

MINUTES OF THE ARTS AND INFORMATION COMMITTEE HELD ON 19TH MAY, 2015

Present: Councillors Mrs M R Baird, E Bell,
Mrs J A Bell, Mrs G Bleasdale, B Burn Snr,
B Burn Jnr, S Cudlip, Miss S Morrison,
N R Page, I Paul, C Snowball, B Taylor,
R Whitehead, K Younger

Apologies: Councillors B Allen, Mrs B E Allen,
R Arthur, Mrs H Cahill

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR OF ARTS AND INFORMATION COMMITTEE FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

RECOMMENDED Councillor I Paul be appointed Chair of this Committee for the ensuing year.

(Councillor I Paul in the Chair)

Prior to commencement of the meeting the Chair advised members of this Committee and members of the public that in line with the amendment to 'the public bodies (admission to meetings) act 1960', which came into force in August, 2014, parts of this meeting may be recorded by photographic, video and audio means.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR OF ARTS AND INFORMATION COMMITTEE FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

RECOMMENDED Councillor K Younger be appointed Vice-Chair of this Committee for the ensuing year.

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Members were reminded prior to the start of the meeting of the need to disclose any interests, prejudicial or personal, in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 28TH APRIL, 2015

RECOMMENDED the Minutes of this meeting, a copy of which had been previously printed and circulated to each Member, be approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

5. CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS

The Committee advised that none of the Elected Members had received a copy of the Conference Appointments which were usually circulated with the Agendas. A Member also stated it would be beneficial for Members on the relevant rotas to have conference information circulated as soon as possible to allow them time to consider their availability, rather than receiving the information a week prior to the

event and stated that an important NAC conference was due to be held at the end of June.

RECOMMENDED:

- (i) The list of conference appointments be approved.
- (ii) Efforts be made to ensure conference information is circulated to Members at the earliest opportunity to allow Members time to consider their availability.

6. PLINTH FOR TOMMY STATUE

The Deputy Town Clerk provided an update with regard to the paving to be installed under 'Tommy' on the Terrace Green, and advised that Shaw Trust, Webarrow4u and Garage on the Green had volunteered to help with the paving in relation to labour and supplies. The work had started yesterday and should be completed by this weekend. A Member queried what the situation was with regard to funding and the Deputy Town Clerk advised that the Town Council would pay for the paving slabs. Mission 1101 had responded to the Town Council's request for support and had indicated their unwillingness to pay for the paving as funds were being retained for other uses. Information had been made available on social media which indicated the remaining money obtained through public contributions had been transferred into a Community Trust Fund. A Member read out a statement published by Mission 1101 on their Facebook page today in relation to the issue which requested the views of the public. In discussion Members were advised that the cost to the Town Council each year for insurance of the sculpture was £1,300.

RECOMMENDED:

- (i) The constitution of Mission 1101 which should be in the public domain be checked to clarify how the funds obtained through public contributions were to be used.
- (ii) The above information be noted.

7. EAST DURHAM AAP

RECOMMENDED:

- (i) The minutes of the AAP Board meeting which took place on 11th March, 2015, be noted.
- (ii) The minutes of the AAP Education and Job Creation Priority Group meeting held on 24th March, 2015 be noted.
- (iii) The minutes of the AAP MSFOOC Priority Group meeting held on 27th February, 2015 be noted.

8. NALC BULLETIN

The Committee considered the Bulletin received from NALC on national developments and meetings, dated 15th May, 2015.

RECOMMENDED the Council note the information now reported.

9. PRESS OPPORTUNITIES

RECOMMENDED the Council note that no press opportunities existed from this meeting.