

16th November 2020

In accordance with the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 this meeting was held virtually.

Minutes of the proceedings of the **ARTS & CULTURE COMMITTEE** meeting held virtually on this day from 19:30 to 20:19.

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr S Gurney

Councillors: Cllrs, A Box, P Cunningham, D Hinton, M Fumagalli, P Hornsby, T Lack, T Lloyd, M Malvern and A Tebboth.

IN ATTENDANCE

Arts and Culture Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

There were no apologies for absence

MEMBERS' INTERESTS (Agenda Item 2)

Cllr Hinton declared that his company had donated technology to support part of the work this year for the Wokingham Living Advent Calendar, which may form part of Agenda Item 9.

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

There were no questions from members of the council or public.

ARTS & CULTURE COMMITTEE MINUTES (Agenda Item 4)

It was proposed by Cllr S Gurney and seconded by Cllr A Tebboth and it was

**RESOLVED
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unanimously, that the Minutes of the Arts & Culture Committee meeting held on 14th September 2020 (pages 16140 to 16143) 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 10th November was received and considered.

Invite More Arts to a future meeting:

It was noted that the necessity to hold virtual meetings had been ongoing for a significant number of months and it was uncertain when meetings in person would return. The Committee was asked if it would now prefer to meet 'morearts.' digitally rather than continue to wait. In a vote of 5 for meeting digitally, and 3 against, it was agreed to invite 'morearts.' to the next meeting.

Singing Trees:

It was noted that the Arts and Culture Officer had an ongoing action to investigate the potential for an app based singing trees project.

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS _____



COMMITTEE BUDGET (Agenda Item 6)

The Arts and Culture Committee's budget dated to 31st October 2020 was received and noted.

SCIENCE WITH SCHOOLS REPORT (Agenda Item 7)

The report was received and considered. Councillors noted the work that went into the event from Cllr Fumagalli and considered the longevity of the event due to the reliance of a specific Councillor to move it forward. It was discussed that any expansion of the project may require support from the Committee as a whole. It was noted that the Universities do have outreach officers who would be able to support finding lecturers, however Cllr Fumagalli would write some notes on his process for the event this year to share with the Arts and Culture Officer with the aim to make it less reliant on one individual.

It was noted that speakers may not have to all come from a University background but other sources such as STEM based businesses might be able to augment an offer to schools.

ACTION: CLLR FUMAGALLI and ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER

BOOK FESTIVAL REPORT (Agenda Item 8)

The report on the 2020 book festival was received and considered. The strength of the event with regards to Council Key Principles, particularly Inclusivity, was noted. The Arts and Culture Officer and WBC Libraries Officer were thanked for their work on this project and it's move to a digital offer.

The Committee were in agreement with all the recommendations.

CHRISTMAS UPDATE (Agenda Item 9)

The Arts and Culture Officer updated the Committee verbally on the position of the Dressing the Christmas Tree and Living Advent Calendar events. Particularly how they are being amended due to COVID.

COMMITTEE INFORMATION (Agenda Item 10)

a) The following item for information was received.

WBC Arts Strategy consultation: The Committee were reminded that the consultation was nearing its closing date for comments. It was noted that a group had been created by WBC to formulate an action plan from the strategy and the Arts and Culture Officer had been invited to join. The Committee again noted the similarities between Love Wokingham and the now launched WBC Wocca App and questioned why it was necessary to create a new app rather than build on existing content and brand.

b) **Marketing requests:** Promote the Christmas events.

Look to celebrate the work done for the Book Festival and Science with Schools events.

CHAIRMAN

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS _____

