

CORPORATE CULTURAL SUB-COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Corporate Cultural Sub-Committee held on Tuesday, 20 March 2012 in the Education Centre, St Margaret of Scotland Hospice, East Barns Street, Clydebank, at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Provost Denis Agnew, Councillors George Black, William Hendrie*, Jonathan McColl and Marie McNair.

*Arrived later in the meeting.

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; and George Hawthorn, Section Head, Democratic Services.

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 MEETING

The Minutes of Meeting of the Corporate Cultural Sub-Committee held on 13 December 2011 were submitted and approved as a correct record subject to the second last paragraph of Page 3 being amended to read as follows:

“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; it is located beside a lake and its economy relies mainly on tourism.”

With reference to the item under the heading “Update on Current Planned Exhibitions”, (Page XXX refers) and after hearing Councillor Black in further explanation, the Sub-Committee noted Councillor Black’s suggestions that the plaque to commemorate the HMS Dumbarton Castle could be located on the north western face (Castle Street) of the Scottish Maritime Museum.

BUDGETARY MONITORING REPORT - PERIOD 10 (2011/12)

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Corporate Services advising of the performance of the Corporate Cultural budgets for the period to 31 January 2012.

The Sub-Committee agreed to note the terms of the report.

EVENTS 2012

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development on the proposed draft Events Calendar for 2012 and seeking Members' views in terms of shaping the final programme.

Having heard the Head of Neighbourhood Services in further explanation of the report and following discussion, the Sub-Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the content of the report;
- (2) that, in principle, all the events detailed in the Appendix to these minutes should proceed as planned, subject to suitable funding being identified;
- (3) that officers should consider the possibility of including a St Andrew's Night event in the programme and report back to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee; and
- (4) to note that a report would be brought to a future Committee on the impact of the 2012 Events Programme.

Note: Councillor William Hendrie entered the meeting during the discussion on the above item.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY – PLAQUE FOR JANE RAE

Provost Agnew and Councillor Marie McNair asked the Sub-Committee to consider whether it was in favour of a plaque being placed in the grounds of the Town Hall to commemorate Jane Rae, who served as a local councillor in Clydebanks in the Nineteen Twenties. It was noted that the original request had been received from the Glasgow Women's Library as part of their work in support of International Women's Day.

It was further noted that Provost Agnew was willing to donate a piece of granite to be used as the memorial plaque and that a local sculptor had offered to engrave it for free.

The Sub-Committee agreed that it would be appropriate for the plaque to be placed in the grounds of Town Hall once the refurbishment works had been completed.

A.J. CRONIN PLAQUE

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services asking the Sub-Committee to fund a plaque and an event to celebrate the work of A.J. Cronin at the Dumbarton Library.

Following discussion, the Sub-Committee agreed:-

- (1) that Councillor Black should approach the owner of the property known as 'Hatter's Castle' in Round Riding Road, Dumbarton (former residence of AJ Cronin) seeking permission for a blue plaque to be mounted in a suitably prominent location on the property in celebration of the work of the local author;
- (2) that a brass plaque in celebration of the work of AJ Cronin be erected in the Dumbarton Library, as part of the 'Booked festival' in May 2012; and
- (3) to suggest to the Planning and Development Section that consideration be given to naming streets within any new housing development in West Dunbartonshire with names associated with the works of the AJ Cronin.

MOTHER AND CHILD SULPTURE - GARSHAKE

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Corporate Services informing of the outcome of the investigation into the whereabouts of the statue (Mother and Child), which stood outside the Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton and was removed some time ago.

Having heard the Section Head, Democratic Services in further explanation of the report, the Sub-Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note with disappointment that no records has been retained in relation to the disposal of the statue;
- (2) to note that all Council art works were now recorded in a register held by the Department of Educational Services; and
- (3) that a briefing note on the status of the two statues currently located within the foyer of the Council Chambers, Garshake Road, Dumbarton, be sent to all Members of the Sub-Committee.

HM THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE BEACONS – 4 JUNE 2012

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Corporate Services asking the Sub-Committee to consider whether this Council should celebrate The Queen's Diamond Jubilee by lighting a beacon to mark the Queen's 60 years as Monarch.

Having heard the Section Head, Democratic Services in further explanation of the report, the Sub-Committee agreed:-

- (1) that, if possible, the Council should purchase three Church Tower Beacons: one for Dumbarton, Clydebank and Alexandria;
- (2) that in the first instance, Provost Agnew should contact the keeper of Dumbarton Castle to ascertain if a beacon could be lit on the castle, if not, a local church in Dumbarton with a suitable tower should be approached;
- (3) that in the first instance contact should also be made with the Abbotsford Church, Clydebank and Alexandria Parish Church, Balloch to ascertain if a beacon could be lit from their church towers, if not, other local churches with suitable towers should be approached;
- (4) to note that if officers were unable to obtain Church Tower beacons in time for 4th June 2012 then it would be necessary to reconsider some of the other options available within the report; and
- (5) that the sum of £5000 be earmarked from the small scale events budget for requests for community groups for funding in connection with The Queen's Diamond Jubilee and that a limit of £300 per application should apply

UPDATE ON TOWN TWINNING

The Section Head, Democratic Services and Provost Agnew informed the Sub-Committee that correspondence had been sent to Argenteuil, Beauvoisin and Iseo in accordance with the Sub-Committee's instructions at the previous meeting. It was noted that Iseo only wished to pursue a very informal link with Balloch given its similarities with Iseo.

After hearing Councillor Black, the Sub-Committee agreed to request the Director of Educational Services to write to the Mayors of Beauvoisin and Argenteuil informing them of the outdoor facilities for young people at McGregor's Landing, Ardlui with a view to inviting them to consider sending french students to the facility.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

Provost Agnew thanked all Members of the Sub-Committee and officers for their hard work over the past few years.

The Meeting closed at 11.35 a.m.