

Minutes of a meeting of the Civic Pride, Arts & Leisure Committee held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Market Place, Newbury on Monday 2 September 2019 at 7.30pm

Present

Councillors Jo Day; Phil Barnett; Martin Colston; Billy Drummond; Nigel Foot; Olivia Lewis; David Marsh; Gary Norman; Chris Foster (Substitute for Sue Farrant); Sarah Slack (Vice-Chairperson).

Officers present:

Hugh Peacocke, Chief Executive Officer.

Elisa Adams, Civic Manager.

1. Apologies for absence

Councillor: Eric Pattenden; Sue Farrant

Absent: Councillor Jeff Cant

2. Declaration of Interest and Dispensations

The Civic Manager declared that Councillors Phil Barnett, Billy Drummond and David Marsh are also Members of West Berkshire Council, which is declared as a general interest on their behalf and a dispensation is in place to allow them to partake in discussions relating to West Berkshire Council business.

3. Minutes

Proposed: Councillor Phil Barnett

Seconded: Councillor Billy Drummond

Resolved: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Civic Pride, Arts & Leisure Committee held on Monday 1st July 2019 be approved and signed by the Chairperson.

4. Questions and petitions from members of the public

There were none.

5. Members' questions and petitions

There were none.

6. Music in the Market Place

Councillor David Marsh advised that Kennet Radio are enthusiastic about continuing

this event. It was agreed that a written proposal should be submitted in time for the next meeting by November. This item will then be added to the CPA&L Agenda for December.

7. Newbury Town Civic Awards 2020

The meeting considered the report from the Chief Executive Officer recommending that the Civic awards and the Annual Town meeting should both be stand-alone events. It was noted that arrangements for the Annual Town Meeting will be considered at December's meeting.

Proposed: Councillor Martin Colston

Seconded: Councillor Olivia Lewis

Resolved: That the Civic Awards would be taken forward as a stand-alone event for 2020. Considerations for what awards will be presented, including a Green Award, will be brought to the next meeting scheduled for Monday 2 December.

8. Remembrance Sunday Planning

Councillors noted the importance of the event and were in strong agreement that all councillors should be in attendance for the parade and well presented in representation of our town. The Civic Manager will make this explicit in the invitations sent out to Councillors.

Proposed: Councillor Jo Day

Seconded: Councillor Martin Colston

Resolved: That Members approve of the report of the plans that are in place for Remembrance Sunday.

9. Heritage Open Day

Councillors Olivia Lewis, Billy Drummond and Gary Norman volunteered their time to steward the event, in addition to the three councillors who had already volunteered. Councillors were also encouraged to take part in Local Democracy Week in October to further learn about the history of the Town Hall and the Town Council.

Proposed: Councillor Olivia Lewis

Seconded: Councillor Billy Drummond

Resolved: The arrangements to open the Town Hall to the public for Heritage Open Day, in conjunction with the National Heritage Open Day events on Saturday 14 September 2019 were approved.

10. 75th Anniversary of VE Day 8-10 May 2020

It was noted that Councillors Jo Day, Sarah Slack and Billy Drummond have agreed to join this working group. This working group will meet before the next meeting on Monday 2 December 2019 and will bring forward event proposals to commemorate VE Day.

11. Raising the Profile of the Council in the Community

Members noted the letters of congratulations that the Mayor of Newbury had sent to residents and organisations in the community. Councillors were encouraged to come forward with any success stories of residents and organisations who they believe are deserving of a letter. Councillor Martin Colston also noted that the recipients of the letters could be used to find more nominees for our Civic Awards.

12. Forward Work Programme for Civic Pride, Arts & Leisure Committee meetings 2018/19.

Proposed: Councillor Martin Colston

Seconded: Councillor Gary Norman

Resolved: To add a standing item to the agenda to cover follow-up actions arising from the minutes and to add the following items to the agenda for the next Committee meeting on Monday 2 December 2019:

- VE Day Proposals,
- Music in the Market Place,
- Civic Awards 2020

13. Civic Events

- a. The information regarding Civic events held since the last meeting of this committee was received and noted. Councillor Phil Barnett said that the Mayor's Drive and Tea Party was a key event of the Mayoral year and very much welcomed by many of the participants. However, numbers had fallen in recent years and there was a need to now review the arrangements. He offered; to work with the Civic Manager on how this event can be improved. Councillor Gary Norman provided positive feedback about the Twinning Ceremony between Newbury and Carcaixent on 13 July but encouraged more formal invitations to be given to councillors with more advance notice.
- b. The information relating to future Civic Events as detailed on the agenda was received and noted by the Committee.
- c. There were no additional ideas for suggested or potential future events or activities.

There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Chairperson