

COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Community and Cultural Services Committee held in Committee Room 2, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton on Wednesday 26 March 2003 at 10.00 a.m.

- Present:** Councillors Ian McDonald and Danny McCafferty.
- Also Present:** Mr John Docherty, Friends of Clydebank Museum and Mrs Margaret Richardson, Balloch Reading Group.
- Attending:** Frank Newall, Head of Service, Department of Education and Cultural Services and Nuala Borthwick, Administrative Assistant, Legal and Administrative Services.
- Apologies:** Provost Alistair Macdonald, Councillors Jim McCallum and Margaret McGregor and Mr David Harvie, West Dunbartonshire Heritage Limited.

Councillor Ian McDonald in the Chair.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of Meeting of the Community and Cultural Services Committee held on 15 January 2003 were submitted and noted.

CULTURAL AND LEISURE SERVICES: REALISING THE POTENTIAL

A report was submitted by the Director of Education and Cultural Services and the Director of Commercial and Technical Services providing information on the content of the report, 'Realising the Potential' produced by VOCAL (the Voice of Chief Officers of Cultural, Community and Leisure Services).

Having heard the Head of Service in further explanation, the Committee agreed:-

- (a) to support the call for a formal Scottish Executive Review of Local Government Cultural and Leisure Services; and
- (b) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

‘THE BACKDOOR GALLERY’ – DALMUIR LIBRARY

A report was submitted by the Director of Education and Cultural Services:-

- (1) informing Members of West Dunbartonshire Council’s recent award of £17,000 Lottery funding from the Scottish Arts Council, towards the development of ‘The Backdoor Gallery’ at Dalmuir Library; and
- (2) giving further information about the facilities this new initiative will provide and the benefits it will offer to the community.

After discussion, the Committee agreed:-

- (a) to note the contents of the report on the development of a dedicated visual art gallery (The Backdoor Gallery) at Dalmuir Library; and
- (b) to refer the issue to the Council’s Public Relations and Marketing Section to monitor the progress of ‘The Backdoor Gallery’ and advertise in the future as necessary.

NATIONAL CULTURAL STRATEGY

A report was submitted by the Director of Education and Cultural Services informing Members of the comments submitted to the Scottish Executive concerning the National Cultural Strategy and the consultation on Draft Guidelines for local authorities.

Having heard the Head of Service in further explanation and in answer to Members’ questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (a) to retrospectively approve the comments submitted to the Scottish Executive by the due date of 13 January 2003 as contained in the appendix to the report; and
- (b) to note the contents of the report.

PROMOTION OF SALMON AND FRESH WATER FISHING

With reference to the meeting of the South Clydebank Area Committee held on Thursday 30 January 2003, an excerpt minute was submitted for consideration on the issue of promoting Salmon and Fresh Water Fishing as raised by a member of the public.

After discussion and having heard Councillor McCafferty, the Committee agreed to refer the issue to the Chief Executive for further consideration.

TWINNING UPDATE

A report was submitted by the Chief Executive advising Members:-

- (1) on progress made towards the establishment of a community based Town Twinning Association and a Steering Group to oversee the establishment of such a body; and
- (2) on the up-to-date position in relation to the visit of a delegation from Argentieul in 2003.

The Committee agreed: -

- (a) that the possibility of alternative dates for the visit by the delegation from Argenteuil be remitted to the Chief Executive to be explored in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Provost;
- (b) to note the dates of the two public meetings that are being held to raise awareness of the twinning issue and to seek volunteers to help establish the West Dunbartonshire Twinning Association; and
- (c) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

The Convener, in terms of Section 50(B)4(b) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as inserted by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, decided that the following items be considered as a matter of urgency on the grounds that the action to be taken required early consideration.

NATIONAL CULTURAL TOUR

Further to the National Cultural Tour of West Dunbartonshire which took place on Tuesday 25 February 2003, the Chair, Councillor Ian McDonald commended Officers for the organisation of the Cultural Tour.

After discussion, the Committee agreed that a report be submitted to the next meeting of the Community and Cultural Services Committee on feedback received in response to the Cultural Tour of West Dunbartonshire.

RESITING OF DUMBARTON WAR MEMORIAL STATUE

In relation to the issue raised by Mr John Docherty, concerning the resiting of Dumbarton War Memorial Statue, the Committee noted that a report on the matter would be submitted to the Meeting of West Dunbartonshire Council to be held on Wednesday 26 March 2003.

The meeting concluded at 10.15 a.m.