Workington Town Council

Town Hall, Oxford Street, Workington, Cumbria, CA14 2RS
Telephone: 01900 702986
Email: office@workingtontowncouncil.gov.uk
Website: www.workingtontowncouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the meeting of the Culture & Social Investment Committee held on Tuesday 15th September 2026 at 6:00pm at Workington Town Council Offices, Town Hall, Oxford Street, Workington.

Cllr Ellie Wood (Chair)	Present	Cllr David Farrar (Vice Chair)	Present
Cllr Bernadette Jones	Present	Cllr Neil Schofield	Absent
Cllr Susan Martin	Present	Cllr David Tennyson	Absent
Cllr John Mills	Present	Cllr Joan Wright	Present
Cllr Patricia Poole	Present	vacant	

Also in attendance: Deputy Proper Officer.

C26.12 Absences: No absences were notified prior to the meeting.

C26.13 Declarations of Interest: None.

C26.14 Exclusion of press and public: None.

C26.15 Public representation: None.

C26.16 Minutes of the Previous Meeting
Resolved: Committee approved the minutes of the 7th July 2026 meeting and affirmed them a true record.

C26.17 Public Questions: None received.

C26.18 Questions and Statements from Members: None received.

C26.19 Motions on Notice: None received.

C26.20 Budget Monitoring
Committee noted the budget monitoring report for information.
It was raised that the Anchor Organisation funding for the current year is currently uncommitted and the organisations previously funded, along with others suggested at the meeting, should be contacted.
Resolved: Officers to contact current & suggested Anchor Organisations to determine if they have any projects that the council could provide funding for.

C26.21 Budget & Culture Programme 2027/28:
Initial discussions were had regrading the council's events for 2027/28.
The council have been contacted by Oddsocks to inform that the availability for a performance next year would be limited. It was asked if the performance would remain in Vulcan Park or if it would return to Hall Park. Officers to investigate.
Committee discussed the current situation of town council events carried out by the contracted management company and suggested council should look again at the Event Officer vacancy within the staffing structure.
The Deputy Proper Officer gave an oral report on a meeting with the Lawn Tennis Association regarding the expansion of the tennis activities offered by the council now that a new coach was in place. Suggestions included walking tennis, adult social inclusion sessions and specialist sessions geared toward the visually impaired, people on the autistic spectrum and people with sensory processing issues.
Resolved: Officers to obtain feedback from previous events and updates on Christmas Festival from Everyone Here to report to committee.
Resolved: To recommend to Finance & General Purposes committee to pursue filling the Events Officer vacancy.
Resolved: Officers to liaise with the coach & LTA to expand tennis provision in Vulcan Park and update committee at the next meeting.

C26.22 Funding

a. Committee noted the grant funding to St Marys Church Harrington
b. Committee noted the grant funding to Workington Amateur Operatic Society
c. **Resolved:** Committee approved the grant funding request for £500 from Workington Music Festival.
d. Committee noted the feedback report from Salterbeck Tenants and Residents CIC for information.

Meeting ended at 6:42pm

SUMMARY - Culture and Social Investment Budget 2026-27

Code	Event	Confirmed Budget	Income	Committed	Invoiced	Difference
4510	Sport	£6,000.00	£820.51	£3,850.00	£1,236.37	**£1,734.14**
4545	Christmas	£90,000.00	£0.00	£82,785.26	£4,250.00	**£2,964.74**
4595	Youth & Social Investment	£28,000.00	£0.00	£7,000.00	£0.00	**£21,000.00**
4655	Festival of Running	£12,000.00	£120.00	£7,712.01	£3,551.86	**£856.13**
4652	Party in the Park	£25,000.00	£1,971.30	£4,786.45	£19,883.22	**£2,301.63**
4650	Cultural Celebrations	£21,100.00	£0.00	£3,175.38	£11,653.41	**£6,271.21**
4590	Funding	£8,000.00	£0.00	£500.00	£2,250.00	**£5,250.00**
4580	Cultural Marketing	£6,000.00	£0.00	£6,000.00	£0.00	**£0.00**
	Total	**£196,100.00**	**£2,911.81**	**£115,809.10**	**£42,824.86**	**£40,377.85**

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CULTURE & SOCIAL INVESTMENT COMMITTEE	Agenda Item 11a
Meeting date: 10th November 2026	
From: Deputy Proper Officer	
Title: **Anchor Organisation Funding**	

1. **RECOMMENDATIONS**
   Committee to note the report for information.

2. **DETAIL**
   At the previous committee meeting it was agreed to contact key anchor organisations in the town who have previously received funding to discuss any projects they are currently running that the Council can provide funding support for.

Always Another Way (Improving Mental Health and Well-Being)	Contact on annual leave, forwarded to alternate email, waiting for response
Blue Sky Trust & Eyes Open	Responded to clarify funding criteria, reviewing current projects to see if any are eligible
Anti-Racist Cumbria	2025 contact no longer works for the organisation, forwarded to alternate email, waiting for response
Every Life Matters (Suicide Safer Cumbria)	2025 contact no longer works for the organisation, forwarded to alternate email, waiting for response

Cumbria Pride	Funding form received We have had a lot of people contacting us asking us to organise another mini-pride event in Workington, which we would love to do. The event would be free for LGBT+ and allies to attend, and would include entertainment, art and crafts, games, and most importantly access to support.
Freedom Project (Domestic Violence Support)	Contact on annual leave, forwarded to alternate email, waiting for response

3. BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

£2,000 allocated to each organisation within the current budget.

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GRANT CONSIDERATION FORM

Name of the lead organisation and any partner organisations: *(Provide registered company and/or charity numbers where applicable)*	*Christmas in Company is organised by a team operating under Churches Together in Workington and District*
Have we received a full breakdown of the lead organisation's annual income and expenditure: *(this as a separate document)*	*No* *The monetary cost of organising last year's Christmas in Company event was around £600. This was considerably lower than in most years due to Energus very kindly donating all the food, which has historically been the biggest cost. Costs incurred cover admin (postage of invitations and confirmation letters to guests), gifts for guests, venue costs, transport etc.*
Have we received a copy of the last bank statement: *(this as a separate document)*	*Yes*
Does the lead organisation have a constitution and have we received a copy	*No*
Summary of the lead organisation proposal:	*This year's Christmas in Company is due to be held at St Mary's Westfield Parish Centre for up to 50 guests. Guests will have the option to attend a Christmas Day service at St Mary's Church, with an alternative activity provided in the centre for those who choose not to attend. We hope to have our traditional visit by the Mayor of Workington, followed by lunch, a quiz and the King's Speech. Guests who require transport are collected from their homes and returned at the end of the event.*

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	Guests are given gifts and a Christmas card to take home and, for some, these might be the only ones they receive.
Amount of funding the lead organisation wishes to apply for:	*In the past the council has provided £500.*
Have we received a full breakdown of how the funding will be spent:	*This funding would enable us to cover our known expenses for this year, while enabling us to retain some reserve funding in case of unexpected costs.*
Have they approached other funding sources? If so, please list them and the amount you have applied for.	*We have contacted Workington Derwent Rotary Club who have, in the past, provided donations of around £200.*
Has the lead organisation previously had funding from Workington Town Council? If so, when was it, how much & what was the funding spent on?	*We have received previous funding towards Christmas in Company events which has been spent covering the costs of the event, e.g. food, venue costs, transport, gifts etc.*
Did we receive a grant feedback form?	*Yes*
When does the lead organisation need the funding by:	*Before Christmas*