

Agenda



Cultural Committee

Date: Monday, 28 March 2022

Time: 10:00

Format: Hybrid Meeting

Contact: Email: Gabriella.Gonda@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Dear Member

Please attend a meeting of the **Cultural Committee** as detailed above. The business is shown on the attached agenda.

The Convener has directed that the powers contained in Section 43 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 will be used and Members will have the option to attend the meeting remotely or in person at the Civic Space, Church Street, Dumbarton.

Yours faithfully

JOYCE WHITE

Chief Executive

Distribution:-

Bailie Denis Agnew (Chair)
Councillor Iain McLaren
Councillor Jonathan McColl (Vice Chair)
Councillor John Millar
Councillor Brian Walker

Chief Executive
Chief Officer – Supply, Distribution and Property
Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture and Facilities

Date of issue: 15 March 2022

CULTURAL COMMITTEE
MONDAY, 28 MARCH 2022

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are invited to declare if they have an interest in any of the items of business on this agenda and the reasons for such declarations.

3 RECORDING OF VOTES

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

4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS 5 - 14

Submit for approval as correct records, the following Minutes of Meetings of the Cultural Committee:-

- (a) Special meeting – 17 January 2022;
- (b) Ordinary meeting - 24 January 2022; and
- (c) Special meeting - 18 February 2022.

5 OPEN FORUM

The Committee is asked to note that no open forum questions have been submitted by members of the public.

**6 TOWN TWINNING AND 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF CLYDEBANK BLITZ –
UPDATE 15 - 17**

Submit report by the Chief Officer – Regulatory & Regeneration providing an update on Town Twinning and the 80th Anniversary of the Clydebank Blitz.

CULTURAL COMMITTEE

At a Special Meeting of the Cultural Committee held by video conferencing on Monday, 17 January 2022 at 10.03 a.m.

Present: Bailie Denis Agnew and Councillors Jonathan McColl and Brian Walker.

Attending: Amanda Graham, Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture and Facilities, George Hawthorn, Manager of Democratic and Registration Services; Michelle Lynn, Asset Coordinator; Jackie Nicol-Thomson, Business Partner, Resources; Sarah Christie, Team Lead, Heritage and Arts; Alan Douglas, Manager of Legal Services and Lynn Straker and Gabriella Gonda, Committee Officers.

Apologies: An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Provost William Hendrie.

Bailie Denis Agnew in the Chair

STATEMENT BY CHAIR – AUDIO STREAMING

The Chair advised that the meeting was being audio streamed and broadcast live to the internet.

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

OPEN FORUM

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

MINUTE OF SILENCE

At the request of Bailie Denis Agnew, Chair, the Committee observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect following the death of Martin Keeley, Environmental Health Manager, who had worked for the Council for 11 years, and most recently was a vital part of the Council's Covid-19 strategic response team.

WEEKEND OPENING OF CLYDEBANK TOWN HALL

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Cultural Committee held on 20 December 2021, a report was submitted by the Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture and Facilities responding to a request from the Cultural Committee to detail adjustments that could be made to reduce the additional costs associated with opening Clydebank Town Hall to the public at weekends.

After discussion, the Committee agreed to continue discussion of this report to a future meeting of the Cultural Committee.

UPDATE – WDC SCOTTISH ART ACQUISITION FUND

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Cultural Committee held on 20 December 2021, a report was submitted by the Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture and Facilities providing an update on acquisitions previously approved for purchase via the West Dunbartonshire Council Scottish Art Acquisition Fund (established May 2021): future plans on this fund and recommending a series of acquisitions for approval by the Committee.

After discussion, the Committee agreed to continue discussion of this report with a request to bring forward a proposal for further acquisitions to a future meeting of the Cultural Committee.

CLYDEBANK TOWN HALL REDEVELOPMENT UPDATE

A report was submitted by the Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture and Facilities providing an update on the redevelopment activity at Clydebank Town Hall in response to the motion agreed at the August 2021 Cultural Committee and seeking approval for the works required to conclude the project.

