

WESTON-SUPER- MARE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

HELD AT GROVE HOUSE ON

MONDAY 12th MARCH 2018

Meeting Commenced: 7.00 pm

Meeting Concluded: 8.28 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Roger Bailey (Chairman), Ray Armstrong, Mark Canniford, Robert Cleland, Sarah Codling, Clive Darke, James Davis, Denise Hunt, Michal Kus, Len Purnell, Martin Williams

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor Peter Fox, Malcolm Nicholson (Town Clerk), Sarah Pearse (Responsible Financial Officer and Deputy Town Clerk), Sally Heath (Blakehay Theatre Manager), Matthew Hardy (Acting Visitor Services Manager), Rob Thurston (Grounds Manager), Tricia Brabham (Communications and Committee Officer) and Vicky Angear (Weston Mercury).

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Chairman invited questions and observations from parishioners present. (*Standing Order No:8*)

360	<p>Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutions</p> <p>Apologies of absence were received from Councillor James Clayton. Councillor James Davis had been delayed but would arrive shortly.</p>
361	<p>To receive Declarations of Interest</p> <p>There were no Declarations of Interest were received.</p>
362	<p>Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on the 13th November 2017</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Clive Darke SECONDED BY: Councillor Sarah Codling</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman.</p>
363	<p>References from other Committees</p> <p>363.1 The minutes of Weston In Bloom 9th January 2018 had been previously circulated the agenda.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the minutes be received and noted.</p> <p>363.2 The minutes of the Museum and Heritage Sub Committee Meeting 22nd February 2018 were tabled at the meeting.</p> <p>A member asked who had decided the name Clara Café's for the Museum Café. The Deputy Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer advised that the cafe name had been put out for public consultation and then agreed by the Museum and Heritage Sub-Committee.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the minutes be received and noted.</p>

Management Reports**364.1 Youth Services**

The report of the Operations Manager – WSM YMCA had been previously circulated with the agenda.

The Operations Manager advised that the new provision with Uphill and Worle was working well, and had been well attended.

The YMCA had attended the Worle Careers Day, and held a Youth Council Meeting at Priory School, both of which had been successful.

A member felt it was beneficial to youngsters that they were able to provide children with a broader careers choice, not just what their parents did or what they saw on television.

A member questioned how Town Council support had benefitted the YMCA. The Operations Member advised that it had enabled the YMCA to extend its provision. The YMCA also had support from Big Worle and the Uphill Village Association which helped it engage with the local community.

The Town Clerk advised that the Town Council had previously run a youth café but it was expensive to run the premises. Transferring the provision to the YMCA had enabled and improved the services and saved money. Weston benefitted from having a good forward thinking YMCA provision.

364.1.1 Homeless Prevention

The report of Joe Heslop, outreach worker at the YMCA was tabled at the meeting.

Joe Heslop introduced himself to the committee and advised that he was an outreach worker and co-ordinated the Nightstop, funded by the Big Lottery Reaching Communities fund.

They worked with predominantly rough sleepers, helping them find accommodation, and routes away from the street and providing advice about where they could find support. They also had a base at Victoria's Kitchen and Somewhere To Go.

It was difficult to identify a number of rough sleepers as some of them did not want to be found.

A member questioned if they walked around town to count the number of rough sleepers. Joe Heslop confirmed that they did this early on a Wednesday morning and on an evening a week. They did the count early in the morning as it would only be genuine rough sleepers at this time of day. They worked with community response and other agencies as well. They engaged with the rough sleepers to find out why they were homeless and to help them find a route out of homelessness. They also worked with St Mungo's.

A member questioned if there were further plans for the YMCA to provide accommodation. The Operations Manager advised that they currently had 9 units of low support transition accommodation for young people and would be open to looking further units. They were proud of what they had achieved with young people and helped them put in place plans to get to where they wanted to be, including in to work, volunteering etc.

364.2 Blakehay Theatre

The report of the Blakehay Theatre Manager had been previously circulated with the agenda.

A member asked if the comedy night had been successful. The Theatre Manager advised it had and that there were high bar takings on the night.

A member questioned the ticket pricing for the comedy night, and the Theatre Manager advised that she was reviewing the ticket prices.

A member questioned how much the Theatre wanted to make on the shows that were bought in. The Responsible Financial Officer informed that the intention was to make money over and above the £12,000 cost for the year.

RESOLVED: That the report of the Theatre Manager be noted

364.3 Weston Museum

The report of the Acting Visitor Services Manager had been previously circulated with the agenda.

The Acting Visitor Services Manager advised that there had been over 20,000 visitors in the Museum since opening.

The volunteers were running events such as pub quizzes which was going really well.

The Community Gallery was going from strength to strength. The BME had their special night which had gone really well, and resulted in some room bookings for the museum.

The ages of the volunteers were getting younger, which reflected the volunteer industry at the moment. Volunteering helped build confidence in younger volunteers preparing them for work.

The Rusty Club had been officially associated with the Young Archaeologists Club.

There would be a Body Art Festival on the May Bank Holiday Weekend.

A member noted the Victorian Christmas Weekend had gone well, and they would like to see the Museum make more of it, with a Victorian Market over two or three weekends in the build up to Christmas.

A member asked about takings in the shop and donations that the Museum received, compared to before the Museums closure. The Responsible Financial Officer advised that: During 2015 average monthly takings in the shop were £704, compared to £1898 in 2018. During 2015 average monthly takings in the café were £929, compared to £1909 in 2018. During 2015 average monthly donations were £187, compared to £871 in 2018.

