

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL
NOTES OF THE
HERITAGE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMITTEE
HELD AT WESTON MUSEUM
ON 27th JANUARY 2022**

Meeting Commenced: 10:04 am

Meeting Concluded: 11:49 am

PRESENT: Councillors John Crockford-Hawley (Chairman), Jan Holloway, Peter Crew and Pete McAleer; Malcolm Nicholson (Town Clerk), Fay Powell (Assistant Town Clerk - Operational Services), Molly Maher (Development Officer), Matthew Holden (Acting Visitor Services Manager), Sally Heath (Theatre Manager), Becky Walsh (Communications Officer), Rebecca Saunders (Civic and Committee Officer), Cara MacMahon (NSC Heritage Action Zones Project Officer), Fiona Matthews and Tom Newman (Culture Weston), Heather Morrissey (Chair of the Friends of the Museum), Bethan Murray (South West Heritage), Councillor Mike Solomon (North Somerset Council) and Levi Cardwell (North Somerset Council).

300	Apologies for absence and notification of substitutes Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Catherine Gibbons and Richard Blows
301	Declarations of interest There were no declarations of interest received.
302	To approve the accuracy of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 11th November 2021 The minutes of the meeting had been previously circulated with the agenda. PROPOSED BY: Councillor Peter McAleer SECONDED BY: Councillor John Crockford-Hawley RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman
303	Budget for 2021/22 The detailed income and expenditure for the Blakehay Theatre and Weston Museum had been previously circulated. It was noted that the reason for the reduced income from The Blakehay was as expected due to the closure. Weston Museum was in some costs areas (i.e. shop) performing better than expected. RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

<p>304</p>	<p>Marketing Report The report of the Communications and Marketing Officer had been previously circulated.</p> <p>The Communications Officer reported that the last Blue Plaque was due to go up for Ivy Millicent James.</p> <p>Cara MacMahon reported that a Lego figure of a suffragette called ‘Hope’ would be displayed at a North Somerset Library in late August, early September, with potential to link in with Heritage Open Days, as well as working with Weston Museum on an exhibition and the learning offer.</p> <p><i>The Town Clerk entered the meeting at 10.07am.</i></p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>
<p>305</p>	<p>Weston Museum Management Report The report of the Acting Visitor Services Manager had been previously circulated.</p> <p>A member raised concerns regarding the flooring for the William Mable Gallery which had been lost in transit. The Deputy Town Clerk reported that the issue was unfortunate and despite trying for months, was still proving to be something she could not control. A new order had been raised for a slightly lighter colored floor of the same specification due to the continued unavailability of the original like for like one placed at the beginning of the insurance claim. This was being chased daily by officers and John West. Members were assured that this was not isolated to the Museums order, with problems with building supplies and deliveries across the country. The Museum Manager noted that the potential impact on the exhibition programme was significant, with the deadline of mid-February 2022 being the cut off before the schedule had to be altered. If that deadline was not achieved, the programmed exhibition “Sentimental Journeys: The Art and Life of Ivy Millicent James” may be delayed until 2023, as it was essential the Horrible Histories Exhibition ran over the summer months. The Deputy Town Clerk advised that flooring installation would take 7-10 days with contractors on standby, with the ability to work weekends to meet the deadline if required. The South West Heritage Trust advised that they would be as accommodating as possible with regards to the installation of the exhibition.</p> <p>It was noted that the Shops average spend was £1.13 per head with the national average being 52p per head, and stock was rotated regularly.</p> <p>It was reported that Harvey the Catering Supervisor had now left.</p> <p>The Deputy Town Clerk informed members that a quote had been received for cabinets to rehouse the civic regalia from Grove House to Weston Museum at a cost of £16,830. The cabinets would be designed by the same company as previously used for the Museum renovation to ensure</p>

	<p>consistency. Installation would be in conjunction with the move to HQ and funding would come out of the HQ budget.</p> <p>Members were asked if they were happy with for officers to proceed with the order, to which all agreed.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>
<p>306</p>	<p>Blakehay Report The report of the Theatre Manager had been previously circulated.</p> <p>The Blakehay Theatre Manager advised that the building would be officially handed back on 1st February 2022 with bookings in the studio from 7th February.</p> <p>There would be an open day for councillors and hirers on 17th February and a public open day on 19th February. Members were encouraged to RSVP in order to make numbers known.</p> <p>The Theatre Manager had been approached by ITV West Country to do a feature on the Blakehay Theatre.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>
<p>307</p>	<p>WSMTC Grant Development A verbal update was given by the Development Officer.</p> <p>A £40,000 grant had been accepted from Arts Council England’s Cultural Recovery Fund: Continuity Support.</p> <p>Discussions had begun with the South West Heritage Trust regarding phase 2 & 3 of the Museum rebuild. The foundations of this work had been laid, and funding options would be explored and consultation reopened. The next phase would be the interpretation of a snapshot in time for Clara’s Cottage.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>
<p>308</p>	<p>South West Heritage Trust Update Report The report of Bethan Murray had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>Bethan Murray reported that the Horrible Histories exhibition would be in place for the summer months and The National History’s Museum’s Wildlife photographer of The Year in the autumn.</p> <p>The Chairman conveyed his thanks to A1 Camera club for their work regarding Weston Museum’s collection.</p> <p>The Communications Officer informed members that she was now the Community Manager for SEE Monster. Three think tanks had been set up with the themes of: STEAM, Legacy and Environment. Conversations had begun for programming SEE Monster, noting the need to maximise impact.</p>

