

Agenda



Cultural Committee

Date: Monday, 23 August 2021

Time: 10:00

Format: Video Conferencing

Contact: Email: Gabriella.Gonda@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Dear Member

The Convener has directed that the powers contained in Section 43 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 will be used and so Members will attend this meeting of the **Cultural Committee** remotely. The business is shown on the attached agenda.

Yours faithfully

JOYCE WHITE

Chief Executive

Distribution:-

Bailie Denis Agnew (Chair)
Provost William Hendrie
Councillor Iain McLaren (Vice Chair)
Councillor John Millar
Councillor Brian Walker

Chief Executive
Chief Officers

Date of issue: 10 August 2021

CULTURAL COMMITTEE
MONDAY, 23 AUGUST 2021

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are invited to declare if they have an interest in any of the items of business on this agenda and the reasons for such declarations.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS 5 - 9

Submit for approval as correct records, the following Minutes of Meetings of the Cultural Committee:-

- (a) Ordinary meeting – 17 May 2021 and
- (b) Special meeting – 19 July 2021

4 OPEN FORUM

The Committee is asked to note that no open forum questions have been submitted by members of the public.

5 TOWN TWINNING AND 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLYDEBANK BLITZ – UPDATE 11 -14

Submit report by the Chief Officer – Regulatory & Regeneration providing an update on Town Twinning and the 80th Anniversary of the Clydebank Blitz.

6 CLYDEBANK TOWN HALL REDEVELOPMENT UPDATE To follow

Submit report by the Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture & Facilities providing an update on the Clydebank Town Hall Redevelopment scope of works and seeking an uplift in the budget allocation to enable delivery against this expanded scope.

7 REDESIGN OF DALMUIR GALLERY To follow

Submit report by the Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture & Facilities proposing a series of improvement works to the existing gallery space within Dalmuir Library.

CULTURAL COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Cultural Committee held by Video Conferencing on Monday, 17 May 2021 at 10.08 a.m.

Present: Provost William Hendrie, Bailie Denis Agnew and Councillor Jonathan McColl.

Attending: Malcolm Bennie, Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture & Facilities; Alan Douglas, Legal Manager; George Hawthorn, Manager of Democratic and Registration Services; Sarah Christie, Team Leader – Arts & Heritage, Lynsey Dickson, Accountant and Christine McCaffary, Senior Democratic Services Officer

Apologies: An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Brian Walker.

Bailie Denis Agnew in the Chair

ADJOURNMENT

Bailie Agnew moved that the meeting be adjourned for a period of 10 minutes. The Committee agreed accordingly.

The meeting reconvened at 10.15 a.m. with those Members noted in the sederunt present.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that there were no declarations of interest in any of the items of business on the agenda.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of Meetings of the Cultural Committee held on (a) 1 February 2021 (Special) and (b) 29 March 2021 (Ordinary) were submitted and approved as correct records.

OPEN FORUM

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

TOWN TWINNING AND 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF CLYDEBANK BLITZ - UPDATE

A report was submitted by the Chief Officer – Regulatory & Regeneration providing an update on Town Twinning and the 80th Anniversary of the Clydebank Blitz.

After discussion and having heard the Manager of Democratic and Registration Services in further explanation the Committee agreed:

- (a) that a commemorative medal be presented to the British Red Cross in recognition of the support it provided to the people of Clydebank during and after the Clydebank Blitz;
- (b) to note that Creative Scotland had not yet responded to the request for funding for the commemoration of the Clydebank Blitz;
- (c) to note that a meeting would be arranged with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, Convener and the Manager of Democratic Services and Registration Services to finalise arrangements for the proposed live concerts, etc.;
- (d) to note that the planned trip to meet of the Mayor of Letterkenny to discuss the friendship agreement was still scheduled to take place this financial year; and
- (e) to note that a report providing an update on all of the above matters would be submitted to next meeting of the Committee.

A DEDICATED MUSEUM ON CLYDEBANK'S HISTORY AND LEGACY

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Cultural Committee held on 25 November 2019, a verbal update was given by the Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture & Facilities in relation to this standing item of business.

