

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL
NOTES OF THE
HERITAGE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMITTEE
HELD AT WESTON MUSEUM
ON 25th APRIL 2024**

Meeting Commenced: 10:03 am

Meeting Concluded: 11:34 am

PRESENT: Councillors John Crockford-Hawley (Chair), Peter Crew, Catherine Gibbons, John Standfield, Hugh Maylan and Jemma Coles ; Sarah Pearse (Town Clerk), Fay Powell (Assistant Town Clerk - Operational Services), Molly Maher (Senior Development Officer), Sarah Jackson (Project Manager for the Old Town Quarry), Bethan Murray (South West Heritage Trust), Cara MacMahon (High Street Heritage Action Zone Officer - North Somerset Council), Josyanne Clark (North Somerset Council), Heather Morrissey (Friends of the Museum), Mike Solomon (North Somerset Councillor) and Tom Newman (Super Culture).

408	Apologies for absence and notification of substitutes Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Helen Thornton who was substituted by Hugh Maylan, and Councillor Charles Williams with no substitute.
409	Declarations of interest There were no declarations of interest received.
410	To approve the accuracy of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 8th February 2024 The minutes of the meeting had been previously circulated with the agenda. RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved and signed by the Chair.
411	South West Heritage Trust The South West Heritage Trust report had been previously circulated. The Trust were working on the display notes for the Civic silverware currently displayed in the Museum. The remaining silverware would be displayed in 32 Waterloo Street and programmed by the Trust also. <i>Councillor Catherine Gibbons entered the meeting at 10.06am.</i> RESOLVED: That the report be received.
412	Friends of Weston Museum Update

	<p>Heather Morrissey gave a verbal update on behalf of the Friends.</p> <p>Talks hosted by the Friends had been well attended, including by non-members.</p> <p>Heather detailed the Friends summer itinerary which included a group visit planned to Wells Cathedral which would include a guided walking tour, a cream tea in the Museum and the annual AGM in September.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the verbal report be received.</p>
413	<p>North Somerset Council</p> <p>Heritage Action Zone</p> <p>The report of the Heritage Action Zone Officer had previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>This was the final report from Cara, with her contract coming to an end in September. The Chair offered thanks on behalf of the committee, for her contribute to heritage across the Town.</p> <p>Cara would be giving a talk with the Civic Society on the 13th May at 7:30 at the Museum, to reflect on the achievements of the Heritage Action Zone work.</p> <p>Levelling Up Fund</p> <p>The levelling up fund report was previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>North Somerset Council would be applying to Arts Council England's Cultural Development Fund for £2,000,000 funding for the Tropicana. This would include £700,000 of revenue funding, and would support the fit out of the Tropicana during its redevelopment. They had a principle idea of what would be required for an operator, but would work with potential operators as they move through the project.</p>
414	<p>Super Culture</p> <p>A verbal update was given by Tom Newman.</p> <p>The Glow evaluation was circulated to members, and Tom provided some statistics for members. A survey was sent out to the 6,000 people who attended glow, and they received 500 responses.</p> <p>Members asked whether feedback was gathered from local businesses, and whether this was felt to be positive or negative. It was suggested that it was difficult to ascertain if the increase in footfall for businesses was due to the event, or simply because it was half term.</p> <p>Glow had been featured on Points West and ITV West, and was said to have reached 1.2 million people.</p> <p>The annual Arts and Health Weekender would be taking place in July.</p>

	<p>RESOLVED: That the verbal report be noted.</p>
415	<p>Budget for 2023/24</p> <p>The Museum and Theatre income and expenditure reports had been previously circulated with the agenda</p> <p>Members were pleased with the progress at the café, and the Museum in general. It was reported that the Museum had met all the income targets set for them.</p> <p>There was a significant increase in the footfall at the Blakehay Theatre within the last 4 months.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the verbal reports be received.</p>
416	<p>Communications Report</p> <p>The report of the Communications and Marketing Officer had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>It was noted that the success of communications was reflected in the success of the various services, with the Museum being given as a specific example.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be received.</p>
417	<p>Weston Museum Management Report</p> <p>The report of the Weston Museum Manager had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>The Museum had been performing well. It was reiterated by members and staff that volunteers were essential to the success of the Museum, with the volunteer base continuing to grow.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be received.</p>
418	<p>Blakehay Theatre Management Report</p> <p>The report of the Blakehay Theatre Manager had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>As was typical with all Council run services, the Blakehay Theatre was under review by councillors.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be received.</p>
419	<p>WSMTC Grant Development</p> <p>There was no update given.</p>

420 Community Event Grant applications

The covering report of the Senior Development Officer had been previously circulated with the agenda, along with the grant matrices and applications for several local organisations.

420.1 Grant applications

Members felt there was a general ambiguity with all of the grant applications. Officers noted that there was a difference between applications submitted by professional grant writers and community applications.

Beacons Icons Dykons

PROPOSED: Councillor Peter Crew

To not support the application.

An amendment was made by Councillor Jemma Coles to reconsider the application.

A vote was taken and **carried** to reconsider the application.

Councillor Peter Crew left the meeting at 11:14am.

PROPOSED: Councillor Hugh Maylan

SECONDED: Councillor Jemma Coles

A vote was taken and carried and therefore it was

RESOLVED: To award Beacons Icons Dykons £1,000 from the 2024/2025 Community Events Grant budget.

RESET WSM CIC

PROPOSED: Councillor Hugh Maylan

SECONDED: Councillor Catherine Gibbons

A vote was taken and carried and therefore it was

RESOLVED: To award RESET £3,000 from the 2024/2025 Community Events Grant budget.

Together Pussycat CIC

Councillor Mike Solomon left the meeting at 11:22am.

It was noted that they had been supported previously and had held events in Ellenborough Park East. A grant had been given the previous year by the Community Services Committee from the Small and Voluntary grant budget.

Cara MacMahon left the meeting at 11:24am.

PROPOSED: Councillor Hugh Maylan

A vote was taken and carried and therefore it was

RESOLVED: To award, following confirmation that the event was still going ahead, Together Pussycat CIC £3,000 from the 2024/2025 Community Events Grant budget.

420.2 Evaluation of previously awarded grants and release of 10% retention

Members agreed to release the 10% retention for both Glow and the Sea Shanty Festival.

RESOLVED: To release the 10% retention from the 2023/2024 Community Events Grant budget to Super Culture (£2,200) and the Steepholmers Shanty Band (£200).

420.3 Weston Wallz 2024

The Town Clerk noted that resolution had already been made to support Upfest with the Weston Wallz project, and that members needed to authorise the payment.

RESOLVED: To authorise payment of £20,000 for Weston Wallz from the 2024/2025 Community Events Grants budget.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 11:34 am

Signed.....Dated.....
Chair of the Heritage Arts and Culture Committee