

Meeting (No) **SOCIETY & CULTURE COMMITTEE (3)**
Time & Date **6.00 pm 6 SEPTEMBER 2016**
Place **Town Hall**
Document **Minutes**

Present: Cllrs Loch (Chair), Barker, Chambers, Fleetwood, Kynaston and Miss Duncan (Governance & Operations Manager)

In attendance: Cllrs Carter, Clayton and Shipman

PART 1: Items considered in the presence of the press and public

33 Questions and comments from residents: none.

34 Apologies for absence: none.

35 Declarations of interest

Cllr Barker declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 44d as he is Chair of Neston Players.

36 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 28.06.16. The Chair signed the minutes.

37 Governance & Operations Manager's report

The Committee received report SC3/37.

Grants: grant certificates had been presented to Train to Change and Little Actors. Train to Change had advised that one of the grant-funded trainees had already been placed in employment.

Christmas lights: it would not be feasible to install either conventional or solar-powered lights outside the West Vale shops. The contractor is currently investigating the possibility of installing battery lights as an alternative.

38 Country Trail leaflet

a RESOLVED to approve the content and layout of the draft leaflet, subject to correction of the typographical error on page 12.

b It was agreed that the leaflet would be launched by the Mayor who would, with other councillors, walk the trail.

39 Finance

The Committee received the budget to 30/08/2016.

40 Risk assessments

RESOLVED to approve the risk assessments for the Society & Culture Committee for 2016/2017.

41 Society and Culture Committee's objectives

RESOLVED to adopt the following objectives for the remainder of 2016/17:

1. To obtain best value from grants given and try to broaden the range of grant applications. To be achieved by investigating options for creating a small grants (£200-£300) procedure for modest community projects with an appropriate and proportionate application process.

Chairman's initials and date: *RL 25/10/16.*

2. To prioritise community engagement. To be achieved by pro-actively engaging with community groups with a focus on support of vulnerable people. First steps: Cllr Kynaston to compile a list of groups.

The Governance & Operations Manager was requested to re-circulate the strategic objectives agreed as being most relevant to the Society & Culture Committee.

42 Review of assets

The Governance & Operations Manager reported that the bunting had now been taken down and would be assessed to determine how much would be reusable.

43 Neston Town Hall – flag flying protocol

- a Flag for Commonwealth 2017: the Committee decided not to purchase a Commonwealth flag.
- b Given CWaC's comprehensive list of dates for flag flying at Neston Town Hall and the associated health and safety risks for Town Council staff working at height, it was agreed to make preliminary enquiries with CWaC regarding the options available for flag flying on designated dates. In addition, Cllr Barker agreed to investigate the options for flag raising from ground level, thus removing the need for ladders.

44 Grants

a End of grant accounts

RESOLVED to approve the final reports and accounts received from CAN for Lights 'n' Lanterns 2015 (£8,000) and office costs 2015/16 (£3,200).

b Grant publicity

The Committee considered options for display boards for use at Council-funded events and agreed to investigate options for a grant-specific pop-up display.

c Timescale for consideration of grant applications

The Committee considered the proposal that:

In the light of the Committee's experience in 2015-16, the Committee shall, with immediate effect, consider applications for grant funding at the next meeting of the Committee following five working days of receipt by the Council of the application.

Following discussion, Cllr Barker withdrew this proposal.

The Governance and Operations Manager was asked to review the current administrative system for consideration of grants and report back to a future meeting, with a view to implementing any agreed recommendations for the grant year 2017/18.

The Committee discussed the cultural programme being proposed by Neston Players. It was agreed that there was precedent for supporting such cultural activities as a donation had previously been provided to facilitate the first visit of Cheshire Rural Touring Theatre to Neston in 2015.

RESOLVED that Neston Town Council makes a donation of £1,600 to Neston Players in support of a production of Shakespeare's Henry V in November 2016. Donation to be paid from budget line 4360 (grants and donations).

d Grant application

As a consequence of the outcome of agenda item 44c, the grant application of £1,600 from Neston Players for a production of Shakespeare's Henry V was not considered.

Chairman's initials and date:

KL 25/10/16

45 Tourism & Visitor Economy Working Group

The Committee received the report of the working group, delivered as requested, and awaited the decision of the Economic Development delivery group.

46 CH64 Events Group

The Committee received the notes of the CH64 Events Group meeting on 25/07/16.

47 Female Society (Ladies Day)

The Committee agreed to suggest to the Female Society that Cllr Kynaston undertake a dual role as member of the Female Society Committee and representative of Neston Town Council. Cllr Kynaston agreed to put this suggestion to the Female Society and report back.

48 Christmas lights switch-on event

The Committee noted that:

- Council approved providing a publicly-funded event centred on Neston Market Square on Saturday 3/12/16
- Cllrs Barker, Cray and Kynaston were appointed to the Task & Finish Group to arrange an appropriate programme for recommendation to the Society & Culture Committee
- The total expenditure incurred by the Council in relation to the event shall not exceed £8,000 net.

Cllr Barker left the meeting at 7.45pm.

49 Strategy and Statement of Community Engagement

The Committee agreed to form a Task & Finish Group to review the Strategy and Statement of Community Engagement and make recommendation to Council via Society and Culture Committee. Cllrs Carter, Chambers, Fleetwood and Kynaston agreed to be members of the Group and report back to Committee on 29 November.

50 Other items

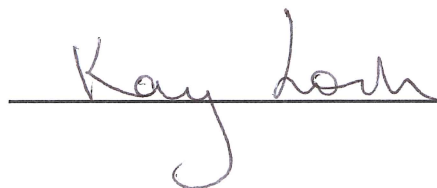
Neston Music Festival: the Chair confirmed that she would endeavour to meet with the Assets and Events Manager and Mr Powell (the previous music festival organiser) and report back to a future meeting on the feasibility of holding a music festival.

51 Next meeting

This was noted as Tuesday 25th October at 6pm.

The meeting ended at 7.58pm.

Signed



Date