After discussion and having heard the Chief Officer Citizen, Culture and Facilities and the Assets Coordinator in further explanation of the report, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the updates provided within the report; and
- (2) to agree to progress the works outlined in paragraphs 4.7, 4.10 and 4.12 of the report.

The meeting closed at 10:18 a.m.

DRAFT

CULTURAL COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Cultural Committee held by video conference on Monday, 24 January 2022 at 10.07 a.m.

Present: Bailie Denis Agnew and Councillors Jonathan McColl and Brian Walker.

Attending: Amanda Graham, Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture and Facilities, George Hawthorn, Manager of Democratic and Registration Services; Michelle Lynn, Asset Coordinator; Karen Shannon, Business Partner – Resources; Alan Douglas, Manager of Legal Services and Ashley MacIntyre and Gabriella Gonda, Committee Officers.

Apology: An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Provost William Hendrie.

Bailie Denis Agnew in the Chair

CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair, Bailie Agnew, was heard in connection with Item 6 – Weekend Opening of Clydebank Town Hall that appeared in the Minutes of the Meeting of the Cultural Committee held on 20 December 2021:-

He advised that he wished to provide clarity for existing employees by confirming that there would be no change to contracts to accommodate Sunday opening; that the building would be open seven days a week for a trial period during 2022/23 to support Covid recovery with a particular focus on the wellbeing agenda and widening accessing for our citizens. He further advised that the Chief Officer would have discretion to make adjustments, as necessary, in order to take this forward and that he was seeking to continue the item to a future meeting to enable further discussions to take place between officers and the Health and Social Care Partnership to ensure we maximise the benefit of this pilot, reduce isolation and improve wellbeing.

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of Meetings of the Cultural Committee held on 29 November 2021 (Ordinary) and 20 December 2021 (Special) were submitted and approved as correct records.

OPEN FORUM

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

THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE BEACONS – 2 JUNE 2022

A report was submitted by the Chief Officer – Regulatory and Regeneration asking Committee to consider whether this Council should celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee by lighting two beacons to mark the occasion.

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 Council would purchase one gas beacon and gas cylinder to be lit at Dumbarton Castle on 2nd June 2022 to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, at a cost of £600 to be met from the Cultural fund; and
- (2) to note the other activities and events as referred to in paragraph 4.6 of the report, in which schools may participate in West Dunbartonshire to mark the occasion.

The meeting closed at 10:21 a.m.

CULTURAL COMMITTEE

At a Hybrid Special Meeting of the Cultural Committee held in the Civic Space, 16 Church Street, Dumbarton on Friday, 18 February 2022 at 10.02 a.m.

Present: Bailie Denis Agnew and Councillors Jonathan McColl, John Millar and Brian Walker.

Attending: Amanda Graham, Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture and Facilities, George Hawthorn, Manager of Democratic and Registration Services; Alan Douglas, Manager of Legal Services; Joe Reilly, Business Partner – Resources; Michelle Lynn, Asset Coordinator; Sarah Christie, Team Lead Heritage and Arts; and Ashley MacIntyre and Lynn Straker, Committee Officers.

Apologies: An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Provost William Hendrie.

Bailie Denis Agnew in the Chair

URGENT ITEM OF BUSINESS

Bailie Agnew, Chair, advised that he had an urgent motion on Acquisition of Artwork by Alison Watt to be considered. The Committee agreed to accept the item and advised that it would be dealt with after the business shown on the agenda.

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.

OPEN FORUM

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

TOWN TWINNING AND 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLYDEBANK BLITZ

A report was submitted by the Chief Officer – Regulatory and Regeneration providing an update on Town Twinning and the 80th Anniversary of the Clydebank Blitz.