The Chair thanked the Acting Visitor Services Manager for his hard work.

RESOLVED: That the report of the Acting Visitor Services Manager be noted

The Acting Visitor Services Manager, Theatre Manager and the YMCA Operation Manager and Outreach worker left the meeting at 7.35pm.

364.4 Grounds

The report of the Grounds Manager had been previously circulated with the agenda.

	<p>The Grounds Manager advised that there had been an issue with people taking up residency in the toilets. They had tried to deal with it sensitively and worked with agencies that could help.</p> <p>The Cemetery burial bookings had been down, but there had been a dramatic increase in the last week.</p> <p>A member asked about recent issues with dog bins. The Town Clerk advised that during the recent snow, collection had been missed, as was the following Tuesday collection. The Contractor had assured him that they would collect Friday or Saturday. North Somerset Council were doing some urgent collections for the Town Council.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report of the Grounds Manager be noted.</p>
365	<p>The Chairman requested that Agenda Item 7 – Events Update be discussed at this point in the meeting.</p> <p>Events update The report of the Community and Grounds Administrator had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>The Grounds Manager advised that the Literary Festival had gone very well, and had been well received. The venue set up had worked well.</p> <p>Moving forwards the Community and Grounds Administrator would like to look at holding it in the same week of the year. Spreading the events over the week had caused staffing issues and so she wanted to look at focussing the events on a Friday to Sunday.</p> <p>The Chairman advised that he felt the Literary Festival had worked very well. The authors were very enthusiastic and it had been a real community event. The analysis of the event would be done by Expenditure and Governance Working Party, but he felt that the charging for events should be looked at to ensure people attended the events they had booked for.</p> <p>Debate ensued. Members discussed how to mitigate non-attendance at the event, getting feedback from younger people, and how to involve volunteers.</p> <p>A member noted that the Halloween event organised by North Somerset had always been popular with 2000-3000 attending, and suggested the Town Council work with the YMCA to put on a Halloween event.</p> <p>The Town Clerk advised that it had been looked at before, but due to the time it would take to organise and the budget required it had not gone ahead. The Grounds Manager advised that the budget was a major issue. The reputation of the event and the numbers that had attended previously could have a negative impact if not done properly.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor James Davis SECONDED BY: Councillor Ray Armstrong</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Town Council host a Literary Festival in February 2019 with the budget of £3000 between the dates of Friday 22nd February - Friday 1st March 2019 2. That Expenditure and Governance carry out a review of the Literary Festival 3. That the Town Council host a Flower Show in conjunction with BID and the Horticultural Society with the Town Council putting a budget of £1000 towards the

	<p>event</p> <p>4. The Town Council host a YMCA Summer Starter event in Grove Park with the Town Council putting a budget of £1000 towards the event.</p>
366	<p><i>The Grounds Manager left the Meeting 8.00pm</i></p> <p>Grants Update The report of the Finance Officer had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>366.1 Soundwell Music Therapy Trust Grant applied for: £1000 Under power: Local Government Act 1972 section 137</p> <p>The application and accounts had been checked.</p> <p>The grant would be used to provide music therapy sessions for adults with mental illnesses in Weston-super-Mare.</p> <p>The balance in the bank was noted and mention made on the limited number of people the Town Council's grant would help.</p> <p>A vote was taken and carried. Accordingly it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED: That this grant application be declined.</p> <p>366.2 Artlift Grant applied for: £1,500 Under power: Local Government Act 1972 section 137</p> <p>The application and accounts had been checked.</p> <p>The grant would be used to set up a new venture in Weston-super-Mare.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That this grant application be declined until they had a defined location, when they can reapply.</p> <p>366.3 The Creative ThingyWotsit Grant applied for: £2000 Under power: Local Government Act 1972 section 137</p> <p>The application and accounts had been checked.</p> <p>The grant would be used to finance a ten week course of creative engagement at Jasmine Court Nursing Home.</p> <p>A member noted that a bank balance had not been provided.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Sarah Codling SECONDED BY: Councillor Martin Williams</p> <p>That a grant of £1000 be awarded.</p> <p>An AMENDMENT was:</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Clive Darke SECONDED BY: Councillor Mark Canniford</p>

	<p>That a grant of £500 be awarded. A vote was taken and the amendment was lost.</p> <p>A vote on the original proposal was taken and carried and it was therefore:</p> <p>RESOLVED: That £1000 be awarded.</p> <p>366.4 The Notable Club Grant applied for: £1000 Under power: Local Government Act 1972 section 137</p> <p>The application and accounts had been checked.</p> <p>The grant would be used to cover the cost of hiring specialist Weston & District Buses for wheelchair members.</p> <p>Councillor Peter Fox spoke in support of the application.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor James Davis SECONDED BY: Councillor Clive Darke</p> <p>A vote was taken and carried. Accordingly it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED: That this grant application be approved.</p>
367	<p>Grove Park War Memorial</p> <p>The Town Clerk advised that the budget for the repairs was now available. The War Memorial Trust had provided funding. North Somerset Council had also given £3500 and the Civic Society £3100.</p> <p>The Town Clerk advised that the repairs to the memorial could not be publicised until authorised by the War Memorial Trust or they may refuse the funding.</p> <p>The Committee thanked officers for achieving such a great result and for getting it done.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the position be noted</p>
	<p>There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.05 pm.</p> <p>Signed: Dated: Councillor Roger Bailey Chairman of the Community Services Committee</p>