

Workington Town Council

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Minutes of the Culture Committee of Workington Town Council, 6.30pm Thursday 10 September 2019 in the Town Hall, Workington

Cllr C Armstrong (chair)	Present
Cllr H Briggs (vice chair)	Present
Cllr R Briggs	Present
Cllr H Harrington	Present
Cllr J Holliday	Present
Cllr S Melton	Present
Cllr S Stoddart	Present
Cllr P Scott	Present
Cllr W Wilkinson	Present
Cllr L Williams	Present
Cllr David King (Deputy Mayor)	Apologies
Cllr J King (Mayor)	Present

In attendance: Town Clerk

C19.24. Apologies

The Deputy Mayor apologised for not being able to attend.

C19.25. Declarations of Interest

None were declared.

C19.26. Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)

No issues.

C19.27. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

The Committee received the minutes of the meeting on 16 July 2019.

Resolved: To affirm them as a true record.

C19.28. Funding and Grants Proposals

Russell Maddams of Active Cumbria gave a brief presentation on an initiative to bring cycling skills to communities where bike ownership was a barrier to take up of 'Bikeability' cycling proficiency training. The Committee heard that the scheme was part-funded by Cumbria County Council and would target primary schools in Workington with six 1 hour sessions each. There was some discussion as to how the scheme related to Bikeability and to the bikes recently transferred to Moorclose Community Centre by Cumbria County

Council. It was suggested that this new scheme was complementary to both those initiatives. The proposal sought £2,500 from Workington Town Council to add to £5,500 from Cumbria County Council.

Resolved: To fund the scheme for the £2,500 sought in the proposal, from the Sport budget.

C19.29. Workington Music Festival

The Committee considered a request from the organisers of the Workington Music Festival that the Council supply medals and cash prizes for the under 18 Glee, the under 12 Vocal to a backing track and the 12-u18 vocal to a backing track classes, as it had in previous years. It was noted that the Town Council supplied a trophy for the Glee Class, previously.

Resolved: To supply medals and prizes up the value of £300.

C19.30. Rotary Oktoberfest

The Committee considered a request from the Rotary Club of Workington that the Council support their 10th Annual Beer, Cider and Gin Festival on 4-5 October. It was noted that the organisers would supply eight VIP tickets for the Council to raffle as it saw fit.

Resolved: To take out the Gold Sponsorship package for £180, from the Cultural Groups budget.

C19.31. Frostoms Pensioner

The Committee considered a request from the Frostoms Pensioners group that the Council helps fund a Christmas coach trip for local pensioners to Bury market. The group has raised £100 themselves.

Resolved: To offer a grant of £260 from the Community Support Grants budget.

C19.32 Cumbria Tourism

The Committee considered the Council's continued membership of Cumbria Tourism. It was suggested that this was a necessary part of the Council's efforts to maintain the town's profile.

Resolved: To renew the membership for the coming year.

C19.33. Black Sabbath Plaque

The Committee heard that a group of enthusiastic musicians had arranged a fundraising gig at Banklands to pay for a plaque commemorating the 1969 gig at which the band announced their name change. A recent event in the Helena Thompson Museum in aid of the Mayor's Charity had been well-attended. If the Committee were content, the Clerk would liaise with the group over the relevant permissions and installation of the subsequent plaque.

Resolved: To confirm that the Committee were content with this approach.

C19.34 Workington Santa Dash

The Committee considered a request from a group supporting the charity Team Evie, for support in organising a 'Santa Dash' this coming Christmas. It was understood that the

group did not require finance, but would be very grateful for the advice and expertise of Council events staff.

Resolved: To offer support in kind as required.

C19.35 Town Hall Christmas Tree

The Committee considered the costs of erecting a Christmas tree outside the Town Hall. It was noted that previous installations had not been successful and for a tree to survive the harsh Christmas period, it would require a different location. It was also noted that Iggesund, who generously supply Christmas trees to the town, were not willing to continue to supply one for this location as it had a negative impact on their sponsorship. They are happy to supply three trees for the town, for locations by the leisure centre, Washington Street and Harrington. Costs had been sought from the Council's current Christmas lighting supplier, with a number of options forthcoming. After some debate the Committee voted to seek additional funds in the budget for up to £5,000, for the erection of a temporary tree in the car park in front of the town hall.

Resolved: To seek additional finance up to £5,000 from the Finance and General Purposes Committee

C19.36. Culture Events Programme 2020-21

The Committee discussed its priorities for the coming year, agreeing that a Harrington Marina Day should be held again with Council support, and that the Fun Day programme should include a session in Northside. Further research should also be done to secure a venue in Stainburn for a Fun Day, which up to now had not been possible.

There was concern that procurement of suppliers for events should reflect better value for money.

Looking at events for next year there was consensus that planning for a commemoration of the end of the Second World War should begin, with the involvement of the whole council. A members suggested that Far East Prisoners of War were a particularly neglected group and that the 75 year anniversary of their release from captivity could be commemorated with a memorial in Vulcan Park.

Resolved: Council staff would draft a programme for the coming year's Events and pay particular attention to the budgeting and procurement of production equipment to ensure that value for money was being achieved.

Resolved: That a working group be convened to plan the Council's commemoration of the end of World War Two.

C19.37 Jane Pit

The Clerk outlined a new approach to the problem of funding the restoration of the pit head buildings, now that the capital phase had been rejected by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. This required the convening of a meeting of all interested parties for the possible creation of a Friends group, which going forward may be more successful in securing funding for the creation of Mineworkers Memorial.

Resolved: To convene a meeting in October of all interested parties.

The meeting closed at 19.01