

CORPORATE CULTURAL SUB-COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the Corporate Cultural Sub-Committee held on Tuesday 13 September 2011 in the Education Centre, St Margaret of Scotland Hospice, East Barns Street, Clydebank, at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Provost Denis Agnew and Councillors Gail Casey, William Hendrie, Jonathan McColl and Marie McNair.

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 27 June 2011 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

After hearing Provost Agnew (Chair) and following discussion, it was agreed that a report be submitted to next meeting of the Sub-Committee in December 2011 providing a breakdown of the costs involved in organising the Old Kilpatrick Gala Day and detailing the implications of providing free or subsidised child rides at future events.

BUDGETARY MONITORING REPORT: PERIOD 4 (2011/2012)

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 July 2011.

Having heard the Business Unit Finance Partner in further explanation, the Sub-Committee agreed to note the terms of the report.

125th ANNIVERSARY OF CLYDEBANK – NOVEMBER 2011

Provost Agnew (Chair) invited the Sub-Committee to discuss proposals to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of Clydebank in November 2011.

After discussion, it was agreed:-

- (1) to note that in terms of the civic function, the Provost would write to one of the local churches inviting them to host an ecumenical service to celebrate the 125th Anniversary and also invite local churches to provide hospitality (similar to the events held in respect of the Clydebank Blitz) with costs being met from the appropriate budget;
- (2) that the Executive Director of Educational Services should be asked to invite schools and/or school children in Clydebank to write letters about their vision of Clydebank over the next 25 years; the letters would then be sealed in a time capsule which would remain buried in an appropriate site in the grounds of the Town Hall and would not be opened until November, 2036. The intention being that in 25 years time some of the pupils would be invited to a ceremony when some of the letters would be read out;
- (3) that the main event be held on Friday, 18 November 2011 from 4.30 pm to 9.00 pm in 3 Queen's Square, as follows:-
 - (a) officers should invite local bands, tribute bands and a celebrity act to participate in the event;
 - (b) officers should investigate the possibility of local celebrities participating in the event and that contact information be passed to Provost Agnew to issue formal invitations;
 - (c) that other famous persons with a Clydebank connection such as Cardinal Keith O'Brien, who attended primary School in Dalmuir and Duncan Bannantyne, who was born in Clydebank, should be invited to the event;
 - (d) that the Salvation Army should be invited to attend to play music and provide hot drinks, etc, for which they should receive an appropriate donation;
 - (e) that the event be funded from the balance of the small events budget and the monies set aside for the promotion of events (£10,000), up to a maximum of £20,000;
 - (f) that, should the estimated costs of the event exceed this limit, authority be delegated to the Head of Neighbourhood Services in consultation with the Chair to approve any additional expenditure;

- (g) that, if possible, the Council's website and twitter account should be used to advertise the event and encourage persons with a Clydebank connection to attend the event; and
- (4) that officers should organise some children's entertainment which could tie in with the Christmas lights switch-on event being held in the Clydebank Shopping Centre on Saturday, 19 November 2011. This arrangement to be discussed with the Town Centre management

Declaration of Interest

At this point in the meeting, it was suggested that the St Margaret of Scotland Hospice be invited to bring its fundraising bus along to the event. Councillor McNair declared a financial interest being an employee of the Hospice and took no part in the deliberation on this matter.

Thereafter, it was agreed that the St Margaret of Scotland Hospice be invited to send its fundraising bus to the event.

After hearing Provost Agnew in connection with a booklet which had been circulated by the Educational Services Department containing information on forthcoming events including the 125th Anniversary of Clydebank and having heard the Section Head, Libraries and Museums in further explanation, the Sub-Committee agreed that, in future, the Sub-Committee should be given advance notification of all such events which Libraries and Museums have planned in order to update and inform the Sub-Committee.

OPTIONS PAPER - MUSIC FOR A CHRISTMAS EVENING 2011

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services advising of a number of options relating to the provision of Music for a Christmas Evening 2011 in consequence of the temporary closure of Clydebank Town Hall.

Having heard the Section Head, Museums and Libraries in answer to Members' questions, and following discussion, the Sub-Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note the content of this paper and the options for Music for a Christmas Evening 2011 identified within it;
- (2) to note that the Section Head, Museums and Libraries would provide Councillor McColl with information on the new capacity of changing rooms in the Clydebank Town Hall, outwith the meeting; and
- (3) to approve Option 4, as outlined in the Appendix subject to the proposed concerts to mark the re-opening of the Town Hall taking place within this financial year, failing which a further report would be required to be submitted to the Sub-Committee for consideration.

CLYDEBANK TOWN HALL AND CLYDEBANK MUSEUM REFURBISHMENT

(a) Clydebank Town Hall

The Sub-Committee received an update from the Head of Neighbourhood Services on the current progress with regard to refurbishment works at the Town Hall.

It was noted that due to the discovery of asbestos and other contamination in the basement area of the Town Hall, refurbishment works had been delayed and that the Head of Neighbourhood Services would issue a briefing note to all elected members in approximately two weeks time when information on the revised completion date for works would be available.

The Sub-Committee expressed its disappointment and displeasure at the delay; the consensus being that the asbestos should have been discovered during the initial surveys.

It was agreed that the Head of Neighbourhood Services should investigate the possibility of the Council Chamber being made available for use in the New Year as per the original timetable and would advise Provost Agnew of the outcome.

(b) Refurbishment of Clydebank Museum

A report was submitted by the Executive Director of Educational Services:-

- (i) advising of progress on the refurbishment of Clydebank Museum and recent partnerships established with the National Galleries of Scotland to bring high quality visual art exhibitions into West Dunbartonshire; and
- (ii) requesting the Sub-Committee to authorise using the £21,000 allocated by the Sub-Committee for the relocation of the Clydebank Museum to Clydebank Town Centre (project did not proceed) earlier this year to the refurbishment of the existing museum space specifically for the purchase of environmental controls in order to attract exhibitions of international quality.

Having heard the Section Head, Museums and Libraries in answer to Members' questions, and following discussion, the Sub-Committee agreed:-

- (1) to request a further report providing more detailed information on the level of external funding which the Council is seeking from the various funding providers identified within the report together with information from the National Portrait Gallery on the types of works which would be made available for exhibition in West Dunbartonshire, if the required environmental controls were put in place; and

- (2) that a Special Meeting of the Sub-Committee should be held in early October 2011 to enable the Sub-Committee to consider the report referred to at (1) above.

INTERNATIONAL LINKS – UPDATE ON TOWN TWINNING AND FRIENDSHIP LINKS

The Sub-Committee received an update from the Section Head, Democratic Services on the current position with regard to friendship links/town twinning with Beauvoisin and Argenteuil.

The Sub-Committee noted:-

- (1) that the bilingual boundary signs marking the friendship with Beauvoisin had now been erected;
- (2) that an invitation had been received from the Mayor of Argenteuil inviting a deputation from this Council to visit Argenteuil in September/October 2011 to discuss the future of the town twinning arrangements between Argenteuil and West Dunbartonshire; and
- (3) that authority had already been granted by the Council in August 2007 (page xxx refers) for a small delegation, including the Provost and the Chief Executive and one other elected member, to visit Argenteuil.

The Sub-Committee noted that Joyce White, Executive Director of Corporate Services, had been appointed to the post of Chief Executive and would assume her new duties on 3 October 2011. This being the case it was suggested that the Provost and Joyce White should visit Argenteuil, subject to discussion with David McMillan, Chief Executive.

The Meeting closed at 11.30 a.m.