

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL
NOTES OF THE
HERITAGE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMITTEE
HELD AT WESTON MUSEUM
ON 9th FEBRUARY 2023**

Meeting Commenced: 10:04 am

Meeting Concluded: 11:20 am

PRESENT: Councillors John Crockford-Hawley (Chairman), Peter Crew, Marcia Pepperall and Alan Peak (substitute); Sarah Pearse (Deputy Town Clerk), Fay Powell (Assistant Town Clerk - Operational Services), Molly Maher (Development Officer), Lisa Clemons (Museum Operations Manager), Sally Heath (Theatre Manager), Jasmine Ryle (Marketing & Events Coordinator), Becky Walsh (Communications and Marketing Officer), Bethan Murray (South West Heritage Trust), Cara MacMahon (High Street Heritage Action Zone Officer - North Somerset Council), Julia Stuckey (North Somerset Council Place Manager) and Heather Morrissey (Friends of the Museum).

273	Apologies for absence and notification of substitutes Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Catherine Gibbons, Jan Holloway and Peter McAleer. Catherine Gibbons was substituted by Councillor Alan Peak. Tom Newman and Fiona Matthews also gave apologies.
274	Declarations of interest There were no declarations of interest received.
275	To approve the accuracy of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 8th December 2022 The minutes of the meeting had been previously circulated with the agenda. PROPOSED BY: Councillor Peter Crew SECONDED BY: Councillor John Crockford-Hawley RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman
276	Budget for 2022/23 The detailed income and expenditure report were circulated with the agenda. Members noted that the café continued to improve, and the Museum often appeared busy. RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

277	Communications and Marketing Report The report of the Communications and Marketing Officer had been previously circulated. Officers were still progressing with the John Lewis Plaque, which was being funded by the John Lewis organisation. There was yet to be a specific location selected, as there were concerns that the plaque may not be seen from the house. There was still a need to fully understand who owned the property. The Communications and Marketing Officer had circulated invites to guests for the VIP launch of the Quentin Blake Exhibition. RESOLVED: That the report be noted
278	Weston Museum Management Report Members were informed that the new Volunteer Supervisor was now in post. RESOLVED: That the report be noted.
279	Blakehay Theatre Management Report The report of the Theatre Manager had been previously circulated with the agenda. The Theatre Manager reported that the new charges required a change in the way that bookings were processed. An expectations document was being created to circulate with the charges. From March the bookings for the rest of the year would be advertised and go on sale. Programming for the year centered around Pride in June, Black History Month in October and Christmas in December. The Theatre Manager explained the difference between shows which were programmed, and those where the theatre was hired (with the hirer keeping ticket sales), noting that the former required budget provision but all ticket sales were retained. Some of the projects the theatre was working on included the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working with Weston Museum during the Quentin Blake Exhibition with a performance of Mr. Magnolia• Working with the Stables on Weston Comedy Village• Pride• Working with Racial Equality North Somerset during Black History Month• Working with Living Spit in June and potentially December. It was explained that by engaging with National Days/Month, this allowed for more wide spread publicity. The Deputy Town Clerk also clarified that this was part of a bigger picture desire to work with community partners and create programming around a calendar of significant dates to ensure widespread representation.

	<p>The Blakehay team would be engaging with the Carnival in November 2023.</p> <p>Heritage Open Days would be taking place later in the year.</p> <p>The Theatre Manager and Senior Development Officer would be working together to restart the Sensory Theatre project later in the month.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>
280	<p>WSMTC Grant Development</p> <p>The Senior Development Officer reported progress on the Wild Escape funding. The Museum Learning Team were developing a learning programme culminating in an event on Earth Day in Ellenborough Park West. This would be a cross service project, bringing together the learning, development and grounds teams.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the verbal report be noted.</p>
281	<p>Community Event Grant applications</p> <p>The Chairman withdrew from the meeting due to interest in the application.</p> <p><i>Councillor John Crockford-Hawley left the meeting 10:29am</i></p> <p>In his absence the Vice Chairman stepped in.</p> <p>The grant application and summary report had been previously circulated.</p> <p>Members were directed to the criteria evaluation report, noting that The Stables were eligible and met the criteria required of them. They were seeking a grant of £1,000.</p> <p>The Vice Chairman noted that the expenditure costs did not add up.</p> <p>It was also suggested that the application should be amended, with the total value of monies available (£40,000 for the year) excluded from the form, and a rewording of the area of Weston that funding should benefit.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Peter Crew SECONDED BY: Councillor Marcia Pepperall</p> <p>A vote was taken and was carried</p> <p>RESOLVED: That subject to totals being confirmed, to award £1,000 to The Stables from the Community Events Grant 2022/2023 budget.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Peter Crew SECONDED BY: Councillor Alan Peak</p> <p>A vote was taken and was carried</p>

