

Workington Town Council

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Minutes of the Culture Committee of Workington Town Council, 6pm Tuesday 18 September 2018 in the Town Hall, Workington

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

In attendance: Town Clerk, Events Officer

C18.23 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs M Bainbridge, M Heaslip, J Osborn, M Suddart and the Mayor, Cllr B Cannon.

C18.24 Declarations of Interest

Cllr McGuckin brought councillors attention to his membership of WAOS in relation to item 5.

C18.25 Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

No issues.

C18.26 Minutes of the previous meeting

The committee received the minutes of the meeting on 17 July 2018, and affirmed them as a true record.

C18.27 Proposals for Funding Workington Amateur Operatic Society (WAOS)

Cllr McGuckin took no part in this item.

The Committee considered a proposal for Funding from WAOS, to assist in the promotion of their production of Spamalot in November 2018. It was noted that the organisation plays a valuable role in the town and should be supported.

Resolved: To fund the group £500 from the Cultural Groups budget

b) Maryport Festivals

The Committee considered a proposal from Maryport Festivals that the council funds a project around the schools of Workington and district called 'Tommys and Tanks' to a value of £4,000. The project congratulated for its innovative idea, but it was suggested that it was quite late in the year to be looking at a Remembrance project. The Project exceeded the money available in the Remembrance budget and would not exclusively serve Workington. In this respect it felt more like a project for a principal authority to support.

Resolved: Not to support the proposal.

C18.28 Theatre Funding

The Committee noted that it had funding proposals from two of the town's three theatres, and agreed to consider them under one item as they were both proposing to access the Committee's Theatre budget, which was set at £10,000 in the current financial year.

Cllr McGuckin suggested he may have an interest relating to this item, which might cause his contribution to be considered biased (some of the quotes for electrical work were supplied by SJ McGuckin, for whom he is an employee.) On this basis he withdrew from the debate and took no part in issues relating to the Theatre Royal proposal.

Workington Playgoers submitted a Proposal for the funding of the renovation of the Flying Grid and House Curtains in the Theatre Royal. The shortfall in funding for this project appears to be in the region of £14,000. The Carnegie Theatre and Arts Centre had submitted a proposal for £7,500 to support their ongoing renovation and improvement work to the venue. It was noted that the Theatre's running grant from Allerdale Borough Council was scheduled to reduce by £15,000 per year. It was noted that the Theatre Royal had not required extensive funding from the Town Council in previous years, whereas the Carnegie Theatre had benefited from relatively large payments in the last three years. There was some discussion about the role of the council in supporting all the town's theatres, this being the reason why the budget heading was established in the broadest terms.

Resolved: To make a £7,000 contribution towards the Theatre Royal's current project.

Resolved: Not to support the Carnegie's proposal for funding at this time.

C18.29. Community Service Grants

a) Rotary Club Oktoberfest beer festival

The Committee heard that the Town Clerk and the Chair of the Committee had exercised their power under Financial Regulation 4.1 to fund the Rotary Club's brochure for the forthcoming Beer festival. The sum of £180 required an agreement at the beginning of the month.

Resolved: To note the decision, and to ask the Rotary Club to be more forward in their planning in future years.

b) 1st Workington (St John's) Scouts

The committee considered a request from 1st Workington (St John's) Scouts for £300 to assist in sending a young person to the World Scouting Jamoree in 2019.

Resolved: To award a grant of £300 from the Community Services grant budget.

c) Royal British Legion Womens Section

The Committee considered an application for £300 to support a thank you event for those ex-service personnel involved in the commemoration of the end of World War One.

Resolved: To award a grant of £300 from the Community Services grant budget.

C18. 30. Cumbria Tourism

The Committee considered whether to renew Cumbria Tourism membership for the coming year. It was agreed that the fee of £255 continued to be worthwhile to ensure the town remained committed to promoting itself to the outside world.

Resolved: To renew the membership.

C18.31. Town Centre Music

The committee briefly considered a proposal to move the Town Centre music programme to another venue in the town, for example Vulcan Park.

Resolved: To review this matter at the November budget meeting.