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

- (1) to note that the planned trip to meet of the Mayor of Letterkenny to discuss the friendship agreement in February 2022 has been postponed and, if feasible, should now be held in March/April;
- (2) to approve the recommendations of the Clydebank Blitz Working Group as detailed in paragraph 4.5 as follows:
 - (a) that a plaque to commemorate the bombing of Dumbarton during World War II should be laid in a suitable location within the grounds of the Municipal Buildings;
 - (b) that the Council should not proceed with the proposed church service in Our Holy Redeemers Church on Sunday, 13 March 2022, in view of the news that Kilbowie/St. Andrew's Church, Clydebank, intended to hold a service, very similar to what the Council had been planning, at 2.00 p.m. on that date and had invited Bailie Agnew to speak and would also play the commemorative music 'Clydebank 41' performed by the RSNO from the CD; and
 - (c) that a presentation of the commemorative medals should not be held, but instead the medals should be sent, by courier or hand.
- (3) to approve the additional costs involved in the purchase of Tom McKendrick's book on the Clydebank Blitz;
- (4) to note that the Manager of Democratic and Registration Services would circulate a copy of the draft Programme of Cooperation between Gdynia and West Dunbartonshire, as prepared the by the Polish Consul General, to all Members of the Committee for their information; and
- (5) to note that the Committee will not proceed with the time capsule at this particular point due to timescales.

DENNY CIVIC THEATRE

A report was submitted by the Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture and Facilities providing an update on Cultural Capital Fund spend to date and seeking approval for the allocation of budget to additional projects that have been identified.

After discussion and having heard the Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture and Facilities and the Asset Coordinator in further explanation of the report and in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the updates provided within this report; and
- (2) to progress the works outlined in 4.2 and 4.6 of the report.

GLASGOW SCHOOL OF ART - RICHMOND STREET PROJECT

A report was submitted by the Chief Officer – Supply, Distribution and Property advising members on discussions with the Glasgow School of Art around a proposal to develop a facility at Richmond Street in Clydebank which will provide studio space / incubator facilities and seeks approval to commit funding to the project subject to the successful negotiation of a Minute of Agreement between the Council and the Art School.

After discussion and having heard the Manager of Legal Services in further explanation of the report, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the contents of this report;
- (2) to approve in principle the disposal of the facility at Richmond Street by lease to the Art School subject to the final proposal meeting the requirements for disposal of land at less than market value;
- (3) to earmark £500,000 from the Cultural Capital Fund (the Heritage Capital Fund) to the creation of studios and workspaces, subject to appropriate legal and financial due diligence and a Minute of Agreement on terms acceptable to both parties being entered into; and
- (4) that relevant officers, in consultation with the Convenor of Cultural Committee, negotiate the full terms and remit of the project with a report being submitted to a future Committee for final approval before any of the £500,000 sum is spent.

Note: - Councillor Brian Walker left the meeting following consideration of this item.

URGENT ITEM OF BUSINESS - ACQUISITION OF ARTWORK BY ALISON WATT

A report was submitted to the Cultural Committee on 17 January 2022 providing an update on acquisitions previously approved for purchase via the West Dunbartonshire Council Scottish Art Acquisition Fund (established May 2021): future plans on this fund and recommending a series of acquisitions for approval by Committee.

The Chief Officer – Citizens, Culture and Facilities Committee continued the report from January to enable further proposals to be brought forward for purchase from the

previously established £100,000 acquisition fund with a particular emphasis on works by Scottish women artists. She advised Committee there was currently £47,760 remaining in the acquisition fund and the Alison Watt work 'Evelick' was put forward for consideration. She advised of the purchase price of £24,000, less 10% museum discount, £21,600 and also intimated the intention to apply for funding from the National Fund for Acquisitions with the maximum funding available £9,225.

Following this update and recommendations provided, Bailie Agnew, Chair, seconded by Councillor McColl moved:-

'To purchase the recommended artwork by Alison Watt - Evelick 2019, oil on canvas for a sum of up to £24,000 excl. VAT.

Committee notes that in doing so, we are spending money from a Capital Fund specifically for investing in relevant artwork. Committee notes that as this fund is a Capital Fund and not a Revenue Fund, it therefore cannot be used to fund general services revenue costs, as such this purchase has no impact on the 2022/23 revenue budget and savings options.'

Councillor Millar, having failed to find a seconder for a proposed amendment, requested that his dissent in respect of this item. The motion was declared carried.

The meeting closed at 11.25 a.m.

