

WORKINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Policy and Resources committee of Workington Town Council Tuesday 18 March 2014 in the Town Hall, Workington

C Armstrong	Present
M Bainbridge (Chair)	Present
D Coe	Present
K Hansen	Present
M Jones	Present
J Osborn	Present
N Schofield	Present
J Wright	Present

PR13.39 Apologies

No apologies were received. Cllr N Schofield arrived 5 mins late.

PR13.40 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs M Bainbridge and K Hansen drew the committee's attention to their interest in the Trades Hall (item 4). Cllr C Armstrong drew the committee's attention to her role as a board member of the South Workington Youth Partnership.

PR13.41 Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

It was agreed that the press and public be excluded from Item 11 because it would be prejudicial to the public interest to bring contractual information into the public domain.

PR13.42 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 7 January 2013 were received and affirmed as a true record.

PR13.43 Developing Provision for Young People in Workington

The committee received a short presentation from Ann Cartner, Inspira Team Leader in Workington. Ms Cartner explained Inspira's journey from Connexions Cumbria - the county's careers service, to a national social enterprise based in Cumbria and delivering community work with young people (11-19). Their programmes in Workington include careers guidance in schools, supporting care leavers, running a Youth Club in St John's, targeted interventions aimed at reducing risk, particularly with teen parents and young offenders.

Ms Cartner was asked if there were any perceived gaps in provision, and she explained she felt there was work that could be usefully done around the issue of young people's involvement in democracy and decision making. It was noted that Inspira claimed a good record in reaching all sections of the community, and they had particular experience of working with young people who were not in education, employment or training.

Ms Cartner left the meeting and the committee considered how they might commission an organisation such as Inspira to meet its commitments to investing in youth democracy.

Resolved: To develop a proposal for a commissioned piece of work led by Inspira with young people to ascertain the extent and nature of young people's out of school provision in Workington and identify any need for investment and development.

Resolved: To allocate funding of £5,000 towards the project. £2,500 from Commissioned Service budget, £2,500 from Community Development budget.

PR13.44 Supporting Communities in Workington – South Workington Youth Partnership

The committee received a presentation from Angela Goode and Dave McGarry from South Workington Youth Partnership, explaining their role in the lives of the young people who attend their various activities. Ms Goode explained the various influences on their work and their aims at creating good citizens. She described the programmes they run and the awards they have received for their work. They currently have around 136 young people on their books, predominantly, but not exclusively from the South Workington area.

Following the departure of the SWYP staff the committee discussed how they could support its work and further the council's aims of community development and social investment. It was noted that the organisation was in financial need due to changes in funding from other sources.

Resolved: To make a grant of £5,000 from underspends in the current financial year to support the work of South Workington Youth Partnership.

Resolved: To recommend that the SWYP is further funded at £5,000 per year for the next three years, subject to the necessary conditions of due diligence being fulfilled.

PR13.45 Supporting Communities in Workington - Trades Hall

Cllr M Bainbridge and K Hansen left the room. Cllr C Armstrong took the chair. The committee considered whether it was appropriate to offer additional support to the Trades Hall in this financial year. It heard that Cllrs Armstrong and Wright had recently visited the

Trades Hall to see the work being done there. It was noted that organisation was under financial stress due to squeezes on other funding sources and an increase in clients caused by recent changes to the welfare system.

Resolved: To make a grant of £5,000 from underspends in the current financial year to support the work of the Trades Hall in Workington.

PR13.46 Bus service cuts

It was noted that Cumbria County Council had proposed cutting bus subsidies to a number of services in Workington. It was further noted that this proposal had been given a stay of execution, pending discussions between the county council and other partners such as parish councils. There was some discussion on the extent of the impact of service cuts on the people of Workington.

Resolved: To inform Cumbria County Council that Workington Town Council is interested in engaging with them to see how they can support any lifeline services in the town, should they be under threat, and will consider making finance available where appropriate to maintain services, through its powers under s137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

PR13.47 Community Grants

The committee considered a grant application from Ry-Ju-Kwai Judo Club. The clerk explained that the grant application had originally been deferred by a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee in January 2013. The Clerk had subsequently spoken to the applicant and agreed that a smaller grant would be appropriate for supporting the club's work with young people.

Resolved: To make a grant of £250 to support the club's work with young people.

PR13.48 Culture Activities

The committee considered a request from the Chair of the Culture Committee that reserves are used to fund a series of three sports fun days in Harrington, Moorclose and Vulcan's Park over the summer.

Resolved: To allocate £6,000 from budget underspends and to invite South Workington Youth Partnership to develop the proposal.

PR 13.49 Newsletter

The Town Clerk reported that he had received quotes for printing (£660), design (£100) and distribution (£728) for a 4pp A4 newsletter delivered to every household in Workington. He

distributed copies of the proposed contents of the newsletter and hoped to have it delivered by Easter.

Resolved to note the plans.

Note to PR13.50 Town Hall and Accommodation for the Council

The committee received a report from the Town Clerk. It is minuted separately, due to its confidential nature.