

CULTURAL COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Cultural Committee held in the Council Chamber, Clydebank Town Hall, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank on Monday, 29 April 2019 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Provost William Hendrie, Bailie Denis Agnew and Councillors Karen Conaghan and Brian Walker.

Attending: Angela Wilson, Strategic Director – Transformation and Public Service Reform; Richard Cairns, Strategic Director, Regeneration, Environment & Growth; Malcolm Bennie, Strategic Lead – Communications, Culture and Communities; Alan Douglas, Legal Manager; George Hawthorn, Manager of Democratic and Registration Services; Amanda Graham, Communications, Town Hall and CEO Manager; Sarah Christie, Team Lead – Arts & Heritage; Michelle Lynn, Assets Coordinator and Craig Stewart, Committee Officer.

Apology: An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor John Millar.

Bailie Denis Agnew in the Chair

STATEMENT BY CHAIR – AUDIO STREAMING

On behalf of the Chair, the Legal Manager advised that the meeting was being audio streamed and broadcast live to the internet and would be available for playback.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in any of the items of business on the agenda.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The following Minutes of Meeting of the Cultural Committee were submitted and approved as correct records:-

- (1) 25 February 2019 (Ordinary); and
- (2) 18 March 2019 (Special).

OPEN FORUM

The Committee noted that no open forum questions had been submitted by members of the public.

EVENTS UPDATE

A report was submitted by the Strategic Director – Regeneration, Environment & Growth providing an overview of existing events and requesting consideration of the merits of allocating scarce resources to develop new events across West Dunbartonshire.

After discussion and having heard the Strategic Director – Regeneration, Environment & Growth in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the report;
- (2) that the events are made a priority on the basis that they have significant social and economic importance;
- (3) that a report outlining a way forward for events and which seeks to establish possible links with a music/events promoter with the intention of holding a major music event in West Dunbartonshire be progressed by officers; and
- (4) that the lead officer with events responsibility endeavours to identify potential sponsorship from outside sources.

TOWN TWINNING UPDATE

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Regulatory providing an update on progress being made in relation to developing international links with potential partners.

After discussion and having heard the Manager of Democratic and Registration Services in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the progress being made in relation to developing international links with existing and potential partners as outlined in the report;
- (2) to note that the Manager of Democratic and Registration Services, in consultation with the Convener of the Cultural Committee, would respond to Beauvoisin and Argenteuil with a view to re-establishing links with those areas and report back to a future meeting of the Committee;

- (3) to note that to date no formal response had been received from the President of Gdynia in relation to the proposed friendship agreement between the city and West Dunbartonshire;
- (4) that discussions to develop the friendship arrangements between Letterkenny Municipal District and West Dunbartonshire should take place in June 2019, after the conclusion of the Irish local elections; and
- (5) that the Manager of Democratic and Registration Services be authorised to write to John Webster, Head, Scotland House Ireland to advise him that the Convener and the Manager of Democratic and Registration Services would be happy to meet up with him to discuss the friendship agreement with Letterkenny, following a communication from Mr Webster to Gil Paterson MSP.

BUSINESS CASE FOR CLYDEBANK TOWN HALL IMPROVEMENT WORKS

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Communications, Culture & Communities proposing significant improvement works within Clydebank Town Hall to maximize income and visitor opportunities.

After discussion and having heard the Strategic Lead in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the report but does not agree either Option 1 or 2;
- (2) that officers can progress necessary works to the roof and gutterings, as illustrated in the report, to ensure the Town Hall building was secure and wind and watertight, but spend be limited as to the costs outlined in the Town Hall refurbishment feasibility study;
- (3) that, following a walk-round the Town Hall by members of the Cultural Committee, to convene a Town Hall Working Group and to invite possible individuals and/or outside bodies e.g. educational/professional organisations to participate and advise, following which a new report including the Working Group recommendations be brought back to a future Cultural Committee. The Committee also requests officers contact as a matter of urgency, Historic Scotland and any other funding bodies with the aim of securing funding for the Town Hall external works; and
- (4) that a report on Richmond Street be brought back to a future Cultural Committee, outlining its possible cultural usage.

COMMUNICATIONS, CULTURE & COMMUNITIES DELIVERY PLAN 2019/20

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Communications, Culture & Communities presenting the 2019/20 Delivery Plan for Communications, Culture & Communities and the year-end progress report for the 2018/19 Delivery Plan as agreed by the Committee at its meeting on 28 May 2018.

After discussion and having heard the Strategic Lead and the Strategic Director in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the 2019/20 Delivery Plan;
- (2) to note the progress made on delivery of the 2018/19 plan; and
- (3) to note that the report would be reformatted in future to provide greater clarity in terms of the parts of the Delivery Plan which fell within the scope of the Cultural Committee.

The meeting closed at 10.54 a.m.