

21st November 2016

Minutes of the proceedings of the **ARTS & CULTURE COMMITTEE** meeting held on this day in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, WOKINGHAM** from 7:31pm to 8:31pm.

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr Mrs G S Hewetson

Councillors: Cllrs Ms S Gurney, K Morgan, M Monk and A Waters.

IN ATTENDANCE

Arts and Culture Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs D Lee, Mrs A Drake and Mrs S Steatham.

MEMBERS' INTERESTS (Agenda Item 2)

Cllrs Mrs Hewetson and M Monk stated they are Trustees 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 Waters and it was

**RESOLVED
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that the Minutes of the Arts & Culture Committee meetings held on 5th September 2016 (pages 15221 to 15223) and 25th October 2016 (page 15249) 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 15th November 2016 was received and considered.

Mosaic Trail in the Town

To be discussed as Agenda Item 9.

Consideration of a Physical Cultural Venue

To be discussed as Agenda Item 10

COMMITTEE BUDGET (Agenda Item 6)

The Arts and Culture Committee's budget dated to 31st October 2016 was received and considered.

In response to queries from the committee on the final cost of the International Street Concert not currently reflected in the budget statement, the Arts and Culture Officer reported that there was still one outstanding invoice. There had also been identified that there had been an administrative error that had resulted in the deposit for the staging solution of £2,880 being paid in the 2015/16 financial year rather than the year of the event.



Cllr Gurney joined the meeting

THEATRE IN THE PARK (Agenda Item 7)

The Arts and Culture Officer's report was received and considered.

The Committee were in agreement with the recommendations from the report.

It was also suggested that engagement with the schools had in the previous year been very well received and would be worth revisiting in future years. The Arts and Culture Officer reported that this was already under consideration for the provisional May performance which would target the primary schools. The July/August performance was provisionally suggested to be a Shakespeare piece and that it might be possible to tailor that to the play the secondary students were studying.

ACTION: ARTS & CULTURE OFFICER

It was also discussed whether Top Drawer Management were getting sufficient return for their time on the 50/50 split of proceeds. The Committee asked the Arts and Culture Officer to consider further and sensitively get feedback from the organisation for potential future review.

ACTION: ARTS & CULTURE OFFICER

TALKS IN THE TOWN HALL(Agenda Item 8)

The Arts and Culture Officer's report was received and considered.

The Committee were broadly in agreement of recommendation points 5.1 and 5.2 inclusive. Additionally it was suggested by the Chairman that we look outside the societies for speakers and broaden the scope of the provision outside of the Arts.

It was agreed that we should continue with the talks for another year with less of a focus on the Arts Societies and more on the Cultural aspects of Wokingham life. It was suggested to talk to the aviation museum at Woodley, Cllr Wyatt who has a depth of knowledge on WW1 and the Rt Hon John Redwood who is keen to speak on the Battle of Waterloo. The Chairman asked the Committee consider further and to pass ideas for talks to the Arts and Culture Officer by email.

ACTION: ARTS & CULTURE COMMITTEE

It was also discussed that the talks could be seen as being somewhat 'stuffy' and consideration should be made to make them seem fun and engaging. In addition it was suggested that one of the questions in the residents' survey could be specifically on the Talks programme to see what our residents might like to support.

The Arts and Culture Officer fed back to Members that a deviation from the current program of this magnitude might mean that a programme of talks may not be ready in time for the first one to hit the publicity surrounding May Cultural Month.

ACTION: ARTS & CULTURE OFFICER

MOSAICS WORKING PARTY (Agenda Item 9)

The notes from the Mosaics Working Party meeting of 13th September and 19th October 2016 were received.



The Chairman updated the Committee with a clarification on the associated costs of the project with each mosaic from inception to installation coming in at a total £1750. It was expected that the project would be ongoing with the regeneration.

ARTS AND CULTURE 5 YEAR PLAN (Agenda Item 10)

The Arts and Culture 5 year plan was received. The Committee was requested to review the document for next meeting, considering each of the events listed for potential growth or change.

ACTION: ARTS & CULTURE COMMITTEE

An initial suggestion was that the idea of engaging with the schools in connection with the Virtual Museum and Wokingham history was an exciting potential development. However it was recognised that that would be a significant major project in itself. It was suggested that looking for volunteer support to, at minimum, assist with loading objects on the museum and updating entries might also be a direction forward.

ACTION: ARTS & CULTURE OFFICER

CHAIRMAN

