

CULTURAL COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Cultural Committee held in the Council Chamber, Clydebank Town Hall, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank on Monday, 27 January 2020 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Provost William Hendrie, Bailie Denis Agnew, Councillor Karen Conaghan and Councillor Brian Walker.

Attending: Angela Wilson, Strategic Director – Transformation & Public Service Reform; Malcolm Bennie, Strategic Lead – Communications, Culture, Communities & Facilities; Alan Douglas, Legal Manager; George Hawthorn, Manager of Democratic and Registration Services; Amanda Graham, Communications, Town Hall and CEO Manager; Sarah Christie, Team Lead – Arts & Heritage; Michelle Lynn, Assets Coordinator and Craig Stewart, Committee Officer.

Apology: An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor John Millar.

Bailie Denis Agnew 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.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of Meeting of the Cultural Committee held on 25 November 2019 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

After hearing the Strategic Director, in answer to a Member's question on the Presentation on Footgolf item, it was noted that a report proposing options on Footgolf would be prepared by officers with a view to being presented, for Committee consideration, at the earliest opportunity.

OPEN FORUM

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

RE-DEVELOPMENT OF BRUCE STREET BATHS, CLYDEBANK

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Communications, Culture, Communities & Facilities provided an update on activity linked to the redevelopment of Bruce Street. Baths, and requesting approval to commission an external report exploring the future uses of the building.

After discussion and having heard the Strategic Lead in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the contents of this report;
- (2) to authorise spend of up to £100,000, from the Cultural Capital Fund, to stabilise the baths, such as painting and other associated works;
- (3) to approve its continued use as an exhibition space; and
- (4) that officers explore the possibility of linking the Baths into the District Wide Heating System.

Note: Councillor Walker left the meeting during consideration of the above item.

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, there was a verbal update by the Strategic Lead – Communications, Culture, Communities & Facilities in relation to this standing item of business.

After discussion and having heard the Strategic Lead and the Team Lead – Arts & Heritage advise that the development was continuing to make satisfactory progress, the Committee agreed to note the terms of the verbal update.

ADJOURNMENT

After hearing Bailie Agnew, Chair, the Committee agreed to adjourn for a short period. The meeting resumed at 10.37 a.m., with same Members present as listed in the sederunt, with the exception of Councillor Walker.

OPERATING MODEL FOR THE CLYDEBANK TOWN HALL

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Communications, Culture, Communities & Facilities responding to a request from the Convener of Culture for further information on the way the Clydebank Town Hall was presently being operated and its future direction.

ADJOURNMENT

After hearing Bailie Agnew, Chair, the Committee agreed to adjourn for a short period. The meeting resumed at 11.34 a.m., with the same Members present as listed in the sederunt, with the exception of Councillor Walker.

At this point, the Strategic Lead and relevant officers were heard in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions. Having heard the Manager of Legal Services explain that any decision that would involve an impact on revenue would require to be further considered as part of the budget process, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the report, and that weddings would still form a main part of activity within the Town Hall but to agree that they should not impact or exclude other uses and should be confined to specific areas within the Town Hall;
- (2) that up to £10,000 should be allocated from the [Cultural budget] for the acquisition of an artwork by 20th Century Scottish Women for display within the Town Hall, it being noted that Elected Members would make the final decision on the purchase of the artwork, and that officers would deal with the procurement thereof; and
- (3) that officers be requested to examine the possibility of weekend opening and the possible restriction of weekday opening, and to report back to a future Committee with the possible revenue implications of such an option.

During consideration of this item, Bailie Agnew, Chair, advised that he would be donating an artwork of his to the 20th Century Scottish Women collection.

Note: Councillor Walker re-entered the meeting during consideration of the above item.

NEW EVENTS FOR WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Communications, Culture, Communities & Facilities responding to the motion to the Cultural Committee in April 2019 by proposing how the Council could review the potential for future events and sponsorship in West Dunbartonshire.

After discussion and having heard the Strategic Lead and the Legal Manager in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the contents of the report;
- (2) to take no action with regard to commissioning the two external reports, outlined in the report; and
- (3) to continue consideration of the events programme, to the next Ordinary meeting of the Cultural Committee.

TOWN TWINNING UPDATE

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Regulatory Services providing an update on progress being made in relation to the friendship agreement with Letterkenny and other related matters.

After discussion and having heard the Manager of Democratic and Registration Services in further explanation and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) that the most favourable date for the visit to Letterkenny was 26/27 March to discuss the development of the Friendship Agreement, subject to Provost Hendrie checking the suitability of the dates in question;
- (2) that the Manager of Democratic and Registration Services be authorised to write to locals MSPs and MP regarding potential trade missions in Dublin; and
- (3) otherwise to note the contents of the report.

RICHMOND STREET PREMISES

Having heard Bailie Agnew, Chair, it was noted that this item had been withdrawn from the agenda and that a report in relation to this matter would now be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

The meeting closed at 12 noon.