

13th March 2023

Minutes of the proceedings of the **Arts and Culture Committee** meeting held on this day in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Wokingham** from 19.30 to 20:13

PRESENT

Chair: Cllr S Gurney

Councillors: P Cunnington, P Hornsby, T Lloyd, M Malvern and A Tebboth.

IN ATTENDANCE

Arts and Culture Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

There were apologies for absence from Cllrs J Ainslie and M Fumagalli.

MEMBERS' INTERESTS (Agenda Item 2)

There were no declarations of interest.

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 M Malvern and it was

**RESOLVED
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that the Minutes of Arts and Culture Committee meeting held on 16th January 2023 (pages 16673 to 16674), copy attached, be received as a true and correct record.

MONITORING REPORT (Agenda Item 5)

The Monitoring Report dated 7th March was received and considered.

Erftstadt Panels

The Chair reported that the panels had been installed. While there was still some work surrounding the original paintings going up in the library, the main aim of this project had been completed.

Science with Schools

The Chair reminded Councillors to feed back any contacts in academia or industry that might be able to support our Science with Schools initiative. It was requested for the Officer to outline any information that might help direct this query. It was also noted that, if it suited, any current Councillors working within STEM could choose to offer their work email as a contact point.

Lunar New Year

To be considered under Agenda Item 8.

Board Gaming Event

To be considered under Agenda Item 7.

CHAIR'S INITIALS _____



Concert

The Chair reported that the event had been named 'Party in the Park'. Work is ongoing and the Officers will be reviewing draft publicity materials very soon.

It was also reported that due to the proximity to the event date and other factors there had had to be changes to the line up. Officers had also fed back the Committee's wishes for a more diverse line up, which had been achieved.

The line up had been agreed to be:

- Midnight Soul Sisters (played last year at the Jubilee)
- Majestix (as per the original proposal)
- Vogue Madonna (concerns over solo acts tended to not do as well at this event were raised. It was noted that this act, while based on a soloist, would have a full backing band and dancers, unlike previous solo acts)
- Wild Boys (as per the original proposal)

COMMITTEE BUDGET (Agenda Item 6)

The Arts and Culture Committee's budget dated to 28th February 2023 was received and noted.

It was noted that the Virtual Museum upgrade line was new. The Officer confirmed that this was for next financial year and had gone to F&P budget setting directly from the Town Clerk as a necessary upgrade to existing systems. It was placed under A&C as the Committee that had initiated the original Virtual Museum many years ago, and the Arts and Culture Officer maintained it.

TOWN HALL TABLETOP TAKEOVER (Agenda Item 7)

The Arts and Culture Officer was thanked for the report. The Committee was in agreement with the recommendation to continue to support the event.

They were happy to explore having the event twice in one year, but would prefer that start not before 2024. To ensure proper time is given to the logistics and there is plenty of choice for any additional date. It was also suggested that it might be possible to explore using alternative partners for the second date and expand options for volunteer support.

ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER

LUNAR NEW YEAR (Agenda Item 8)

The Arts and Culture Officer was thanked for the report. The Committee recognised the significant impact this event had had, and was in full agreement that this event should happen again if at all possible. In recognition that at this time it was not possible to make a full decision, as work was ongoing to re-cost and re-spec the event, a series of recommendations were made for the next Committee.

- Do not hold it alternate years, especially if alternates between other minority cultural events. Holding it every year naturally grows knowledge of the event and retains a stability of workload.
- If other groups come forward in the future, with a desire to support their event, consideration should be made. But it is recognised that there are a

CHAIR'S INITIALS _____



number of ways Wokingham Town Council might be able to support such events that should be explored with the group.

ACTION: ARTS AND CULTURE OFFICER

COMMITTEE INFORMATION (Agenda Item 9)

There were no individual items from Committee.

There were no specific Marketing requests.

The Chair wishes to thank everyone, Councillors and Officer for the hard work done for Arts and Culture, over the last four years of this Council.

CHAIR

CHAIR'S INITIALS _____

