**Workington Town Council**

*Trustee of the Borough of Workington*

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**Minutes of the Culture & Community Committee Meeting of Workington Town Council which took place at 7pm on Wednesday 14th June 2023, held in the Workington Town Council Community Centre, Princess Street, Workington.**

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| Cllr Ellie Wood (Chair) | Present | Cllr David Farrar (Vice Chair) | Present |
| Cllr Nath Martin | Apologies | Cllr Joan Wright | Present |
| Cllr Barbara Cannon | Present | Cllr Susan Martin | Present |
| Cllr Sue Fryer | Present | Cllr Kate Schofield | Apologies |
| Cllr Jackie Kirkbride | Apologies | Cllr Tricia Poole | Present |

In attendance: The Mayor - Cllr Beth Dixon, Cllr Paul Larkin, Town Clerk and Deputy Proper Officer.

**C23.16. Apologies**

Apologies were received and noted from Cllr(s):

Cllr Nath Martin – prior meeting commitments

Cllr Jackie Kirkbride – ill health

Cllr Kate Schofield – work commitments

**C23.17. Declarations of Interest**

None

**C23.18. Exclusion of Press and Public**

None

**C23.19. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting on 7.3.2023 were agreed and accepted as a true record.

Cllr Poole asked if the motion by previous Cllr McGuckin had been actioned.

The Town Clerk advised that Cumberland Council had been asked and had advised WTC that the budget had been set for 2023-2024 and there was no available budget to support this request.

Cllr Poole proposed to request a contribution from Cumberland Council for Workington’s Christmas lights from their 2024-2025 budget.

This was seconded.

**Resolved:** To agree and accept the minutes of the meeting on 7.3.2023.

**Resolved:** To contact Cumberland Council and request a contribution towards Workington’s Christmas lights from their 2024-2025 budget.

**C23.20 . Culture & Community Budget**

1. Committee reviewed the Culture & Community budget YTD.

Cllr Ellie Wood queried that only £1,700 had been spent on the Reach Out event when £8350 had been received from National Lottery Community Fund and WTC had £2,000 against this budget line. The Town Clerk & Deputy Proper Officer advised that the money had been spent but had just not yet been invoiced.

1. Committee noted the income of £8350 from National Lottery Community Fund to be spend against the Reach Out budget line.
2. Committee agreed to pay for the Armed Forces Day refreshments to the sum of £300 from the Cultural Commissions budget line.

**Resolved:** To note the C & C budget YTD.

**Resolved:** To note the income of £8350 from National Lottery Community Fund to be spend against the Reach Out budget line.

**Resolved:** To recode the payment of £300 for the Armed Forces Day refreshments from the Civic Functions budget line to the Cultural Commissions budget line.

**C23.21. Events**

The Committee noted the report from the Events Team with regards to the events programme 2023.

**Committee discussed:**

Outdoor theatre performance: 2 schools have confirmed and will be bringing 40 children with them to the Thursday 29th June 12pm matinee performance. There will be an ice cream van and the heritage trains will also be running in Hall Park during the afternoon performance.

The Committee thought that there was a good mix of activities being hosted for the Sports/Summer camp and were pleased to see the Science Booth Workshops were being hosted at various community centres/venues throughout the town.

Events team to inform Cllrs when the Science Booth workshop bookings are open.

A member of the public has asked Cllr Cannon about hosting events under the hub – the DPO advised that we used to host music events every Saturday throughout August, but were inundated with complaints about the noise from stores.

Events team to research quieter events in the town centre for 2024, suggestions were a fashion show, getting the clothing stores involved and street art workshops.

Cllrs discussed making the Festival of Running bigger for 2024 and adding a marathon / triathlon. The DPO advised that they were already in talks with Cumberland Athletics Club with regards to this.

The DPO requested that the committee start to think about suggestions and ideas for the events programme for 2024, to allow officers time to research details, suppliers and costs to present back to committee. Suggestions to be sent to the DPO by 27th June to be included in the agenda for the next meeting on 4th July.

