

# **WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**

## **Report by Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development**

**Corporate Cultural Sub-Committee: 30 November 2009**

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**Subject: Events 2009**

### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to advise members of the Sub-Committee of the outcome of events staged by the Council thus far in 2009.

### **2.0 Background**

- 2.1** At the Corporate Cultural Sub Committee meeting of 9 December 2008 Members considered the Major Events 2009 report and approved a draft events calendar for 2009.
- 2.2** For a number of reasons previously reported to the Corporate Cultural Sub Committee, some of the major events planned did not come to pass, namely the Balloch Music Festival (Country and Western/Americana event and the Classical Concert events, both planned for Moss O' Balloch.)
- 2.3** At the same time later additions were made to the events calendar, this due to the granting of funding from EventScotland to assist in staging Homecoming Finale events around the St.Andrew's Day weekend (27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> November 2009) at Clydebank Town Hall, Moss O' Balloch Marquee and Dumbarton Burgh Hall respectively.
- 2.4** The rest of the events within what emerged to be the final 2009 events calendar have been staged as planned; this up to the time of writing this report on 12 November 2009. A copy of the final 2009 Events programme is attached as Appendix A.

### **3.0 Main Issues**

- 3.1** The outcome of the events staged in 2009 by Events and Halls, with final net costs, are as follows;
- a) Taylors Funfair at the Play Drome Clydebank 6<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> May :** This event was staged at no cost the Council and generated income of £2,500.

- b) **Scottish Pipe Band Championships 16<sup>th</sup> May** – This event attracted around twenty thousand visitors on a day where a few rain showers were experienced but did little to dampen the enthusiasm of those attending. With 136 bands participating, the event was as big as it has ever been. The net cost of the event this year was £14,752. Media exposure of the event was very good and very positive, culminating in a two page photograph of the prize-giving in the following day's Sunday Herald.
- c) **WDC Pro Am Golf Tournament 30<sup>th</sup> May**: This event continues to be popular with the thirty teams who participate however it is now extremely difficult to attract sponsors for the event - only nine sponsors were found for this year's event which was intended to be self financing. The net cost of the event was £5,905.
- d) **Bobath Dragon Boat Race 6<sup>th</sup> June** : Although not a Council event a degree of assistance is provided by the Events & Halls Section to ensure the event's success which this year, according to the organizers, was considerable. The event attracted around two thousand participants and spectators.
- e) **Balloch Family Fun Day 13<sup>th</sup> June** : This is the third year that this event has been staged and it continues to grow in popularity. Attendance at this year's event was approx. 3,000 visitors over the course of the day. The cost of staging the event was approx £2,000.
- f) **Zippos Circus 22<sup>nd</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> June** : Although not Council run this event provided a good summer attraction in Dumbarton.
- g) **Clydebank Canal Festival – 4<sup>th</sup> July** : This is the second year of staging this event and it has proven to be popular with those attending. The event featured a mass rubber duck race staged by St. Margaret's Hospice which raised over £5,000. The net cost of staging this year's event was £3,283.
- h) **Levensgrove Gala Day – 11<sup>th</sup> July** : This traditional gala day was very well attended and was held in glorious weather. The entertainment, with the MacDonald Brothers headlining, proved extremely popular. With a contribution to costs being made by West Dunbartonshire Festival Association, the net cost of the event was £3,848.
- i) **Loch Lomond Highland Games 18<sup>th</sup> July** : The relocation of this event to the Moss O' Balloch was significant in making this the best attended games for many years. The event was staged at net cost of £10,082.
- j) **Lomond Folk Festival 24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> July** : Although not a Council event the Council's Events team provided assistance to this event.

- k) **Faifley Gala Day 25<sup>th</sup> July:** Now in its third year this event grows in popularity with the local community, who have a significant input to its organisation. The net cost of staging this event was £200.
- l) **Dalmuir Park Music Festival 1<sup>st</sup> August:** This was the first staging of this event and it was not particularly well attended due to factors such as the weather and a date clash with other non Council events. The net cost of the event was £6,000.
- m) **Christie Park Gala Day 8<sup>th</sup> August:** This increasingly popular local gala day was part funded by West Dunbartonshire Festival Association. The net cost to WDC was £931.
- n) **Old Kilpatrick Gala Day 15<sup>th</sup> August:** Staged this year for the first time the event attracted an attendance of approx 1,000. The net event cost of the event was £2,416.
- o) **Dalmuir Park Illuminations 25<sup>th</sup>- 27<sup>th</sup> November:** Attendance of around 3,000 over the course of the event matched that of previous years. The net cost the event was around £11,000
- p) **Clydebank Fireworks Display 5<sup>th</sup> November:** Attendance estimated at 6,000. The net cost of the event is expected to be £8,500.
- q) **Dumbarton Fireworks Display 6<sup>th</sup> November:** Like Clydebank, this event proved popular with an attendance estimated at 5,000. With Dumbarton Common Good Fund paying the main costs, the net costs are expected to be £900.

3.2 The remainder of the 2009 event programme is as noted in appendix A.

#### 4. Personnel Issues

4.1 Council run events were staged and managed by staff from the Events and Halls Section of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development.

#### 5. Financial Implications

5.1 Costs for Council run events are sourced from the Event & Halls section revenue budget and from the Culture Budget for small events.

#### 6.0 Risk Analysis

6.1 As many Council events are hosted outdoors there is a risk of the weather affecting them, especially those taking place later in the year. The 2009 events programme, however, experienced little in the way of bad weather therefore attendances were not significantly affected by this risk factor.

#### 7.0 Conclusion and Officers Recommendation

- 7.1 The 2009 events calendar included a mixed and varied range of events. Some events were more successful than others in attracting large numbers of visitors.
- 7.2 The cost of hosting each event is shown as a net figure (ie the balance after expenditure and income have been accounted).
- 7.3 The Committee is requested to note the contents of this report.

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**Appendix:** Appendix A – Finalised 2009 event programme

**Background Papers:** None

**Wards Affected:** All