

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

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

C17.11 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs B Cannon, A Lawson and M Rollo.

C17.12 Declarations of Interest

None

C17.13 Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

It was agreed to hold the meeting entirely in the public domain.

C17.14 Minutes of the previous meeting

The committee received the minutes of the meeting on 23 May and affirmed them as a true record.

C17.15 Twinning Association

The assistant clerk presented a report on behalf of Cllr B Cannon. It was reported that a small delegation travelled to Val de Reuil following an invitation from the Mayor, Marc Antoine Jamet. Delegations from Val de Reuil's other twinned towns were also present. The group attended community Bastille celebrations on 13th July at Val de Reuil's local park; this included Chinese lanterns, Bollywood dancing and a firework display. On 14th July the group attend a formal Bastille Day ceremony at Val de Reuil's peace wall, here the Mayor gave formal speech, and this was followed by speeches from each of the twinned towns. Cllr Cannon presented Marc Antoine with a poem written by John Hastings. The Mayor read this to the audience and it was well received.

The visit provided an opportunity to reinforce and enhance twinning links with Val de Reuil for the potential of future school links and exchanges. The assistant clerk noted that this also provided an opportunity to promote connections for future events such as the Christmas festival 2017 and the Twinning Association's Youth Camp in 2018.

Resolved: To note the report.

C17.16 Grants

a) Application for Funding

i) West Cumbria Guild of Model Engineers

Request: Funding to cover the costs to increase the stock of passenger wagons following expansion of membership

The committee discussed the current work carried out by the group and the possibility of developing links between the group for events and with schools.

Resolved: To award £1,440 from the Cultural Groups Budget.

ii) Friends of Cowper School of Dance

Request: Funding for costs of for group to travel to New York following an audition

Resolved: To award £300 from the Community Grants Budget.

b) Update on Previous Applications

The assistant town clerk reported that Zonked out on ACDO would be working with the Carnegie to complete an application for funding. This will ensure they could receive the funds required to deliver their 30th anniversary production. The Town Council are still waiting to receive the application form the Carnegie

Resolved: To note the report.

C17.17 Jane Pit

The assistant town clerk reported that the bid for Heritage Lottery funding would be submitted before the next deadline in September, the tender for the archaeological works has also been presented on contract finder to close on the 12 September. A structural survey of the site has been completed and the report is due to be received soon, this will show the extent of remedial works that are required. The clerk reported that following the recent meeting of Policy and Resources it was agreed to secure a long term lease, in excess of 20 years, from the Borough Council. This would ensure that the Heritage Lottery Funding bid could be completed successfully according to their guidelines. Councillors we keen to promote and publicise the Heritage Lottery funding if the bid is successful. The clerk reported that the current history and desk top survey is available on the Town Council website for councillors to review the project.

Resolved: To note the report.

C17.18 Events Programme 2017

The Events Officer reported that Party in the Park and the Fun Days, hosted so far, have been successful. Musical and dance events have started under the hub and will continue throughout the summer, until September. The next Fun Day will be held in Harrington; this will include sports and craft activities, this is followed by a Fun Day at Mossbay. This will be the first time a fund Day will be held at Mossbay, adjacent to Jane Pit.

The Events Officer noted that the Harrington Kite Festival is on the 19 August and this has been receiving a positive response. There was a brief discussion about how these events are promoted and marketed, the Events Officer noted that leaflets for upcoming events are due to be distributed shortly.

A site location for the production of Macbeth was presented to the committee. It was explained to councillors that the initial site for the stage has changed due to the trees close to the Hall. A number of councillors expressed an interest to attend a site visit to view the layout of the site and seating. It was reported that the event would include a limited number of food stalls and that prior to the performance storytelling tours and archery would be available.

There was a brief discussion concerning both the location of the Christmas lighting and the possibility of hosting more lighting on Wilson Street, the clerk confirmed that a number of repairs to the lighting infrastructure were still required and that additional lighting would be investigated upon completion of these essential works.

19.05 Cllr M Bainbridge left the meeting.

Resolved: To note the report

C17.19 Events Programme 2018

Councillors discussed the events hosted in the past year including Mayor Making, Party in the Park and Workington GO, noting that holding events in the Spring Bank Holiday and during the summer held positive responses. A councillor highlighted that the 11 November 2018 marked the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War and that an event should be carried out to commemorate this. A number of councillors commented that the British Legion would be hosting an event themselves and that anything produced by the Town Council should be held alongside this. It was proposed to convene a subcommittee to discuss the possibilities for this event.

Resolved: To establish a subcommittee, with the Royal British Legion and those groups who have a connection to Remembrance Day, to create a commemorative event in November 2018.

C17.20 Big Lunch

The clerk reported that there are still funds from the Big Lunch budget that remained unspent. He gave a review of the concept to work with members of Workington Dementia Action Alliance to present small workshops or a big event that would benefit both people living with dementia locally and their carer's. The clerk confirmed that this concept was in the development stages and that officers would like to research this further.

Resolved: To research an event that supports those living with Dementia in connection with the Workington Dementia Action Alliance.

C17.21 Technology Budget

An overview of the under use of the technology of the hub was reported to councillors. It was noted that the money that remained unspent in the technology budget could be used to make the best use of technology that was already available to the Town Council. Councillors discussed this opportunity presented with Soundwave and requested further information on the content of the workshops. Alternatives to spend this budget included awarding grants to locations that have the technology in place but require additional funding to allow people to be trained to use them.

Resolved: To develop these concepts and present them at a subsequent Culture meeting.

C17.22 Helena Thompson Museum

The clerk reported that, following the Culture Committee's concerns with the governance of the Helena Thompson Museum, the clerk had investigated the structure with the Borough Council. Allerdale Borough Council has been confirmed as the sole trustee of the Helena Thomson Museum. The Policy and Resources Committee were consulted on how they wished for the relationship with the Museum to progress with this knowledge, it was resolved that the Town Council would remain supportive where possible. A councillor requested confirmation of the trusteeship in writing; the clerk highlighted that he was awaiting this information from Borough Council Officers. The committee discussed how to move forward with the outstanding funding allocated to the Museum.

Resolved: To retain the funding for the Helena Thompson Museum until the governance arrangements are affirmed in writing.

The meeting closed at 19.45