

## 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Minutes of the proceedings of the **ARTS & CULTURE COMMITTEE** meeting held on this day in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, WOKINGHAM** From 19:31 to 20:30.

### **PRESENT**

Chairman: Cllr Mrs G S Hewetson

Councillors: Cllrs Ms S Gurney, D Lee, M Monk, K Morgan, Mrs S Steatham and A Waters.

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Arts and Culture Officer

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

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Mrs A Drake.

### **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 Press Officer 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 Lee and it was

**RESOLVED  
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that the Minutes of the Arts & Culture Committee meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017 (pages 15305 to 15308) 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 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017 was received and considered.

### **Mosaic Trail in the Town**

To be discussed as Agenda Item 9.

### **Talks in the Town Hall**

The Arts and Culture Officer reported that she was continuing to investigate how to create a mix of more workshop style activities. However more work needed to be done on costs and event ideas.

It was discussed that audience numbers for the talks had dropped significantly this year and it was felt that the concept had run its course. It was agreed that the project would be discontinued except for an ad hoc talk should something of significant public interest come to light. Agreed delete.



### **Virtual Museum**

The Chairman reported that the current aim was to look for volunteer support via Wokingham Volunteer Centre. The Committee requested that they look into the Virtual Museum in more depth at the next meeting, in particular to consider how to grow public interest and ensure our treasures are on display.

**ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER**

### **Question regarding Income Targets**

The Chairman reported that Cllr Lee had had an in depth discussion with the RFO on the necessity of income targets.

On the particular query that the notion of setting income targets went against a past resolution the Arts and Culture Officer reported that the resolution in question was number 29208 from the 6<sup>th</sup> July 2015 meeting, which stated that "the Budget for the Street Concert be raised to £25,000 to fully cover the costs". It was noted that this resolution did not exclude having an income target for this event.

The Committee accepted that an income target was necessary as long as the expenditure budget covers the costs of the event to ensure it goes ahead if no income is forthcoming. Agreed delete.

### **Update Five Year Plan**

The Chairman reported that the Five Year Plan would be updated with the ideas from the January meeting and would be shared for the first A&C meeting of the new Council year.

### **COMMITTEE BUDGET (Agenda Item 6)**

The Arts and Culture Committee's budget dated to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017 was received and noted.

### **WOKINGHAM LIVING ADVENT CALENDAR (Agenda Item 7)**

- a) The Arts and Culture Officer's report was received and considered. The Committee thanked the Officer for the report and were in agreement with the recommendation.
- b) The Chairman reported on the More Arts meeting of the 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017 about the upcoming 2017 event. More Arts had agreed to contract last year's professional support along with some additional internal support. They had investigated the current Henley model and were considering ideas to encourage greater residents' attendance.

The Committee also discussed how, during this period of upheaval, it might be possible to assist shopkeepers alongside the WLAC, including the possibility of a winter event/market on opening night in the Market Place. The Chairman reminded the Committee that the upcoming improvements works to the Market Place were anticipated to be ongoing in December and it was decided to revisit at the next Arts and Culture Meeting when plans for the Improvements were clearer.

**ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER**

### **SUNNY SATURDAYS (Agenda Item 8)**

The report by the Town Clerk was received and considered. The Committee were in agreement with the recommendations.



**MOSAICS WORKING PARTY (Agenda Item 9)**

The notes from the Mosaics Working Party meetings of 16<sup>th</sup> November 2016, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017 and 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017 were received.

**CHAIRMAN**