The Committee noted that a preferred contractor for the works had been identified and that would be considered by the Tendering Committee in the near future with the aim of the project commencing in June.

SCOTTISH ART ACQUISITIONS FUND PROPOSAL

A report was submitted by the Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture & Facilities proposing the establishment of an Acquisition Fund to acquire by purchase fine art works to enhance the Council's fine art collection and enrich its focus on Scottish art.

After discussion and having heard the Chief Officer in further explanation the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the contents of the report;
- (2) to approve the proposal to allocate £100k from the Cultural Capital Fund to establish an Acquisition Fund to purchase artworks by Scottish artists, and in particular Scottish women artists; and
- (3) to approve the proposal to leverage additional funding, as appropriate, via applications to The National Fund for Acquisitions and/or The Art Fund.

**CITIZEN, CULTURE & FACILITIES DELIVERY PLAN 2020/21 11 YEAR END
PROGRESS REPORT AND 2021/22 DELIVERY PLAN**

A report was submitted by the Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture & Facilities presenting the 2021/22 Delivery Plan for Citizen, Culture and Facilities, and the year-end progress report for the 2020/21 Delivery Plan as agreed at Council on 23 November 2021.

After discussion the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note progress made on the delivery of the 2021/21 Plan; and
- (2) to note the 2021/22 Delivery Plan.

The meeting closed at 11.06 a.m.

CULTURAL COMMITTEE

At a Special Meeting of the Cultural Committee held by Video Conferencing on Monday, 19 July 2021 at 10.08 a.m.

Present: Provost William Hendrie, Bailie Denis Agnew and Councillor Iain McLaren.

Attending: Victoria Rogers, Chief Officer – People and Technology; Raymond Lynch, Section Head (Licensing); George Hawthorn, Manager of Democratic and Registration Services; Amanda Graham, Strategic Communications, Culture and Performance Manager; Joe Reilly, Business Partner – Resources; Michelle Lynn, Asset Coordinator and Lynn Straker and Gabriella Gonda, Committee Officers.

Apologies: An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Brian Walker.

Bailie Denis Agnew in the Chair

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that there were no declarations of interest in the item of business on the agenda.

TOWN HALL BOOKING UPDATE

A report was submitted by the Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture and Facilities providing details on existing bookings at the Town Hall in 2021/22 as the Scottish Government reduces the Covid-19 restrictions in place.

The Strategic Communications, Culture and Performance Manager and the Asset Coordinator were then heard in further explanation of the report.

Following discussion, the Committee agreed that future bookings stop being taken for the Clydebank Town Hall until all proposed and planned works have been completed, or until 31 December 2021. This will enable the works not to be delayed any further. This proposal will still honour all legal contracts with current bookings already made. The matter will be reassessed by the Committee at its first meeting after 31 December 2021.

The meeting closed at 10:56 a.m.

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**Report by Chief Officer – Regulatory and Regeneration****Meeting of the Cultural Committee: 23 August 2021**

Subject: Town Twinning and 80th Anniversary of Clydebank Blitz - Update

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To provide the Committee with an update on Town Twinning and the 80th Anniversary of the Clydebank Blitz.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Committee is asked:

- (a) to note that the planned trip to meet of the Mayor of Letterkenny to discuss the friendship agreement is still scheduled to take place this financial year at a cost £500 from the Cultural Fund;
- (b) to authorise the Manager of Democratic and Registration Services, in consultation with the Convener, to arrange a meeting with the Mayor of Gdynia to progress the friendship link and agree the way forward; and
- (c) to note the progress being made in respect of the arrangements to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the Clydebank Blitz.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Cultural Committee met on 17 May 2021 to consider a number of actions to progress town twinning/friendship developments and the remaining plans to commemorate the Clydebank Blitz. This report provides an update on all of the issues raised at that meeting and of any new developments.

4. Main IssuesCommemorative Medals

- 4.1 Work is progressing well on the production of the commemorative medals which will be presented to various organisations in recognition of the support they provided to the people of Clydebank during and after the Clydebank Blitz. It is now proposed, subject to the Provost's agreement, that a Civic Reception be held in Clydebank Town Hall in March 2022 to present these medals to the various organisations previously identified.

