

## **CULTURAL COMMITTEE**

At a Special Meeting of the Cultural Committee held by video conference on Monday, 20 December 2021 at 10.06 a.m.

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

**Attending:** Malcolm Bennie, Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture and Facilities; Alan Douglas, Manager of Legal Services; George Hawthorn, Manager of Democratic and Registration Services; Amanda Graham, Strategic Communications, Culture and Performance Manager; Michelle Lynn, Asset Coordinator; Sarah Christie, Team Lead Heritage and Arts; Christine McCaffary, Senior Democratic Services Officer and Lynn Straker, Committee Officer.

**Apologies:** Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Provost William Hendrie and Councillor John Millar.

**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 and would be available for playback.

### **URGENT ITEM OF BUSINESS**

The Chair advised that he was allowing an urgent item of business to be considered regarding the Scottish Art Acquisition Fund and that it would be considered after the last item of business 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 have been submitted by members of the public.

### **WEEKEND OPENING OF CLYDEBANK TOWN HALL**

With reference to the Minutes of Meeting of the Cultural Committee held on 29 November 2021, a report was submitted by the Chief Officer – Citizen, Culture & Facilities responding to a request from the Cultural Committee to examine the possibility of weekend opening, including any potential revenue implications.

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

- (1) to note the contents of the report;
- (2) to proceed with Option 2 as detailed within the report and close the Town Hall to members of the public on Mondays and Tuesdays weekly allowing it to open on Sundays; and
- (3) that a report be brought back to a special meeting of the Cultural Committee to be held mid-January 2022 detailing adjustments that could be made to reduce the additional cost of adopting Option 2 opening hours.

### **TOWN TWINNING AND 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLYDEBANK BLITZ – UPDATE**

The Manager of Democratic and Registration Services provided a verbal update on Town Twinning and the 80th Anniversary of the Clydebank Blitz.

The Committee agreed:-

- (1) to note that the Chair and the Manager of Democratic and Registration Services would meet with officials from Gdynia, Poland online later that day to discuss the friendship link between the two areas;
- (2) to note that the visit to Letterkenny scheduled to take place in February 2022 may need to be postponed until it is safe to do so;
- (3) to note that the Roads Section had agreed to produce new road signage which would include reference to the friendships with Letterkenny and Beauvoisin and the twinning arrangement with Argenteuil.
- (4) to note that the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Clydebank Blitz Working Group had met on Friday, 17 December and had recommended to the Committee:-

- (a) that, subject to Scottish Government guidance permitting, the presentation of the 8 commemorative medals should be during a single church service to be held on Sunday, 13 March 2022 in Our Holy Redeemer's Church, Clydebank and could include musical input from the RSNO and a poetry recital by a well-known Scottish actor;
- (b) that an album of photographs taken before, during and after the RSNO concert in November 2021 be produced and kept as a permanent memento of the Anniversary in the Room of Remembrance in Clydebank Central Library;
- (c) that a time capsule containing a letter to the future Provost from the current Provost and one from each school in West Dunbartonshire that wished to participate in the project, be buried beneath a small plaque on Solidarity Plaza, Clydebank, subject to permission being granted by the Clydebank Property Company;
- (d) that a small plaque be placed at an appropriate location with Dumbarton to commemorate the damage caused to Dumbarton when it was bombed during World War II; and
- (e) that officers be authorised to spend up to £10,000 from the Cultural Fund to meet the cost of the above recommendations.

Following discussion, the Committee noted the content of the verbal update and agreed to paragraphs (4) (a) to (e) above.

### **SCOTTISH ART ACQUISITION FUND**

The Chair referred to a document that had been circulated to members of the Committee regarding the Scottish Art Acquisition Fund and the purchase of 2 further pieces of art by S.J. Peploe.

Following consideration, the Committee agreed:-

- (1) to the purchase of S.J. Peploe's 1913 conte drawing on paper – Study for a Painting, Cassis at a cost of £3650;
- (2) to the purchase of S.J. Peploe's 1913 conte drawing on paper – Hanging Fruit at a cost of £2450; and
- (3) to note that, as agreed by the Committee on 29 November, a report would be submitted to the special meeting to be held in mid-January, proposing fine art acquisitions for consideration.

The meeting closed at 10.55 a.m.