

# 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 Culture Committee of Workington Town Council, 6.30pm Thursday 8 September 2020 in the Helena Thompson Museum, 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	Apologies
Cllr P Scott	Present
Cllr W Wilkinson	Present
Cllr L Williams	Present

In attendance: Town Clerk

Also present: one member of the press

### **C19.66. Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted as being for approved reasons under the terms of the Local Government Act 1972, s85, from Cllr S Stoddart.

### **C19.67. Declarations of Interest**

None were declared.

### **C19.68 Exclusion of Press and Public (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960)**

No issues were at apparent at this point.

### **C19.69. Minutes of the Previous Meetings**

The Committee received the minutes of the meeting on 10 March 2020.

**Resolved:** To affirm them as a true record.

### **C19.70. Jane Pit Miners' Memorial**

The Clerk gave a brief update on the project to establish a memorial to the Mineworkers of Workington at Jane Pit. He explained that the Coronavirus pandemic had created a hiatus, with the local volunteer effort concentrating on Emergency resilience, and funders moving their resources towards pandemic recovery. However, the situation was clearing now and he anticipated a meeting with officers and the Workington Heritage Group shortly, to plan a way forward. It was observed by a councillor that the sports pitch at Jane Pit was currently being

considered for transfer from Allerdale to Workington Rugby Union Club. He suggested there was an opportunity here for joint working, which the Clerk confirmed had been the subject of ongoing discussion for some time.

**Resolved:** To note the report.

**Resolved:** Cllr Scott to contact the appropriate officer at Allerdale Borough Council for further information about how joint working.

#### **C19.71. Culture Events Programme 2020**

The Clerk summarised the activities which the Council had undertaken in lieu of the activities which were cancelled in the face of the Coronavirus pandemic. The Committee asked that the Council's thanks be passed on to the Events Team for their hard work in these very difficult circumstances. They further requested a break down of the costs and savings of the Events programme affected by Covid, so that a future meeting could make a reasonable decision on whether to vire funds to other areas of the budget.

**Resolved:** To note the report and request a further report on Events expenditure for the next meeting.

**Resolved:** To extend thanks to the Events Team for their hard work during the pandemic.

#### **C19.72. Remembrance 2020**

The Clerk gave an update on the plans for Remembrance Sunday, which would be impacted severely by the regulations from Government to control the pandemic. Currently it would seem that any gathering of crowds was to be avoided, meaning the parade, formal wreath laying, and church services would not be possible. The Council still awaited advice from the Royal British Legion on this matter.

**Resolved:** To await further advice from the Royal British legion on how it anticipated communities should manage Remembrance in a safe and Covid-secure manner.

#### **C19.73. Christmas Festival 2020**

The Committee considered a report on the status of the Christmas Festival 2020, in the light of the Coronavirus pandemic, which concluded that officers recommended that the Christmas Festival and lights switch-on could not go ahead in any way that resembled the normal practice. There was a proposal for viring the funds to other uses instead. There was some discussion about what could and couldn't take place, with Councillors noting that several ideas were inappropriate because they had a similar effect on intermingling crowds as the original festival.

**Resolved:** That the Council does not hold a Christmas Festival and lights switch on in 2020.

**Resolved:** To apportion £6,000 towards the extension of the lighting infrastructure to the Station plaza and Finkle St repairs.

**Resolved:** To investigate and cost a virtual event, with the possibility of raising money for the Mayor's Charity.

**Resolved:** To consider other suitable virements for the saved budget at a future meeting.

**C19.74          Christmas Lighting 2020**

The Committee considered a brief report on the progress of the Christmas lighting installation, and a proposal for necessary repair work and additions to the infrastructure. It was noted that the repair work to the lighting column on Finkle Street was required and that quotes had been received for extending the infrastructure around the Station plaza.

**Resolved:** To apportion £2,300 for the replacement of the lighting column in Finkle Street and the re-fixing of the catenary wires appropriately.

**Resolved:** To accept a quote from JJ Electrical for the work around the Station plaza.

**C19.75.          Culture Events Programme 2021**

The Committee gave very brief consideration to what initial plans may be made for 2021 in the light of the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic.

**Resolved:** To defer this item to a future meeting.

The meeting closed at 19.11.