in this financial year, if the group required it.

Resolved: To award a grant of £300

C18.9. Jane Pit Miners' Memorial

The Clerk gave a brief verbal report on the Heritage Lottery Funded project to establish a memorial to the Mineworkers of Workington at Jane Pit. DigVentures had delivered a very successful ten-day archaeology project, which had involved a wide range of people from the local community and the project would now move on to writing up the Second stage bid for funding.

Resolved: To note the report.

C18.10. Twinning

The chair reported that she had attended a brief meeting following Mayor Making, which confirmed arrangements for the Youth Camp this summer and the Carnegie Singers trip to Selm next year. It had also looked at dates for the Selm visit to Workington, which was proposed for the weekend of 24 May. It was noted that some councillors were unaware of the meeting and that the notes from the meeting had not been circulated. The Clerk promised to look into the matter.

Resolved: To note the report.

C18.11. Sport Provision

The committee considered a brief progress report on developing links with sporting bodies in the town as a vehicle for consultation on the deployment of the council's sports budget allocation of £10,000. Cllr Rollo confirmed that he was hoping to meet with the Borough Council's Sports Development officer, and the Events Officer confirmed that she would be convening a 'Sporting Links' meeting, echoing the development of the Forging Links cultural groups meeting which acted as a focus for the sharing of ideas and issues across the town.

Resolved: To note the report.

The meeting closed at 19:10