

MINUTES OF THE ARTS AND INFORMATION COMMITTEE HELD ON 1ST JUNE, 2021

Present: Councillor Mrs R Charlton-Lainé (Chair)
and R Arthur, Mrs J Bell, Mrs G Bleasdale,
Mrs H Cahill, Mrs S Forster,
Mrs G M Fuller, D Harding, Mrs S Lingard,
R Lowery, J MacVeigh, J Purvis, K Shaw,
C J Thompson, Miss J Watson,
S Wayman, R Whitehead.

Apologies: Mrs K Brace, Mrs L Kennedy,
Miss S Morrison

Officers: P Fletcher (Acting Town Clerk)
C Halliday (Minute Taker)

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.

AI6/21 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. Such interests must be submitted to the Town Clerk prior to the meeting.

AI7/21 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR OF ARTS AND INFORMATION COMMITTEE FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

There were two nominations received for Chair of the Arts and Information Committee, Councillors Mrs R Charlton-Laine and R Arthur. This then went to a vote:

Councillor Mrs R Charlton-Laine – 10 votes
Councillor R Arthur – 6 votes

RECOMMENDED that Councillor Mrs R Charlton-Laine be elected as the Chair of Arts and Information Committee for the ensuing year.

(Councillor Mrs R Charlton-Laine in the Chair)

AI8/21 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR OF ARTS AND INFORMATION COMMITTEE FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

There were two nominations received for Vice-Chair of the Arts and Information Committee, Councillors K Routledge and R Arthur. This then went to a vote:

Councillor K Routledge – 11 votes
Councillor R Arthur – 6 votes

RECOMMENDED that Councillor K Routledge be elected as the Vice-Chair of Arts and Information Committee for the ensuing year.

AI9/21 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 2ND FEBRUARY, 2021**

RECOMMENDED the Minutes of these meetings, copies of which had been previously printed and circulated to each Member, were approved at the Full Council meeting held on 23rd February, 2021 and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

AI10/21 **CONFERENCE ROTA**

In discussion a Councillor felt the conference budget was better spent on Seaham projects. It was noted individual conference invites will be vetted through this committee and it was agreed each conference should be judged on its own merit for value for money and to ensure the training is beneficial to the Town Council remit.

RECOMMENDED that Officers draft the conference rota to be brought back to a future meeting for approval.

AI11/21 **NHS & KEY WORKERS FLAG**

The Chair informed Members of a project they are currently working on in preparation for NHS and Key Workers Day on 5th July, 2021. They have been in contact with all local primary schools with four wishing to take part. Working with all Year 6's from the schools which have opted in, it is intended for students to design their own flag which will be combined into an over arching design by the Chair.

Seaham Town Council have agreed to pay for the printing of the flag which is to be erected at the Town Hall. The Chair will obtain prices for mini flags to be given to the Year 6 leavers.

RECOMMENDED that the Chair obtain the prices for the supply of mini flags for Year 6 students and feedback updates to this committee.

AI12/21 **URBAN GARDENING**

The Chair provided a selection of photos in relation to this item. It is proposed to set up a scheme in which people can adopt local street signs to enable them to plant flowers underneath. It is felt this will combat the use of pesticides and the project has the potential to work with local charities.

It was recommended this item be raised for discussion at the Parks and Events Committee.

RECOMMENDED that this item be deferred to the Parks and Events Committee.

AI13/21 **CHURCH STREET ORIGAMI PROJECT WITH SCHOOLS**

Members were advised it has previously been suggested to hang upside down umbrellas across Church Street. It was felt lightweight recycled materials such as bags could be used to create themed origami to hang across Church Street. A resident noted the umbrella project several years ago was unable to proceed due to the load testing on the buildings.

The Chair sought a Working Party of interested Members to assist in this project. Councillors R Arthur, Mrs K Batey, Mrs J Bell, Mrs S Forster, Mrs S Lingard and Miss J Watson expressed an interest to participate in the Working Party.

RECOMMENDED that Councillors R Arthur, Mrs K Batey, Mrs J Bell, Mrs R Charlton-Laine, Mrs S Forster, Mrs S Lingard and Miss J Watson form a Working Party to progress this project further.

AI14/21 **PRESS OPPORTUNITIES**

RECOMMENDED that social media be utilised to promote the NHS & Key Workers Flag project after the Working Party meet.

The meeting was then closed by the Chair.