Creative Scotland

- 4.2 At its meeting in March 2021, the Committee noted that a request for funding towards the Blitz commemorations had been submitted to Creative Scotland. Creative Scotland has now confirmed that the Council has been awarded up

to £10,000 from National Lottery Funding towards the cost to support creative activity in West Dunbartonshire as part of the commemorations of the 80th anniversary of the Clydebank Blitz.

Royal National Scottish Orchestra (RSNO)

- 4.3** Since the last meeting of the Committee, the Convener and Manager of Democratic and Registration Services has met with the Chief Executive of the RSNO to finalise arrangements for the proposed concerts, etc. Discussion has now taken place on the proposed concert to be held in the Royal Concert Hall in Glasgow later this year and the Manager of Democratic and Registration Services is now waiting for the RSNO to provide him with details of the final proposal and associated costs. The Committee will receive a verbal update on the proposals should further information be received in advance of its meeting. The RSNO has also been asked to provide a cost for the production of CDs of the music which was co-commissioned to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the Clydebank Blitz.
- 4.4** It is still the intention to hold short commemorative services involving the RSNO in three Clydebank churches and in the Clydebank Town Hall In March 2022, the details of which have still to be agreed with the RSNO.

Tom McKendrick

- 4.5** As previously agreed, arrangements are now being made for the Council to purchase 250 copies of Tom McKendrick's book on the Clydebank Blitz at a total of £2,500.

Town Twinning/Friendship Agreements

- 4.6** The Committee is asked to note that it is still the intention for the planned trip to Letterkenny to take place this financial year and that the Manager of Democratic and Registration Services will keep in contact with officials from Letterkenny to identify a suitable date for the visit.
- 4.7** The Committee is asked to note that a letter has been received from the Mayor of Gdynia on the issue of the proposed friendship request. The Mayor has responded as follows:

“We are keen to work with the city of Clydebank and the West Dunbartonshire particularly in the areas of culture, education and preservation of historic heritage with a priority to implement specific initiatives and projects, which to us is far more valuable than signed agreements. In these uncertain times of the ongoing pandemic, the most viable option seems to be holding an online meeting of representatives of departments managing projects in those areas, during which the details of our cooperation could be discussed.”

4.8 Accordingly, the Committee is asked to authorise the Manager of Democratic and Registration Services, in consultation with the Convener, to arrange a meeting with the Mayor and officials from Gdynia to progress matters and agree a way forward.

5. People Implications

5.1 There are no people implications arising from the content of this report.

6. Financial and Procurement Implications

6.1 At its meeting in May 2021, the Committee noted that there was approximately £24,500 of expenditure to be incurred in relation to the commemorations (includes all committed expenditure to date) leaving the sum of £11,426 to be funded from the 2021/22 Cultural fund. However, now that Creative Scotland has confirmed the offer of £10,000 funding towards these costs, this will leave the sum of £1,426 to be funded from the 2021/22 Cultural Fund.

6.2 If the proposed trip to Letterkenny goes ahead this financial year, the estimated cost will be approximately £500 to be funded from the Cultural Fund.

7. Risk Analysis

7.1 There are no risks arising from the recommendations of this report.

8. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

8.1 There are no impacts on any equality groups arising from the recommendations of this report.

9. Consultation

9.1 Officers from Legal and Finance Services have been consulted on the contents of this report.

10. Strategic Assessment

10.1 The involvement of local churches and communities is an important element of the Clydebank Blitz commemorations which fits well with the Council's strategy on community involvement and engagement.

Name: Peter Hessett
Designation Chief Officer - Regulatory and Regeneration
Date: 9 August 2021

Person to Contact: George Hawthorn, Manager of Democratic and Registration Services, Municipal Buildings, College Street, Dumbarton. Telephone 07903010404 or email: george.hawthorn@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Appendices: None

Background Papers: Equalities impact Assessment - Screening on Friendship with Gdynia dated 9 August 2021.

Wards Affected: None.