	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the form be amended to read “Is the organisation serving a significant proportion of residents within the Weston-super-Mare Town Council boundary” 2. That the total value of funding available for the year be removed from the form <p><i>Councillor John Crockford-Hawley reentered the meeting at 10:35am</i></p>
<p>282</p>	<p>Proud Event 2023</p> <p>Members were reminded that at the previous meeting, Real South West had been denied a grant, however officers were encouraged to find ways to support their proposed event. As a result of this resolution, officers across Weston Museum, the Blakehay Theatre and the grounds team had began working with Culture Weston, the Stables and Proud Bar to plan a programme of events for the month of June. A significant headliner had been secured for 16th June. The events were separate to those being planned by national pride, but enabled a steady build up to events on the 2nd July. The pride flag would be flown outside Grove House for the month.</p> <p>Some of the work being featured included comedy, exhibitions at Weston Museum, pride planters and plants, chat benches linking people to available support, lived experience speakers. The full programme would be available at the next meeting ahead of it being launched during April 2023.</p>
<p>283</p>	<p>South West Heritage Trust Update Report</p> <p>Bethan Murray provided a verbal update.</p> <p>Work had continued on the image archive working with Keith and John from A1 camera club. There had been a lot of duplication of images. Photos were being sent to Art UK, a public platform which enabled people to view artwork from across the nation.</p> <p>The Weston Museum team had taken part in emergency training for the collection, and the emergency plan had been updated.</p> <p>The Civic Insignia was currently at the heritage Centre in Taunton in order to programme it. Members felt there should be a grand opening when in situ.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>
<p>284</p>	<p>Friends of Weston Museum Verbal Report</p> <p>Heather Morrissey gave a verbal update.</p> <p>The Friends now had 53 paid members, and often had non-members in attendance at talks. The talks were usually well attended, with 35-40 people attending regularly. This had included a talk regarding Birnbeck Pier before Christmas, and an upcoming talk from John Crockford-Hawley.</p>

285	<p>The Friends had supervised a book sale at Weston Museum and raised over £300.</p> <p>North Somerset Council and Heritage Action Zone Report</p> <p>The report of the Heritage Action Zone Officer had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>4-8 Walliscote Road was being renovated. Cara noted that whilst the project was slow to get off the ground, there was now more demand than could be met. Historic England had opened up their conditions for funding, enabling smaller level restoration projects to take place.</p> <p>Julia Stuckey introduced the levelling up funding acquired by North Somerset Council. £20 Million had been awarded to fund 6 areas for specific works:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tropicana • Birnbeck • Grove park • Wayfinding • Town Centre • Marine lake <p>These funds had to be spent by April 2025.</p> <p>North Somerset Council had also applied to the Cultural Development Fund for monies for the Tropicana and were awaiting a decision.</p> <p>The Communication and Marketing Officer noted that as plans involved changes to Grove Park Toilets, the Town Council should be involved as soon as possible regarding public communications. The Deputy Town Clerk informed members that the Town Clerk was working with North Somerset Council on this part of the funding, given that they were a Town Council asset.</p> <p>It was noted that Julia Stuckey would be happy to attend meeting moving forward, having taken over Richard Blows role.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>
286	<p>Culture Weston and Theatre Orchard Update Report</p> <p>In Tom and Fiona's absence, an update was read out for members.</p> <p>GLOW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Runs Wednesday 15th to 18th February • Last few tickets remaining. They were expecting 9,000 to the Grove Park element, and hopefully many more around town. • Join Paula Birtwistle and Chila Kumari Singh Burman in an al fresco celebration of Weston's GLOW Festival 2023 • Date: Wednesday 15th February 2023, Time: 5.30pm (followed by entry into GLOW at Grove Park at 6.30pm) • At: The Grand Pier, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1AL, Refreshments: Mulled cider and apple juice will be served

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paula Birtwistle, Originator and Artistic Director of GLOW, outlines her vision for the festival and spotlights this year’s focus on female artists. • Internationally acclaimed artist Chila Kumari Singh Burman introduces her new commission ‘Pigeon’, alongside two more iconic artworks that were part of the groundbreaking ‘Remembering a Brave New World’, which lit up the TATE BRITAIN facade in 2020. • RSVP to hello@cultureweston.org.uk by Monday 13 February. <p>Beautifully Proud Programme</p> <p>Culture Weston were working with the team at Front Room to develop a programme as part of the Beautifully Proud Programme supported by WSMTC. This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dance show, June 2nd • Tom Marshman, Brothers Across the Decades, date TBC • Brizzle Boys x From The Mud drag king show, date TBC • Poetry Slam LGBTQ+ special co-hosted by Malaika Kegode, date TBC • Poetry/music on the Morag Myerscough bandstand <p>Weston Literary Festival</p> <p>Culture Weston met with Town Council officers to discuss plans. Outline plans include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-day Literary Festival in October 2023, Thursday night – Saturday Night – potentially 5th, 6th and 7th October TBC. • The current available budget is £2,500 as agreed at Community Services and potential venue space available to us through yourselves such as Weston College. • The theme of “Every Story Counts” to tie in with some of the hospital’s work around 75 years of the NHS, wellbeing and the hospital are developing some interesting projects around voice/story. • Potential for Hybrid event with some online events and in person. <p>The Senior Development Officer would circulate the update.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>
<p>287</p>	<p>Local History Update There was nothing to report.</p>
	<p>There being no further business the meeting concluded at 11:20am</p> <p>Signed.....Dated..... Chairman of the Heritage Arts and Culture Committee</p>