

Supplementary Agenda



Cultural Committee

Date: Monday, 24 January 2022

Time: 10:00

Format: Video Conference

Contact: Gabriella Gonda, Committee Officer
Email: gabriella.gonda@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Dear Member

ITEM TO FOLLOW

I refer to the agenda for the above meeting that was issued on 11 January 2022 and now enclose a copy of **Item 7 – The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Beacons – 2 June 2022** which was not available for issue at that time.

Yours faithfully

JOYCE WHITE

Chief Executive

Note referred to:-

7 THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE BEACONS – 2 JUNE 2022 21 – 24

Submit report by the Chief Officer – Regulatory and Regeneration asking Committee to consider whether this Council should celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee by lighting two beacons to mark the occasion.

Distribution:-

Bailie Denis Agnew (Chair)
Provost William Hendrie
Councillor Jonathan McColl (Vice Chair)
Councillor John Millar
Councillor Brian Walker

Chief Executive
Chief Officer – Supply, Distribution and Property
Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture and Facilities

Date of issue: 19 January 2022

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL
Report by Chief Officer – Regulatory and Regeneration
Cultural Committee: 24 January 2022

Subject: The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Beacons – 2 June 2022

1. Purpose

1.1 To ask the Committee to consider whether this Council should celebrate The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee by lighting two beacons to mark the occasion.

2. Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that:

- (a) the Council purchases two gas beacons and gas cylinders: one for Dumbarton and one for Clydebank to be lit on 2nd June 2022 to mark the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee at a cost of £1200 to be met from the Cultural fund; and
- (b) the Committee notes the other activities and events as referred to at paragraph 4.6, which schools may participate in West Dunbartonshire to mark the occasion.

3. Background

3.1 An invitation was sent to the Council from Bruno Peek, Pageant Master, The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Beacons, inviting this authority to light a beacon on 2nd June 2012 in recognition of The Queen’s 70 years as Monarch.

3.2 A similar invitation has been extended to all local authorities in the UK.

4. Main Issues

4.1 If the Committee agrees that this Council should light a beacon or beacons then it needs to consider which type of beacon should be lit and where it should be located.

4.2 There are three types of beacon that can be used for this occasion as detailed below.

4.2.1 Option one is the traditional bonfire beacon which is not recommended for a number of reasons. In terms of Health and Safety it is not easy to contain the fire and therefore the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service are generally unhappy with the use of bonfires; bonfires inevitably cause damage to the grounds which will mean reinstatement costs; and finding a suitable location on Council property could be more difficult than the other options.

- 4.2.2** Option two is the beacon brazier with metal shield. It is suggested that this beacon brazier could be made by local craftsman, erected as a permanent reminder of the moment in history celebrated, or can be removed after the event, and stored away for future use. However, it is likely to be more expensive than option three (gas burner) and there is no guarantee that a suitable craftsman could be identified to design and build such a brazier timeously.
- 4.2.3** Option three is the preferred choice. This is a beacon fuelled by bottled gas which is safe to use, dramatic when lit, and again could be stored away after using it on 2nd June 2022, for future occasions. The cost per beacon is £490 and gas cylinders are approximately £95 for two. The beacons will require some construction when received and therefore it is recommended that the Council uses its own qualified gas fitters (Building Services) to construct and operate the beacons, if the Committee supports this option.
- 4.3** The location of the beacon will depend on the type of beacon chosen. The Pageant Master has suggested that they could be located on top of mountains, church towers, castle battlements, town and village greens, country parks, estates and farms and along beaches surrounding our shores.
- 4.4** It is suggested that one beacon could be lit on the grounds of Dumbarton Castle and one on the Titan Crane, Clydebank, subject to the relevant consents being received.
- 4.5** In addition to the above the Corporate Services Committee at its meeting on 24th November 2021 has agreed to mark the occasion by inviting Local Government employees to request a day of leave from their entitlement for the Thursday 2nd June should they wish to celebrate the occasion and the Friday, 3rd June 2022, will be a day of closure with normal pay for the day applied to those contracted to work.
- 4.6** West Dunbartonshire Educational services have coordinated a Queen's Platinum Jubilee programme of events for schools and Early Learning and Childcare Centres to participate which include:
- 4.6.1** West Dunbartonshire Council Big Jubilee Lunch 5-9th June 2022. The Lunch would be themed with three learning contexts linked to the Queen's Green Canopy initiative.
- 4.6.2** Get Growing for the Big Jubilee Lunch: 19th April -19 May 2022. Schools and Early Learning and Childcare Centres would take part in [Plant and Share Month](#): enabling them to sow, grow and share vegetables with their communities for the Jubilee Lunch. Schools and Early Years Centres would also be invited to take part in the [Food for Life Get Togethers Programme](#) bringing different generations together through growing, cooking and eating.
- 4.6.3** The Queen's Green Canopy initiative. Educational Services plan to work in partnership with Greenspace to develop a programme to support tree planting

