

# 19<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Minutes of the proceedings of the **ARTS & CULTURE COMMITTEE** meeting held on this day in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, WOKINGHAM** from 19:34 to 21:13.

## **PRESENT**

Chairman: Cllr Mrs G S Hewetson  
Councillors: Cllrs M Bishop, Ms S Gurney and Mrs S Steatham

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

Arts and Culture Officer

## **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr M Monk, K Morgan, C Moore and Mrs A Teboth.

## **MEMBERS' INTERESTS (Agenda Item 2)**

Cllr Mrs Hewetson stated that she is a trustee of the Cultural Partnership: more arts.

## **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OR PUBLIC (Agenda Item 3)**

No questions have been received.

## **ARTS & CULTURE COMMITTEE MINUTES (Agenda Item 4)**

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Hewetson and seconded by Cllr Ms Gurney and it was

**RESOLVED  
29834**

that the Minutes of the Arts & Culture Committee meetings held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2018 (pages 15658 to 15661) and the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2018 (pages 15677) be received as a true and correct record and that they be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

## **MONITORING REPORT (Agenda Item 5)**

The Monitoring Report dated 13<sup>th</sup> November 2018 was received and considered.

### **Wokingham Mosaics:**

To be considered under Agenda Item 11.

### **Livestreaming and video sharing to Care Homes:**

The Arts and Culture Officer reported that she are still to contact the Care Homes but hopes to do so shortly. It was suggested that she could liaise with More Arts, who due to their own project work with art in Care Homes have direct contacts with the key people to support this initiative. It was requested that the recent Remembrance video with closed captions be the first to be shared.

Cllr Mrs Steatham joined the meeting.

### **Wokingham Children's Book Festival:**

To be considered under Agenda Item 10.



**Resident Feedback Device:**

The Arts and Culture Officer reported that the first test occurred at the Children's Book Festival with a tablet based form. It worked reasonably well and captured information on how well they liked the event and how they heard about it.

Cllr Gurney reported that she would continue to liaise with the Newbury Hackspace to get a cost and detail on a simple fun push button device. It was discussed that this would be useful for events such as Living Advent Calendar and Sunny Saturdays. It was requested that if at all possible, even if it was a very simple mechanical voting system, that something be ready to capture feedback at the Wokingham Living Advent Calendar. Cllr's Gurney and Steatham agreed to look into crafting something as soon as possible.

**ACTION: CLLRS GURNEY AND STEATHAM**

**Fun Day Alternatives to Balloons:**

The Arts and Culture Officer reported that further work on the alternatives for balloons led that Pinwheels (aka windmills) would be the most engaging option. While these couldn't be entirely made out of biodegradable materials they could be made in from recycled paper and recycled plastic and the plastic would be easier to collect should it be littered than the broken balloons.

**Potential Board gaming event**

The Arts and Culture Officer reported that this event was subject to F&P Committee budget approval.

It was discussed and agreed that this event would sit best in February (2020) filling a gap in the year of events. That it would be aimed at Teens/Young Adults and would be ticketed but free. Cllr Gurney agreed that even if she should not be re-elected to Council she would be willing to help.

**ATTENDANCE (Agenda Item 6)**

Cllr Mrs Steatham's explanation for her absence from three consecutive ordinary meetings of the Committee was received and considered.

Members recognised that her experience was a valuable resource for the Committee and it was proposed by Cllr Hewetson and seconded by Cllr Bishop and it was

**RESOLVED  
29835**

that she should remain a member of the Committee.

**COMMITTEE BUDGET (Agenda Item 7)**

The Arts and Culture Committee's budget dated to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018 was received and noted.

It was noted that the Mosaics project was expecting further income in sponsorship to offset the spend. This had been invoiced for but not yet received.

**THEATRE IN THE PARK (Agenda Item 8)**

Theatre in the Park was discussed, it was agreed that this year there should be a play that appeals to adults (that also would be fine to take children to) as well as a play for the children.

The issue of donations for the event was considered and it was proposed by Cllr Gurney and seconded by Cllr Bishop and it was

**RESOLVED  
29836**

to revise the event so that 100% of donations to the event went to the management company responsible for arranging the plays.



The Arts and Culture Officer will now revise the brief and submit it to a number of local groups who might be able to manage the plays or submit play ideas.

**ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER**

### **SUNNY SATURDAYS (Agenda Item 9)**

The report by the Arts and Culture Officer was received and considered.

The Committee were in agreement with the recommendations and requested that in addition the following be explored:

- In response to recommendation 4.1 contact the local school music and drama groups to attend and consider this years and past Living Advent Calendar performers such as the 4bones.
- In response to 4.2 ensure contact is made with BBC Radio Berkshire about this event.

**ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER**

### **WOKINGHAM CHILDRENS BOOK FESTIVAL (Agenda Item 10)**

a) The report by the Arts and Culture Officer was received and considered. The committee praised the event, recognising it had been well received and enjoyed. Considering format it was agreed that this should stay the same, allowing for some changes of duration and venue to improve and manage some challenges from this year. That both the Town Hall and Library should be used for one day alongside a potential third venue. Additionally there was exploration for a big name that would require a significant size venue for that one event.

b) The date was considered and it was agreed that trying to have this event on the same weekend as the Cantley Fireworks and the latter weekend of the Half Term would not be wise. It was agreed to recommend to the Steering Group that the preference would be for the 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> October but that the 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> October would also be acceptable.

Regarding ticket costs the Committee was agreed that the current pricing and the suggested alternative of charging the Adults less for this event would be acceptable, subject to proper pitching of the concept in marketing. It was suggested that for the complimentary tickets that engaging with the local children's charities may offer more resources to get to the vulnerable families than schools alone.

The Arts and Culture Officer will arrange a meeting of the steering group to formalise a date for next year to ensure that planning can begin.

**ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER**

### **MOSAICS WORKING PARTY (Agenda Item 11)**

The Chairman gave an update on the most recent meeting of the Mosaics Working Party. Various historical and cultural ideas are being considered for future planned mosaic locations.

### **COMMITTEE INFORMATION (Agenda Item 12)**

No items were raised.



### **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC (Agenda Item 13)**

It was proposed by Cllr Ms Gurney and seconded by Cllr Mrs Steatham and it was

**RESOLVED  
29837**

that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, e.g. legal and financial matters, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and instructed to withdraw.

### **INTERNATIONAL STREET CONCERT (Agenda Item 14)**

The report by the Arts and Culture Officer was received. The Committee were grateful to receive reassuring answers to the questions.

**RESOLVED  
29838**

It was proposed by Cllr Gurney and seconded by Cllr Bishop and it was

To accept the tender A by the preferred provider from last meeting as the partner for the 2019 International Street Concert.

The Arts and Culture Officer confirmed that this is Yes Events. Who has undertaken the staging and lighting side of this event for a number of years.

The Committee were keen to engage further with the company for the decision regarding the music. They were in agreement that the music should strongly reflect the International in the event, local and British acts should not be excluded. That music not be Tribute bands but bands who do good quality covers and original acts. Further meetings will take place with the company to create a draft line up as soon as possible in order to start booking acts for the event.

**CHAIRMAN**

