**Workington Town Council**

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**Minutes of the Culture Committee of Workington Town Council, 7pm Thursday 5th January 2023 held at Workington Town Council Community Centre, Princess Street, Workington.**

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| Cllr C Armstrong  | Present |
| Cllr R Briggs | Absent |
| Cllr B Cannon (Chair) | Present |
| Cllr B Dixon | Absent |
| Cllr S Fryer  | Apologies |
| Cllr D Garton | Apologies |
| Cllr A McGuckin | Absent |
| Cllr P Poole | Present |
| Cllr P Scott | Present |
| Cllr L Williams | Apologies |
| Cllr E Wood (Vice Chair) | Present |

In attendance: Town Clerk

**C23.01. Apologies**

Apologies were received and noted from Cllr(s)

S Fryer – Work Commitments,

D Garton – work commitments,

L Williams – ill health.

**C23.02. Declarations of Interest**

None

**C23.03. Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)**

No agenda items were identified as requiring the exclusion of press or public.

**C23.04. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting on 5.1.2023 were agreed as an accurate record.

**Resolved:** To agree the minutes of the 5.1.2023ty.

**C23.05. Draft Budget 2023/24**

The committee commented that receiving reports would be easier with an electronic system, this has been reviewed previously however the cost made a new system prohibitive. ‘Teams’ is a possibility that will be investigated.

Culture Commissions – the committee would like a list of organisations that WTC provide funding to on an annual basis.

The committee recognise that the overall precept may need to be reduced therefore accept that changes may be necessary when the draft budget goes to Full Council on 18.1.2023.

The committee considered the possibility of utilising the Community and Youth budgets to employ a part-time Youth Worker. The NHS are considering a project in the area due to the rise in youth related mental health issues therefore it was decided that a decision would be made once the NHS project was clear and WTC could review how they could assist.

**Resolved**: To review ‘teams’ as an option for document sharing.

**Resolved**: To produce a list of organisations WTC provide funding to on an annual basis.

**C23.06 Budget Amendment**

The committee considered the following..

£7,200 went into 2021-2022 budget as it was received in February 2022, so therefore ended up in the reserves pot at the end of the year. This money was actually for an event in May 2022 (new budget), the money therefore needs adding to the Festivals budget line as grants income for 2022-2023. The £7,200 was received from the National Lottery Community Fund in support of the Reach Out event we held in May 2022.

The committee decided review the current budget for areas of underspend to add to the Festivals budget line.

**Resolution:** To review the budget for areas of underspend to add to the Festivals budget line.

**C23.07. Christmas Light Re-tender**

The committee consider required changes to the tender for the town Christmas lights, they specified that a simpler production of lights and small trees on the sides of buildings would be appropriate. The committee felt that tender documents should be as simple as possible to allow the tender companies to provide their own ideas.

The committee agreed that the tendering companies would present their ideas at the March committee meeting.

Following the March committee meeting the committee would like local businesses to be approached and invited to dress their own store front to encourage Christmas shoppers into Workington.

**Resolution:** To invite companies to tender to WTC Christmas light contract with only simple information to allow companies to provide their own ideas.

**Resolution:** To invite tender companies to present their ideas at the March committee meeting.

**Resolution:** To invite local businesses to dress their own store fronts to encourage Christmas shoppers.

**C23.08. Events 2023/24**

The Committee considered the following changes to the events calendar…

* Easter Egg Trail – maintain the current budget level but adapt event to include smaller events in the wider communities.
* Coronation – investigate practicalities of holding this at the leisure centre with smaller events in the wider communities.
* Reach Out – consider funding this from the Community Development budget.
* Odd Socks – review holding two matinee with one evening performances to include local school attendance.

**Resolution:** To adapt Easter Egg trail event to include the wider communities.

**Resolution:** To investigate holding this event at the leisure centre and including the wider communities.

**Resolution:** To consider funding the Reach Out event through the Community Development budget.

**Resolution:** To review changing event times for Odd socks to include local schools.

**Meeting closed at 20.30**