in every School and Early Learning and Childcare Centre as part of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative.

- 4.6.4** West Dunbartonshire Proms in the Park. Staff from West Dunbartonshire Council Instrumental music service would perform a live selection of music in a West Dunbartonshire Park to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. A selection of well-known music will be performed by the String Ensemble, Woodwind Ensemble and Brass Ensemble for the enjoyment of everyone.
- 4.6.5** West Dunbartonshire Schools Queen's Jubilee Art and Poetry Competition & Exhibition. Schools and Early Learning and Childcare Centres would be invited to create artwork and poetry inspired by the Green Canopy initiative. Winning entries to be displayed at a special West Dunbartonshire exhibition to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.
- 4.6.6** West Dunbartonshire Jubilee Walks & Cycle Tours. Visits to local areas in West Dunbartonshire of historic and natural significance for example Dumbarton Castle, Loch Lomond and the River Clyde, will be promoted in West Dunbartonshire schools and Early Learning and Childcare Centres.

5. People Implications

- 5.1** As indicated above, the use of gas beacons will require the services of qualified staff from the Council's Building Services team who may incur some overtime as the beacons will be lit at 9.45 p.m.

6. Financial and Procurement Implications

- 6.1** Clearly there will be a cost associated with each of the three options which will need to be met from the Cultural Fund for 2021/22. The cost of each beacon including gas (option 3 as recommended by officers) is approximately £600 and there could be overtime involved for those officers attending the lighting of the beacons. The estimated cost of the bonfire beacon will vary dependent on the size and location of the bonfire but this option is not recommended. Although the cost of option 2 is not known at present it is likely that the cost of commissioning a local craftsman to build a brazier beacon will be more expensive than the other two options.
- 6.2** The Pageant Master has identified two suppliers of gas burning beacons to the specified design at the same price and can guarantee delivery of the goods on time providing the order is placed timeously. It therefore makes sense to use one of these two companies, if the Committee decides to proceed with the purchase of gas burning beacons.

7. Risk Analysis

- 7.1** There could be a small risk of reputational damage to the Council if it decides not to do anything to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee Year.

8. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

8.1 There is no impact on any equalities groups.

9. Consultation

9.1 Officers from Legal, Finance, HR, Procurement and Education and have been consulted on the content of this report. The Lord Lieutenant and the Provost will be consulted on the final location of each beacon, if approved.

10. Strategic Assessment

10.1 This report does not impact directly on any of the Council's strategic priorities.

Peter Hessett
Chief Officer – Regulatory and Regeneration
14 January 2022

Person to Contact: George Hawthorn, Manager of Democratic and Registration Services, Telephone: 07903010404 or e-mail: george.hawthorn@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Appendices: None

Background Papers: Letter from Bruno Peek, OBE MVO OPR, Pageant Master, HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons.

Ward Affected: None