

CORPORATE CULTURAL SUB-COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Corporate Cultural Sub-Committee held on Tuesday, 13 December 2011 in the Education Centre, St Margaret of Scotland Hospice, East Barns Street, Clydebank, at 10.05 a.m.

Present: Provost Denis Agnew and Councillor George Black.

Attending: Ronnie Dinnie, Head of Neighbourhood Services; Fiona McGuigan, Leisure Services Co-ordinator; Gill Graham, Section Head – Libraries and Museums; Janice Rainey, Business Unit Finance Partner; Aileen Douthwaite, Education Support Officer – Music Instruction, and George Hawthorn, Section Head, Democratic Services.

Apology: An apology for absence was received from Councillor Marie McNair.

Provost Denis Agnew in the Chair

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of Meetings of the Corporate Cultural Sub-Committee held on 13 September 2011 (Ordinary) and 3 October 2011 (Special) were submitted and approved as correct records.

BUDGETARY MONITORING REPORT: PERIOD 7 (2011/2012)

A report was submitted by the Interim Executive Director of Corporate Services advising of the performance of the Corporate Cultural budgets for the period to 31 October 2011.

Having heard the Finance Business Partner in answer to a Member's question, the Sub-Committee agreed to note the overall favourable position of the budget at this point.

COST OF PROVIDING FREE RIDES AT COUNCIL RUN EVENTS

The Sub-Committee received a verbal update by Head of Neighbourhood Services on the cost of providing free rides at Council run events.

It was noted that the average cost of providing free rides at such events was approximately £800 per event, which Members of the Sub-Committee considered to be good value for money.

At this point Provost Agnew congratulated all staff involved in the organisation of the Clydebank 125 event which was a success.

REFURBISHMENT OF CLYDEBANK MUSEUM

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services:-

- (a) providing an update on plans for and the programming of proposed refurbishment works to Clydebank Museum; and
- (b) advising on plans for forthcoming exhibitions in the refurbished museum and link gallery.

After hearing Provost Agnew, it was noted that the reference to “the WDC collection” in paragraph 3.7 of the report should read “WDC’s Collections” as there are more than one collection e.g. the Colourist Collection and the Scottish Women Artists Collection.

Following discussion, the Sub-Committee agreed:-

- (1) that, with reference to the link gallery, the entire Colourist collection should have a permanent display area of its own; and
- (2) that future reports should refer to “the Libraries and Museums Section” in accordance with the decision of this Sub-Committee on 28 January 2011 (Page 3420 refers).

UPDATE ON CURRENT PLANNED EXHIBITIONS

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services:-

- (a) informing of forthcoming exhibitions promoted by the Libraries & Museums Section; and
- (b) advising on current work relating to forthcoming exhibitions which are in the planning stages for 2012/13.

Having heard the Section Head, Libraries & Museums in answer to Members’ questions, the Sub-Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the contents of the report in relation to the planned exhibitions being promoted by the Libraries & Museums Section;
- (2) to note the significant efforts being made to increase visitor figures through enhancement of existing heritage venues, increased exhibitions programmes in partnership with National agencies;
- (3) that, in the interest of clarity, officers should add the locations of the planned exhibitions to the information shown in the Appendix to the report;
- (4) to note that delays in the opening of the Clydebank Town Hall could impact on the planned exhibitions but not the applications for funding;
- (5) that the Head of Legal, Democratic and Regulatory Services should submit a report to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee providing information on the sculpture (Mother and Child) which stood in front of the Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton, and was removed some time ago; and
- (6) to note that Councillor Black, in his capacity as Depute Provost, would identify a suitable site for the location of the Dumbarton Castle ensign.

UPDATE ON TOWN TWINNING

The Sub-Committee received a verbal update on Town Twinning issues, as follows.

(a) Beauvoisin, France

The Section Head, Democratic Services, informed the Sub-Committee that a letter had been received from the Mayor of Beauvoisin thanking the Council for the visit in May 2011 and inviting the Council to send a delegation, including Provost Agnew and his wife, to the local Highland Games being held by the community of Beauvoisin at Franqueveax on 29 April 2011.

It was agreed that the Council should decline the invitation and that the Clerk would write to the Mayor of Beauvoisin in the appropriate terms.

(b) Iseo, Italy

Provost Agnew informed the Sub-Committee that he had received a telephone call from the office of the Mayor of Iseo, Italy, enquiring if this Council might be interested in forming a twinning relationship with the small town of Iseo which was similar to Balloch; being located beside a lake and an economy that relies mainly on tourism.

It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Mayor of Iseo expressing the view that the Council might be interested in pursuing the matter through a friendship charter rather than a formal twinning arrangement and seeking a response thereon.

(c) Argenteuil, France

The Section Head, Democratic Services, informed the Sub-Committee that the planned visit by Provost Agnew and the Chief Executive to Argenteuil, as discussed at the previous meeting of the Sub-Committee, had not taken place due to the number of local events taking place during October/November. Provost Agnew provided further information on the history of the relationship with Argenteuil and on the recent communications which had been received from the Mayor of Argenteuil who was now keen to renew and further develop the relationship.

The Sub-Committee agreed that the visit should not take place at this time and that the Clerk should write to the Mayor of Argenteuil in the appropriate terms.

The Section Head, Democratic Services, informed the Sub-Committee that the Corporate and Efficient Governance Committee, at its meeting on 23 November 2011, had expressed the view that culture trips were not appropriate in the current economic climate. It was noted that the Corporate and Efficient Governance Committee did not have delegated authority to decide on such matters, as authority for cultural events and town twinning rested with the Sub-Committee.

Following discussion, the Sub-Committee noted the position.

UPDATE ON FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Sub-Committee received a verbal update by the Head of Neighbourhood Services in relation to the Monte Carlo Historic Rally which would commence in Clydebank on Sunday, 29 January 2012. It was noted that the rally cars would be on display and that the rally would commence in the grounds of Clydebank College.

After discussion and having heard the Head of Neighbourhood Services and Leisure Services Co-ordinator in answer to Members' questions, the Sub-Committee agreed:-

- (1) to welcome the event which would have a significant economic impact on the town of Clydebank;
- (2) to note that there had already been significant national and international interest shown in respect of the event;
- (3) to note that the issues discussed in relation to car parking would be raised with the Shopping Centre Management and local Police;
- (4) to note that the Leisure Services Co-ordinator would meet with the Rally organisers this week to discuss the various arrangements and finalise the route; and
- (5) that there would be an informal meeting of officers and Members of the Sub-Committee approximately two weeks before the event to discuss the final arrangements.

At this point Provost Agnew wished everyone present a happy Christmas and a good New Year.

The Meeting closed at 11.25 a.m.