	<p>Councillor Mike Solomon informed members that programming for the Jubilee events had begun. The Civic Officer advised that the Mayor would be hosting a lunch in Ellenborough Park on the 5th June to celebrate this. It was suggested that the Civic Officer liaise with Councillor Mike Solomon to discuss possible links. The Deputy Town Clerk advised of plans to hold a series of events in Ellenborough Park using Culture Weston's stretch tent.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>
<p>309</p>	<p>Friends of Weston Museum Verbal Report</p> <p>Heather Morrissey informed members that Friends of Weston Museum currently had 46 members. A talk had taken place on the 26th January named "The Lost City of Bristol". Money was being collected for a 5ft dinosaur donation box which would be made by Somerset Wood Recycling.</p> <p>The Friends would have a stall at the Museum to sell donations.</p> <p>A coffee morning would take place on the 11th February at 11:30am.</p> <p>£178 was raised for Clara's Cottage at the Friends tombola at the Christmas Fayre.</p> <p>The Friends would be exploring the possibility of hybrid meetings in order to stream talks. Talks were now better attended in the afternoon, instead of the evening.</p>
<p>310</p>	<p>North Somerset Council and Heritage Action Zone Report</p> <p>The report of Cara McMahon had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>Cara advised that the Great Western Heritage Action Zone would be coming to an end in 2022.</p> <p>Members were informed of progress on the work regarding stone walls. The consultation period was complete, with the Communication's Officer having supported with public notices. Cara detailed the meticulous process for adopting Article 4 Direction, explaining that the end result would be that residents would need permission to knock down stone walls of 1 metre or less.</p> <p>A brief overview of all other works was provided by Cara McMahon as included in the agenda papers, these included the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Walker and Ling shop front update• Exhibition working with Weston Museum in mid-November• Know your Place, platform extension to March 2023• Planning for Heritage Open days 2022• Forthcoming renovations to properties in the Town Centre• Proposed works to the Odeon, in consultation stages• Engagement work with retailers in the town were ongoing

	<p>Councillor Mike Solomon informed members of a new North Somerset Lottery run by VANS. This would be live from June.</p> <p>A member queried the work at the Odeon, advising that a planning application had already been viewed by the Planning Committee. Cara clarified that two planning applications had been submitted which were unclear, and received negative feedback. The Odeon were receiving support to resubmit an application.</p> <p><i>Councillor Peter McAleer left the meeting at 11:23am</i></p> <p>The Assistant Town Clerk (Operational Services) asked if advice was available for landlords, to which there was not. Members agreed the need to explore this, as 48% of accommodation in Weston-super-Mare was rented.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>
311	<p>Culture Weston and Theatre Orchard Update Report</p> <p>Planning permission had been submitted for 'Shrine'. This would be a 5-year bandstand installation on the high street. A member raised concerns of the design. It was reiterated that this was a temporary installation, and was more importantly a piece of art.</p> <p><i>Councillor Peter McAleer reentered the meeting at 11:30am</i></p> <p>It was suggested that if the Silica were taken over, it could be designed in a similar way to keep a consistent theme. It was recommended that the Committee needed to demonstrate their support for the installation.</p> <p>The Glow event, partially funded by the Town Council, would take place on the 17th-19th February. This event had sold out, selling 1,600 tickets. Members disappointment at not being able to obtain tickets was noted and it was suggested that more tickets should be released.</p> <p>Fiona Matthews advised of other events and activities that would be taking place with Culture Weston.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ramshacklicious would be in the Sovereign centre the 19th-20th February.• They would be helping to support people who might find challenges accessing SEE Monster.• They were working on a cross generation audio project about the weather.• They were exploring options for work experience and volunteering <p>RESOLVED: That the verbal report be noted.</p>
	<p>There being no further business the meeting concluded at 11:49 am.</p> <p>Signed.....Dated.....</p>

	Chairman of the Heritage Arts and Culture Committee
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