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**Report by Chief Officer – Regulatory and Regeneration****Meeting of the Cultural Committee: 28 March 2022**

Subject: Town Twinning and 80th Anniversary of Clydebank Blitz - Update

1. Purpose

- 1.1** To provide the Committee with an update on Town Twinning and the 80th Anniversary of the Clydebank Blitz.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1** The Committee is asked to note the updated position in relation to town twinning and the events which took place to mark the 80th anniversary of the Clydebank Blitz, as outlined within the report.

Background

- 3.1** Since the last meeting of the Committee, a number of events have taken place to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Clydebank Blitz. This report provides the Committee with an update on those events and in relation to town twinning.

4. Main Issues

- 4.1** At its last meeting, the Committee noted that the Mayor of Letterkenny had requested that the proposed visit to Letterkenny in February be postponed and be rescheduled to take place in March/April once Covid -19 restrictions have been relaxed in Ireland. To date, no arrangements have been made for the visit to take place and it is possible that the proposed visit may now take place after the local elections in May 2022.
- 4.2** With regard to the proposed friendship agreement with Gdynia, the Committee noted that the Consul General for Poland had prepared a draft programme of co-operation for Gdynia and West Dunbartonshire to consider as a basis for the friendship agreement between both authorities. A copy of the draft agreement was circulated to all Members of the Committee after its last meeting and has been passed to the relevant Council services for comment. It is anticipated that further discussions with Gdynia to progress the relationship will take place after the Council elections in May, subject to the agreement of the newly elected Council.

- 4.3** The plaque to commemorate the lives lost as a result of the enemy bombing of Dumbarton during World War II was unveiled by Depute Provost Karen Conaghan in the grounds of the Municipal Buildings on Friday 11th March 2022.
- 4.4** The Tom McKendrick exhibition on the Clydebank Blitz was opened in the Clydebank Town Hall on Friday 11th March 2022 as planned and copies of Mr McKendrick's book on the Clydebank Blitz have now been received and will be distributed to all secondary schools and main libraries in due course.
- 4.5** As agreed by the Committee at its last meeting, the medals which were commissioned to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Clydebank Blitz have been hand delivered to senior representatives of Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, The Royal College of Nursing, The Royal College of Physicians, The British Red Cross and the Scottish Ambulance Service along with a letter from Provost Hendrie. The remaining medal was delivered by courier to the Royal Voluntary Service.
- 4.6** Work is underway to complete the commemorative photograph album containing images taken at the commemorative concert in November 2021 and other events held this year to commemorate the Clydebank Blitz. It is hoped that the album will be completed by 31 March 2022 and will be made available for the public to see in the Room of Remembrance.

5. People Implications

- 5.1** There are no people implications arising from the content of this report.

6. Financial and Procurement Implications

- 6.1** At its meeting in March 2021, the Committee agreed that the remaining balance of funds within the Cultural budget for 2020/21, £13,074 be earmarked for any further expenditure in relation to the Clydebank Blitz i.e. RSNO concerts, CDs, books, etc.
- 6.2** It is estimated that approximately £2,260 of expenditure has still to be incurred/paid in relation to the blitz commemorations and town twinning commitments (production of photo album, the Dumbarton Memorial and if feasible, the Letterkenny trip) which will mean that the balance of unallocated funds for 2021/22 is now estimated to be approximately £22,755. This includes the final instalment of grant from Creative Scotland in the sum of £2500 which has still to be paid to the Council. This sum has now been requested to be paid in full.

7. Risk Analysis

- 7.1** There are no risks arising from the recommendations of this report.

8. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

8.1 There are no impacts on any equality groups arising from the recommendations of this report.

9. Consultation

9.1 Officers from Legal and Finance Services have been consulted on the contents of this report.

10. Strategic Assessment

10.1 The involvement of local churches and communities has been an important element of the Clydebank Blitz commemorations which fits well with the Council's strategy on community involvement and engagement.

Name: Peter Hessett
Designation Chief Officer - Regulatory and Regeneration
Date: 14 March 2022

Person to Contact: George Hawthorn, Manager of Democratic and Registration Services, Municipal Buildings, College Street, Dumbarton. Telephone 07903010404 or email: george.hawthorn@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Appendices: None

Background Papers: None

Wards Affected: None.