

BARNSTAPLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of HERITAGE, CULTURE AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE held on THURSDAY, 3rd OCTOBER 2016 at 7.00pm in the GUILDHALL, BARNSTAPLE

Present: Councillor Mrs E Davies (Chairman)
Councillors: Mrs V Elkins (Vice Chairman), F Vernon, I Roome (Deputy Mayor Ex Officio), Mrs J Hunt (Mayor Ex Officio), M Chamings, Ms N Haywood, F Jefferies, I Williams, G Langford and Miss M Lovering.

Also present: Mrs K Graddock (Deputy Town Clerk) and Mrs M Sanders (Administration Officer).

HCC15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence, as recorded on the attendance sheet were received from Councillor A Rennles, Mrs A Dawson and C Haywood.

HCC16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS GRANTED

Councillors I Roome and Mrs J Hunt declared interests as members of North Devon Council but have been granted a dispensation to discuss all items on the agenda, in accordance with SO66.

HCC17 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 28th July 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

(9.2abs)

HCC18 BARNSTAPLE GUILDHALL

Members were informed that the proposed opening of the Guildhall on a Friday was a concern as there were no volunteers that were able to accommodate the day and time.

Cllr N Haywood offered to support the opening of the Guildhall when she can. Members were reported that two volunteers were needed at any one time when opening the Guildhall.

Members agreed that the opening should start at one Friday a month instead of weekly. It was therefore

RESOLVED: That the Guildhall should be open once a month and volunteers are contacted as well as councillors for any availability.

(NC)

HCC19 WEDDINGS

Members were asked to consider the current fee structure for Guildhall weddings, and in particular the arrangements for out of hours' support.

RESOLVED: That the out of hours' fee is actioned when the wedding ceremony is after 6.00pm Monday – Saturday inclusive and a Sunday.
(NC)

HCC20 TOWN TOURS

Members were asked to consider the arrangements for Town Tours from Spring 2017. The Clerk reported to member that Tom Evans had kindly provided Town Tours for the summer and they were well received.

Tom Evans had said that he was happy to provide training for Town Tours for any volunteers that would like to learn how to complete a tour however, felt he was unable to accommodate all tours for 2017 free of charge.

Members considered what we are able to offer volunteers and what is expected of them. Some members felt that providing a uniform would be beneficial as it clearly divines them as a tour guide and encourages them to be seen. After some discussion, it was

RESOLVED:

1. That thanks are given to the existing Town Council volunteers for their help and support over the past few months whilst changes were taking place to Heritage services.
2. That the Deputy Town Clerk and Heritage Manager be permitted to produce a new volunteer pack and advertise for additional volunteers.

(NC)

HCC21 CLERKS REPORT

Heritage Open Days

Members were reported the Heritage Open Days were a great success. Over 200 people attended the events over the 3 days of activities. Members felt the re-enactment should have been on an evening or weekend to allow more people to attend.

RESOLVED: That thanks are given to the individuals, staff and councillors who organised and supported this year's Heritage Open Days.

(NC)

Members felt that the Heritage Open Days should take place during school holidays, even though the event is part of a national campaign to open historic sites of interest for a particular weekend.

RESOLVED: That the 2017 Open days take place during the summer holidays and the item is brought to the next meeting for further discussion.

(NC)

Summer Fun in the Guildhall

Members were reported that the Summer Fun activities held in the Guildhall were supported and well attended. Over 400 people took part, which was a great achievement considering the timescale of organisation. Members were particular happy with the Plough Arts Centre for their drama workshops which has had a number of positive comments from attendees.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk investigate the opportunities for the Summer of 2017 for activities in the Guildhall.

(NC)

Half Term workshops

Members were submitted the workshop schedule for the workshops that are being held in the Christmas holidays and February half term. Members agreed that the workshops were a good way of the building being used and looked forward to supporting them in the future.

Volunteering

The Heritage Manager reported to members that a meeting of the volunteers was scheduled for Friday, 7th October at which discussions of potential volunteer opportunities would be sought.

Some members felt that the Town Council does not complete enough to recognise the volunteers and felt that there was little communication between them and the committee. After some discussion it was

RESOLVED:

1. That the volunteers are thanked for their support.
2. That the Clerk organise a cream tea afternoon closer to Christmas to officially thank the volunteers and all Heritage Committee members are invited to attend also.

(NC)

Heritage Centre

Members were informed that a meeting with North Devon Council to discuss the relinquish of the Heritage Centre would take place shortly and further details would be available after then.

HCC22 BUDGET FOR 2017-18

RESOLVED: That the Clerk submit a draft budget to the next Heritage meeting for consideration.

(NC)

Meeting closed at 7.44pm.

Chairman.

Signed:

Dated: