

12th March 2018

Minutes of the proceedings of the **ARTS & CULTURE COMMITTEE** meeting held on this day in the **DIAMOND JUBILEE ROOM, TOWN HALL, WOKINGHAM** from 19:30 to 20:46.

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr Mrs G S Hewetson
Councillors: Cllrs M Bishop, Mrs A Drake, Ms Gurney, K Morgan and Mrs S Steatham.

IN ATTENDANCE

Arts and Culture Officer
Museum Volunteer
Cllr Shepherd DuBey

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr M Monk.

MEMBERS' INTERESTS (Agenda Item 2)

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

Cllr Mrs Steatham stated that she is a member of Wokingham Theatre.

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
29695**

that the Minutes of the Arts & Culture Committee meeting held on 22nd January (pages 15516 to 15519) 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 6th March 2018 was received and considered.

Wokingham Mosaics:

To be considered under Agenda Item 12.

Virtual Museum:

To be considered under Agenda Item 8

Objectives:

To be considered under Agenda Item 7.

Market Place Celebration:

To be considered under Agenda Item 9



Livestreaming and video sharing to Care Homes:

The Arts and Culture Officer reported that she was considering future livestreaming options across the events as a whole. Specific engagement with Care Homes was estimated to begin post May.

COMMITTEE BUDGET (Agenda Item 6)

The Arts and Culture Committee's budget dated to 31st January was received and noted.

OBJECTIVES REVIEW (Agenda Item 7)

Cllr Ms Gurney presented a reviewed set of objectives and metrics based on the existing ones and utilising the SMART process. The Committee discussed the review and thanked Cllr Ms Gurney on her work to produce this document. The Chairman requested that the Committee consider further and come back to the next meeting to confirm changes.

ACTION: ARTS & CULTURE COMMITTEE

VIRTUAL MUSEUM (Agenda Item 8)

The Chairman welcomed Museum Volunteer Mr Lenton and thanked him for the work done on updating the Virtual Museum with the items in the Town Hall.

The Museum Volunteer presented on the work done on the Virtual Museum, including an overview of the existing web archive and made some suggestions for next steps with regards to looking out into the wider town for artefacts.

The Committee discussed the concept of looking out to the wider town for artefacts and agreed with the suggestions presented as follows:

- Focus on collecting objects in virtual form from past generations that help define the cultural heritage of the Town of Wokingham and its people, for the benefit of the current and future generations.
- The objects should have a strong connection to the Town and contribute to the tangible, intangible and natural heritage of the Town.
- We would start with contacting selected people to collect their Wokingham history including Cllr Wyatt, Jim Bell, other known historians in the Town and the Wokingham Society.
- Decisions on inclusion in the Virtual Museum to be made by the Arts and Culture Officer in the first instance.

An additional suggestion was to also archive the painted pillars project from the Arts and Culture Page of the Town Council website into an item for the Museum.

ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER

MARKET PLACE CELEBRATION (Agenda Item 9)

The Chairman reported that it was estimated that the Market Place would be complete on 13th July 2018. The committee was in agreement that the space needed to be fully complete before any event should occur and that that event would be best suited as a celebration rather than an opening.

It was suggested that it could occur concurrently with the Heritage Weekend in September but would be best placed on a Saturday rather than the usual Sunday. It was confirmed that the national event was not just on the Sunday but over the whole weekend.



Ideas presented for the celebrations included the concept of a party popper flash mob. It was requested that the Arts and Culture Officer consider the feasibility of said concept.

ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER

ONGOING MAJOR PROJECTS (Agenda Item 10)

a) International Street Concert

The Chairman updated the committee on the current plans for the Street Concert including positioning of toilets and food court.

The Arts and Culture Officer reported on the current works done regarding communications for the event.

The Chairman requested recommendations for the Food Court traders from the Committee.

ACTION: ARTS & CULTURE OFFICER

b) Wokingham Children's Book Festival

The Chairman reported that work was progressing on the Wokingham Children's Book Festival and we were working closely with Wokingham Library on the event. That current plans included a selection of authors both local and those well known to the chosen demographic. Support was also being sought from our local WHSmiths branch, who are showing interest, to act as bookseller for the event.

Further suggestions from the Committee were sought and included:

- Commemorative bookmark (which could also double as re-entry/weekend pass)
- Early evening pyjama party/ bedtime reading for the Saturday
- Engage with Wokingham Youth Theatre regarding if they might be able to run a session.

ACTION: ARTS & CULTURE OFFICER

KEY DATES FOR THE YEAR (Agenda Item 11)

The memo containing the dates for the year was received and noted. The Chairman requested the Committee to share with their peers and to let the Arts and Culture Officer know which dates they could support.

ACTION: ARTS & CULTURE OFFICER

MOSAICS WORKING PARTY (Agenda Item 12)

The notes from the Mosaics Working Party meeting held on 29th January was received. The Chairman updated on recent progression.

COMMITTEE INFORMATION (Agenda Item 15)

No items were raised.

CHAIRMAN