C18.32. Hospice at Home Concert

The Committee considered whether there was scope to support a Hospice at Home event which was being organised in aid of the Mayor's Charity. It was noted that Mayor's Charity events, by custom and practice, were considered to be self-financing.

Resolved: That Mayor's Charity events organised externally should be self-financing.

C18.33. Culture Programme 2018-19

The Events Officer briefly reported on the successes of the summer's programme of events including the two day Kite Festival in Harrington, which was slightly affected by high winds, but otherwise proved very popular. Fun Days had been well-attended and the Music programme under the Hub had been largely well-received, though was not without its issues which have been discussed elsewhere. Across the piece, participation and attendance was up, and this should be considered a measure of the success of the council's events policy.

Resolved: To note the report and thank the Events team and all those who contributed to making the Events programme such a success.

C18.34. Culture Programme 2019-20

The Committee considered a draft provisional programme of Events for the next financial year and was asked to make a number of decisions which would give the Events team a good planning period. It was noted that Oddsocks Theatre, who were the council's preferred contractor for outdoor performance of Shakespeare, had requested two nights for

Midsummer Night's Dream, so as to allow them to build a more complex set, and to ensure that numbers stay manageable for their unamplified performance. There was some discussion about how the performances could be made more commercially viable without sacrificing the key element of them being free Shakespeare in the park. Opportunities for sponsorship were discussed and the income from concessions. A councillor expressed a desire to run a catering stall on behalf of the council or the Mayor's charity, and this was agreed could be possible, subject to the standard conditions, which would be assessed by officers.

After discussions with Allerdale Borough Council, it had been suggested that the Town Council take over the operation of the 'Festival of Running', a 10k, 5k and 1k running event run in conjunction with a local running club. Subject to this arrangement being possible, it was agreed this could be provisionally scheduled.

Resolved: The Draft provisional programme was agreed as follow, subject to any operational considerations and changes.

Date	Time	Event
Wed 13th March	6pm	Town Assembly
Sat 20 April	12-4	Fun Day Moorclose
Wed 8th May	6pm	Annual Meeting
Sat 18 May	11am-4pm	Workington GO!
Mid to late May	Tbc	Festival of Running
Friday 24 May	TBC	Mayor Making Ceremony
Saturday 25 May	11am-4pm	Party in the Park
Mid/late June 2 nights	7-11pm	A Midsummer Night's Dream
Sat 27 July	12-4	Fun Day Harrington
Sat 10 Aug	12-4	Fun Day Moss Bay
Sat 17 & Sun 18 August	11am-4pm	Kite Festival
Sat 24 Aug	10-4	Fun Day Vulcan Park
Sat 30 November	11am – 5.30pm	Christmas Festival

C18.35. Remembrance Day 2018

The Committee reviewed arrangements for the commemoration of the end of World War One A 'Walk of Remembrance' was being planned, after the council had received a grant-funded supply of silhouette shapes to represent those who fell in the Great War. There was

some discussion about locations which would be most effective, and it was agreed that the context was important to provoke thought. Locations would be chosen which maximised the impact.

Resolved: To note the report

C18.36 Beacon Lighting 2018

The Committee considered the arrangements for lighting the Duffield Beacon on the evening of 11 November to join with a national moment of reflection on the end of the First World War.

Resolved: That the Mayor's Chaplain be asked to make a very brief address.

C18.37. Jane Pit Miners' Memorial

The Committee received a brief verbal report from the Clerk on the Heritage Lottery Funded project to establish a memorial to the Mineworkers of Workington at Jane Pit. The First stage was now complete, and a report to HLF was being prepared. The plans for second stage were in hand, though the timetable to complete the application this autumn was quite tight.

Resolved: To note the report.

C18.38. Twinning

In the absence of the Mayor, the Clerk gave a very brief verbal report on the Association's activities. The Camp in August had been a great success. Planning for the 25th Anniversary of the Association with Selma was under way, with a trip to Germany in February half term, reciprocated in May for Mayor Making and Party in the Park. The agm date had been set for 18 October, and a newsletter would be issued very soon.

Resolved: To note the report.

The meeting closed at 19:25