

CULTURAL COMMITTEE

At a Hybrid Special Meeting of the Cultural Committee held in the Civic Space, 16 Church Street, Dumbarton on Wednesday, 29 June 2022 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors Martin Rooney, Craig Edward, June McKay, Lauren Oxley and Chris Pollock.

Attending: Amanda Graham, Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture & Facilities; Alan Douglas, Legal Manager; Sarah Christie, Team Leader – Arts & Heritage; Michelle Lynn, Assets Coordinator and Lynn Straker and Nicola Moorcroft, Committee Officers.

Councillor Martin Rooney in the Chair

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

RECORDING OF VOTES

The Committee agreed that all votes taken during the meeting would be done by roll call vote to ensure an accurate record.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER

Having heard the Legal Officer, the Committee agreed to suspend Standing Order 20(a) to allow consideration of the following item of business.

PREVIOUS DECISIONS OF THE CULTURAL COMMITTEE

A report was submitted by the Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture & Facilities, providing an overview of decisions of the Cultural Committee during 2021/2022 which have a cost implication for the Council.

After discussion and having heard from the Chief Officer and the Team Leader – Arts & Heritage in further explanation, and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to remove the current restrictions limiting bookings in the Town Hall which was creating a recurring £80,000 revenue pressure due to lost income;
- (2) to proceed with the previously agreed self-service catering option at the Town Hall negating the additional revenue cost of re-opening the coffee shop (included in £80,000 above);
- (3) to revert to the pre-Covid timetable with a six days a week opening and not progress with seven day opening thus removing an additional £25,000 revenue pressure;
- (4) to maintain the Garden Gallery in its current form and not proceed with works to create additional display space therefore removing £23,500 of capital costs;
- (5) to utilise existing channels to promote the area and cultural offering and not proceed with the development of a standalone website thus removing estimated net revenue costs of up to £100,000 and up to £103,000 of capital costs; and
- (6) to note that the Blitz is a significant and important element of Clydebanks history which will be recognised in the new museum space being developed in the towns library with a permanent display of objects and ephemera, including a space for reflection and a Roll of Honour naming all those who lost their lives.

DUMBARTON AT 800 – OCTOCENTENARY OF THE ROYAL BURGH

A report was submitted by the Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture & Facilities, outlining the planned activity by the Arts and Heritage team to mark the octocentenary of the Royal Burgh of Dumbarton between July 2022 and July 2023.

After discussion and having heard the Team Leader – Arts & Heritage in further explanation, and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the contents of the report and to support the activities and approach described within the paper; and
- (2) to ensure commitment to working closely and engaging with local West Dunbartonshire businesses in promoting this occasion and for a report to come back to Members in the near future detailing the work done to engage with the community.

The meeting closed at 10:37 a.m.