

## 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019

Minutes of the proceedings of the **ARTS & CULTURE COMMITTEE** meeting held on this day in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, WOKINGHAM** from 19:41 to 21:53.

### **PRESENT**

Chairman: Cllr S Gurney

Councillors: Cllrs L Forbes, M Fumagalli, D Hinton, P Hornsby, T Lloyd and M Malvern

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Arts and Culture Officer

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

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs A Box, P Cunnington and A Tebboth.

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

There were no declarations of interest.

### **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 T Lloyd and seconded by Cllr S Gurney and it was

**RESOLVED  
29962**

that the Minutes of the Arts & Culture Committee meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019 (pages 15833 to 15837) 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 16<sup>th</sup> July was received and considered.

### **Wokingham Mosaics:**

To be considered at Agenda Item 7

### **Video sharing to Care Homes:**

The Arts and Culture Officer reported that a number of short videos relating to the Mosaics have gone on the WTC YouTube channel as part of the testing for the app. These are or will be live to the public asap and could form an initial offer for the Care Homes. We plan to reconnect with them via More Arts if possible or directly with a revised letter. It was suggested that with Heritage in September this would be a good time and project to start this process. Cllr L Forbes indicated that she had some direct contacts with local care homes and could assist with this project. Hopefully once this initial relationship was made the project could be expanded upon.

**ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER**

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS \_\_\_\_\_



**Resident Feedback Device:**

The Arts and Culture Officer reported that there were many potential options for gathering feedback. She was considering which methods worked best for each event. But welcomed suggestions for additional avenues of exploration. Cllr P Hornsby indicated that he would be happy to advise and assist on methods for gaining feedback.

**ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER AND CLLR HORNSBY**

**Fun Day Alternatives to Balloons:**

To be considered at Agenda Item 11

**Potential Board gaming event**

To be considered at Agenda Item 13

**Advertise Love Wokingham**

The Arts and Culture Officer reported that the Marketing Coordinator is investigating placing flyers at till points for Love Wokingham. These flyers have already gone out in WBC new resident packs as well.

It was asked if there were any plans to reprint the Love Wokingham branded bags. The Arts and Culture Officer reported that at the moment she was not aware of any plans to do so. It was suggested that another potential option for Love Wokingham branded merchandise might be reusable water bottles.

The Committee noted that it would be useful to meet with the Marketing Coordinator at a future meeting and the Arts and Culture Officer reported that the best way to do so was being discussed.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK AND MARKETING COORDINATOR**

**Committee Objectives**

To be deferred until strategic plan confirmed.

**COMMITTEE BUDGET (Agenda Item 6)**

The Arts and Culture Committee's budget dated to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019 was received and noted.

Clarification as requested on the make-up of the budgets with regards to income and which events if any were on a match funding basis. A number of events were highlighted as examples. It was noted that intensive sponsorship was something that had in the past been driven by a small number of Councillors which had proven to not be sustainable in the long run.

**MOSAICS STEERING GROUP (Agenda Item 7)**

The notes from the meeting of the mosaics steering group of 4<sup>th</sup> February and 25<sup>th</sup> March were received.

It was asked if there were any plans in addition to the app to explain the mosaics where they were in situ. Any plaque or information piece to help people understand find further information about the project, would it be possible to site an information poster in one of the Town Hall Notice Boards. The Arts and

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS \_\_\_\_\_



Culture Officer was not aware of anything as of yet but would ask the Town Clerk.

**ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER**

**WOKINGHAM LIVING ADVENT CALENDAR (Agenda Item 8)**

The Arts and Culture Officer gave a verbal report on the timetable for the grants process and how that would impact the discussions the Committee would have regarding the future of the event. It was suggested and agreed that a meeting to discuss and plan the future of the event from 2020 onwards would be held between both More Arts and Wokingham Town Council representatives.

It was requested to check the process for Grants this year to ensure More Arts had all the information with regards to timings to get their application in.

**ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER**

**COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION (Agenda Item 9)**

- a) It was agreed that Cllr M Malvern would attend and support meetings of the Mosaics Steering group.
- b) It was agreed that Cllr T Lloyd would attend and support meetings of the Wokingham Living Advent calendar Steering Group
- c) It was agreed that Cllr D Hinton would attend and support meetings of the Wokingham Children's Book Festival.

**CULTURAL MONTH (Agenda Item 10)**

The report on the Cultural Month was received and considered.

The lack of feedback was noted with the Arts and Culture Officer explaining that as a bringing together of many events from many partners we were reliant on the partner's feedback methods. It was suggested that in addition to the usual feedback options that Councillors may wish to attend a selection of the events of their choice and capture feedback in person as a sampling method.

There was some concern that the printed programme may go to waste and be recycled mistaken for junk mail. The Arts and Culture Officer noted that as a 40 page brochure it was a more unusual item to come through doors so hopes it was noted as being something other than the usual junk mail. However it was impossible to know how many residents read and or used the item before recycling it.

**FUN DAY (Agenda Item 11)**

The report on the Fun Day was received and considered.

The budget for future years was discussed. It was proposed by Cllr P Hornsby and seconded by Cllr S Gurney and it was

**RESOLVED  
29963**

unanimously to request to F&P an increase to the Fun Day budget of £300 for the next financial year and a one off amount of £600 for 2020 specifically to purchase a 3 to 4 year supply of Windmills at a lower price per unit than could be done on a yearly basis.

**ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER**

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS \_\_\_\_\_



Additional providers at the event were discussed, in particular those who would be looking to charge for their products which would be a change to the current ethos of the Fun Day. There were concerns that additional food and drink producers would have a negative impact on the established groups that the event supports as well as an increase in traders would not be in line with current licences for the area. There was also a desire to not take up too much of the open green space that allowed picnics and space for the children to run around. The Committee were open to new ideas however also not keen to drastically change such an established and well-loved event.

It was asked if it was possible to move the Fun Day around the wards in order to provide each ward with a local event. It was noted that space would be a key consideration as not all wards had a Town Council space and agreements would have to be made to use an external organisation's space. Also each would have particular space and access requirements that would impact the kind of provision that could be placed on it. Additionally it was noted that there was limited Officer time and this idea had been explored before with the view that it would need to be run by a suitably keen group in each ward. However the Committee would be happy to support an event in the wards should such a concept be brought to them.

It was also suggested that the other contacts made regarding an ice cream seller and mobile coffee unit might be options for something simple on Elms Field near the new play park as the opening day ice cream van was very popular.

#### **INTERNATIONAL STREET CONCERT (Agenda Item 12)**

The report on the International Street Concert was received and considered. The feedback in the report regarding future placement of the food court and disabled provision was noted. There was some concern that no recycling was taking place. It was reported that the sorting and recycling was taking place back at the depot rather than directly at the event. It was suggested that this be made clear on the screens at the event.

**RESOLVED  
29964**

It was proposed by Cllr P Hornsby and seconded by Cllr M Malvern and it was unanimously to extend the contract for Yes Events for a further two years.

**RESOLVED  
29965**

It was proposed by Cllr P Hornsby and seconded by Cllr T Lloyd and it was unanimously to request from F&P a total budget of £35,000 for the future Street Concerts.

It was suggested to investigate the costs associated with adding a repeating screen for next year's event. It was also suggested that once the current contract period finishes and the distributor roads are complete the Committee may wish to consider an expansion of the event into other areas of the Town Centre.

It was also noted that the Chairman would work with the Arts and Culture Officer, Town Clerk and Yes Events on the music for the 2020 event.

**ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER**

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS \_\_\_\_\_



### **BOARD GAMING EVENT (Agenda Item 13)**

The board gaming event was discussed and it was tentatively agreed that Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February would be a good date to do such an event.

It was also agreed to formally get in touch with the most local board gaming retailer, Eclectic Games in Reading, to see to see how we might partner to put on this event.

The Chairman suggested that the Committee may wish to join her at Sedero Lounge's next Board Gaming evening to understand more about modern board games to inform plans at September's meeting.

#### **ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER**

### **FUTURE IDEAS (Agenda Item 14)**

The concept of public art was discussed and it was unanimously agreed that the Committee would be supportive of Public Art. It was agreed to write to the Public Art Interest Group to formally note their support of the overall concept of more Public Art in Wokingham. It was also agreed that this would be something to present to the next Strategy meeting in the hope of the Council's overall support.

Cllr T Lloyd noted that he would be interested in joining the Public Art Interest Group if that were at all possible.

A number of potential options to explore for specific siting of public art was discussed including bicycle type sculptures as part of the "Greenways" project.

It was also discussed that this group could be of particular interest to revisit a long held desire of the Committee for a temporary Sculpture trail.

#### **ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER**

Cllr M Fumagalli presented a concept for a Science based project that brought Scientists from local universities into local secondary schools. He noted that both the schools and the universities he had liaised with had already expressed a desire to engage. What was immediately required was a linking point in between to facilitate this interaction. There were options to engage with students at key points as they consider university. Years 10/11 (14-16 year olds) and year 12 (17 year old) students. There are also opportunities to consider topics or themes each year and encourage girls into STEM subjects.

This was currently not anticipated to require any budget however expansion to the project outside of a facilitator to help with the concept might. It was agreed for the Arts and Culture Officer to liaise further with Cllr M Fumagalli to produce a formal report on how this might be achieved.

#### **ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER AND CLLR M FUMAGALLI**

Concepts that were looked at previously included the concept of a thematic fun run and a battle of the bands for the teens.

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS \_\_\_\_\_



Cllr S Gurney reported that she had a contact who had organised themed runs before and would liaise with them for more information to see if a concept could be created for Wokingham.

**ACTION: CLLR S GURNEY**

Regarding the Battle of the Bands it was requested that the Arts and Culture Officer contact the schools and engage with our student representatives on their views on the concept and any suitable venue for such an event.

**ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER**

Councillors noted that they would be keen to continue to observe, become more familiar with and improve on existing events for the time being rather than suggest new events. They would also be keen to gain feedback from the residents as a whole to see what new events might be of interest. It was suggested that the Strategy Working Party may be able to help with this.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**COMMITTEE INFORMATION (Agenda Item 15)**

Cllr S Gurney noted that there were some Community Noticeboards. If ward councillors were able to achieve access to them this would be a good place to promote events run by the Town Council.

**ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE COMMITTEE**

**CHAIRMAN**

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS \_\_\_\_\_

