

Workington Town Council

Town Hall, Oxford Street, Workington, Cumbria CA14 2RS

Telephone: 01900 702986

Email: office@workingtontowncouncil.gov.uk

Website: www.workingtontowncouncil.gov.uk



Minutes of the Culture Committee of Workington Town Council, 6.15pm Tuesday 23 May 2017 in the Town Hall, Workington

A McGuckin (chair)	Present
M Bainbridge	Apologies
B Cannon	Apologies
M Heaslip	Present
H Harrington	Apologies
A Lawson	Apologies
B Miskelly	Present
M Rollo	Absent
T Wardley	Apologies
J Wright (vice chair)	Present

In attendance: Town Clerk, Events Officer, Assistant Town Clerk

The committee held a minutes silence in light of the recent tragedy in Manchester.

C17.1 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs M Bainbridge, B Cannon, H Harrington, A Lawson and T Wardley.

C17.2 Declarations of Interest

None

C17.3 Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

To exclude the press and public from item 10, which relates to contractual negotiations not yet in the public domain.

C17.4 Minutes of the previous meeting

The committee received the minutes of the meeting's on 23 March 2017 and 25 April 2017, and affirmed them as a true record.

C17.5 Twinning Association

The Mayor reported that the Twinning Association were experiencing a busy week with the upcoming Party in the Park; arrangements were being made to transport and accommodate the 14 guests from the twinned towns. The clerk confirmed that the Town Hall will be flying the French Flag over the weekend to mark the visit.

There was a discussion about the security presence in Vulcan Park, following the recent attack in Manchester. The Clerk confirmed that the Event Advisory Group are consulted as standard for all Town Council events. They have been provided with the emergency procedure and this has been reviewed by the appropriate emergency organisations locally. The Events Officer confirmed that stewards and staff would receive the appropriate training for an emergency situation and the police remain happy with the arrangements. Councillors thanked officers for the amount of work gone into the organising of the event.

Resolved: To note the report.

C17.6 Grants

a) New Arts North

Request: To develop and produce an interactive puppet theatre, which reveals and records people's feelings about 'home'.

Councillors praised the concept brought forward by New Arts North, however it was highlighted that the company were asking for help after the idea had been established and the committee agreed that the Town Council's involvement from the outset would have been beneficial. There was some discussion about the supporting documentation provided, and it was noted that an equal opportunities policy had not been supplied

Resolved: To provide £200 of funding upon receipt of their equal opportunities policy.

b) Zonked out on ACDO

Request: To support the development of the 30th anniversary production of Zonked out on ACDO, including funding for German support bands to attend the event.

It was noted that the application had been received from an individual and that this organisation does not have the required accounts to meet the criteria of the grant funding process. The committee strongly supported the concept of the event in Workington and there was a proposal for officers to work with the group to allow the Town Council to support the event and obtain the documentation required.

Resolved: To reconsider the application upon receipt of the appropriate documentation following consultation with the applicant and other stakeholders.

C17.7 Budget

The Town Clerk presented the committee with the agreed budget for 2017-18; the committee discussed the commitments for each line of the budget, this included.

- A review of the core funding for the Town Band. There is an allocation for £1,200 of core funding; however no feedback has been received on how the money is spent. This will be required before any funding is given.
- An over spend on last year's budget for Remembrance. There was a discussion on how this could be increased for 2017-18 and it was recommended to put this forward to Policy and Resources.
- The amount of funding provided to the Twinning Association. It was noted that the Town Council has a responsibility to cover some costs for Twinning at Civic Functions. Councillors noted that the budget line for Twinning should be altered to read 'Twinning

Association General' and that there should be a separate line in the budget for 'Twinning Civic'.

- The current allocation for 'Fun Days'. The events officer reported that fun days held around Christmas and Hallowe'en have received poor attendance and it should be re-considered whether to deliver these in 2017. It was proposed to convene an additional meeting following the summer fun days to review attendance.
- Funding for the Carnegie. It was agreed that the funding is essential, and that the committee would like to receive an annual report and business plan to support the grant.
- Funding for the Helena Thomson Museum. It was agreed that the Museum should also produce an annual report and business plan. Councillors noted that the current governance structure for the Museum was under review and proposed that future funding should be paid to the museum's trustees. It was agreed to instruct officers to review the governance arrangements for the museum as it may be argued that these are not being met by Allerdale Borough Council.
- The current provision for the Technology Fest. It was reported that £500 had been earmarked for the Rotary Club to deliver a technology tournament, however spending for the remainder of the budget has not been agreed. Councillors discussed the opportunity to use this money to contribute towards supporting the elderly and technology.
- 'Big Lunch' fund. Following a lack of funding requests, the clerk had received a suggestion for the Town Council to host a big lunch style event. The committee discussed options to use the funding to help the local Food Bank or for a Christmas Lunch. It was agreed to present options to the Policy and Resources committee.

Resolved: To request reports for funding as highlighted.

Resolved: To review the governance arrangements for the Helena Thompson Museum with Allerdale Borough Council.

Resolved: To present proposed budgetary changes to the Policy and Resources Committee.

C17.8 Jane Pit

The Assistant Town Clerk reported that Officers were meeting with the Heritage Lottery Fund in the coming weeks to work through the grant application process; the Town Council are looking to apply for the larger 'Heritage Grant' fund. It is predicted that a substantial portion of the funding will contribute towards the restoration of the structure. A full structural survey will commence following a briefing on the project within Allerdale Borough Council. The next stage of the project is to begin the tendering process for archaeologists and complete the Scheduled Monument Consent application.

Resolved: To note the report.

C17.9 Christmas Festival 2017

The Events Officer gave a report on the options for a road closure to accommodate the 2017 Christmas Festival. This included the road closure scheme used in previous years, closing Finkle Street, Murray Road and Speedwell Lane, an option to keep Speedwell Lane open and close Murray Road and Finkle Street or to identify a new location for the festival. The committee reviewed these options and it was agreed that the location of the festival has been successful previously and closing all roads in the vicinity would be more appropriate for the health and safety of the public.

Resolved: To apply for road closures on Murray Road, Finkle Street and Speedwell Lane for the 2017 Christmas Festival.

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

The committee considered whether to exclude the press and public from the next agenda item because the issue involved contractual negotiations which are not yet in the public domain.

Resolved: To exclude the press and public from the consideration of the next item.

C17.10 Christmas Lights

The committee considered the future delivery of Workington's Christmas lights and were provided options on how to move forward with a lighting scheme for the 2017 and for the long term. Due to the contractual negotiations involved, this information is held in the confidential report.

Resolved: To deliver Workington's Christmas lighting scheme as approved in confidential report dated 23 May 2017.

The meeting closed at 20.15