**Resolved:** Events Team to inform Cllrs when Science Booth workshop bookings are open.

**Resolved:** To research town centre activities / events for 2024.

**Resolved:** To look into the viability of adding a marathon or triathlon to the Festival of Running for 2024.

**Resolved:** Committee to submit suggestions for the events programme 2024 to the DPO by 27th June 2023.

**C23.22. Christmas Lights 2023**

The DPO advised that Cumberland Council would be using the Marks and Spencer’s car park as their compound for the Ramsay Brow project. Therefore WTC would not be able to use it for their Christmas lights switch on.

The committee discussed the proposed other 2 options put forward by the DPO and other options put forward by Cllrs. It was agreed that the area outside Bensons for Beds would be most suitable. Committee agreed unanimously.

Committee also discussed how well it worked using the empty shop units for the stalls and activities. The DPO advised that if a unit is being used for commercial gain business rates are charged by Cumberland Council. Committee agreed to contact Cumberland Council and ask what the rates would be.

The DPO asked Cllrs to note that there is no guarantee that the units will be empty and we only know very near to the switch on date. Therefore the Events team do have to have a contingency plan if anything needs to be located outside.

The DPO advised that because of the change in stage location, the area around Marks and Spencer’s would not be dressed with Christmas Lights this year but this would be worked on for 2024. The money saved from this area will be used to add temporary dressings to the Bensons for Beds area to give the WOW factor when switching the lights on but not to add any permanent infrastructure.

**Resolved:** To host the main stage for the Christmas Light switch on outside Bensons for Beds and The Entertainer in Workington Town Centre on Sat 25th November.

**Resolved:** To contact Cumberland Council and request business rate costs for using empty shop units for commercial gain during the light switch on.

**C23.23. Grants pre-approved**

Committee noted grants that had been pre-approved in between meetings by the DPO and Chair of Culture.

Workington Zebras - £300, contribution towards travel expenses for the Twickenham cup final.

Brieydale Coronation Party - £300, community coronation event.

NHS Workington - £300, cyber awareness event goody bag.

Harrington Residents Association - £300, community coronation event.

**Resolved:** To note the pre-approved grants.

**C23.24. Grants**

1. Beckstone Primary School - £300 for tile art project. Approved to go to youth development budget line.
2. Ashfield Infants School - £300, to purchase football strip. Approved to go to youth development budget line.
3. Coastal Communities - £300 for Harrington Marina fun day. Approved to go to Community development budget line.
4. Beckstone Primary School - £300 for Real Love Rocks project. Approved to go to youth development budget line.
5. High Harrington Community Centre - £300 paint and revitalisation of community centre. Approved to go to community development budget line.
6. Workington Sea Cadets - £275 to purchase a new gazebo to use at events.

**Resolved:** To award Beckstone Primary school £300 for tile art project and £300 for Real Love Rocks projects from youth development budget line.

**Resolved:** To award Ashfield Infants School £300 for their football strip from youth development budget line.

**Resolved:** To award Coastal Communities £300 towards the Harrington Marina Fun Day from community development budget line.

**Resolved:** To award High Harrington Community Centre £300 towards revitalising the community centre from community development budget line.

**Resolved:** To award Workington Sea Cadets £275 to purchase a new gazebo.

**C23.25. Cultural Commissions**

Committee discussed what the Cultural Commissions budget line should be used for.

It should not be used as funding for the community service grants the council receives, depending on the nature of the request these grants will come from the youth and community development budget lines.

The Cultural Commissions budget line is to be used for local groups and organisations that carry out regular works, events or activities within the community and have historically requested grants from the council.

The council wishes to empower these groups, by allocating funds automatically to them from the Cultural Commissions budget line, without the need for them to apply for a grant. This will also save valuable officer time.

For the next meeting the committee are to send group/organisation suggestions to the DPO so they can be included on the agenda for consideration. The next meeting is on the 4th July, deadline for submissions by committee members is 27th June.

It was also discussed that the committee consider what they wish to achieve as a committee this year and how they wish to spend available budget.

**Resolved:** Committee members to submit suggestions for the beneficiaries of the Cultural Commissions budget line to the DPO by 27th June 2023.

**Resolved:** Committee members to submit suggestions for ideas/plans/objectives of the committee to the DPO by 27th June 2023.

**Meeting closed at 20.05.**