

Derry City and Strabane District Council

Open Minutes of Business and Culture Committee Meeting held in the Chamber, Guildhall, Derry on Tuesday 10 May 2016 at 4.00pm.

Present:- Councillor Boyle (Chairperson); Aldermen R Hamilton, Hussey, Ramsey, Warke; Councillors Cooper, Fleming, Gardiner, Logue, M McHugh, R McHugh and Tierney.

Non-Committee Member:- Councillors D Kelly and P Kelly.

In Attendance:- Director of Business and Culture (Mr S Gillespie), Head of Business (Mr K O'Connor), Head of Culture (Ms A McCarter), Personal Assistant to the Director of Business and Culture (Mrs J Galloway-Doherty) and Committee Services Assistant (Mrs J Short).

**Mr J Brownlee, Governor of Apprentice Boys of Derry
Mr B Moore, Siege Museum Management Committee (Chair)
Mr C McGurk, Strategic Investment Board
Mr A Kerr, Museum of Free Derry**

BC/125/16 Notice and Summons for Meeting

The Director of Business and Culture read the Notice and Summons for the Meeting.

BC/126/16 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor's Cusack (Chairperson) and McMahan.

In the absence of the Chairperson it was agreed by Committee that Councillor Boyle would Chair the Meeting.

BC/127/16 Declarations of Members' Interests

Councillor's Tierney, M McHugh and Cooper declared an interest with Agenda Item No. 4: Presentation – Request for funding support for the Siege Museum and the Museum of Free Derry.

Open for Decision

BC/128/16 Presentation: Request for funding support for the Siege Museum and the Museum of Free Derry

Members received a presentation from Mr Ciaran McGurk, Strategic Investment Board on behalf of the Bloody Sunday Trust responsible for the development of the Siege Museum and the Museum of Free Derry. A copy of the presentation had been previously circulated to Members.

Mr McGurk by way of introduction outlined the following:

- Ongoing partnership between ABoD and BST (Western Perspective Project)
- Promotion of the respective museums as beacons for education, respect and mutual understanding
- New Siege Museum opened to the public in October 2015
- New Museum of Free Derry will open in October 2016
- £6m of external capital funding brought into the city
- A need to source additional revenue funding to support the core operation of the two museums
- Joint business case developed to support the case for revenue investment by DCSDC and other funders.

He further outlined the existing Council support as follows:

- Council has provided important project management support towards the capital builds
- Capital contribution to the MoFD
- Council already providing revenue support to each organisation of £20k per annum
- Heritage and Museum Service are formal curatorial advisers
- Council's Business and Culture Directorate also provide ongoing advice on operational issues.

In conclusion Mr McGurk referred to the need for revenue investment as outlined within the presentation and made the following request to Council for consideration:

- Strong desire by BST and ABoD to continue to work together to promote the museums and the Council area to tourists, schools and other visitors
- Request to Council to fund the current shortfall of £40k (£20k per annum for each organisation)
- Other funding bids may result in this request being reduced
- Request to Council to provide 'in kind' museum technician support
- The BST and ABoD intend to expand operations in the future to undertake further education and peace and reconciliation work (Peace IV bid)

The Members welcomed the presentation and supported both tourism facilities.

The Director of Business and Culture advised that Council had decided on an open call funding process for heritage venues and in terms of widening this process a paper would be brought back to Members for discussion at a future meeting.

The representatives from both museums left the meeting at this stage.

BC/129/16 Chairperson's Business

The Chairperson referred to the recent Election to the Northern Ireland Assembly and congratulated those MLA's elected, he also expressed his commiseration to those that were not re-elected on this occasion.

BC/130/16 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Business and Culture Committee held Tuesday 12 April 2016

The Open Minutes of the Business and Culture Committee Meeting held on 12 April 2016 (BC96/16 – BC116/16) were confirmed and signed by the Chairperson.

BC/131/16 Matters Arising**BC103/16 – Summer Jamm Festival**

The Head of Culture clarified for a Non-Committee Independent Member that all businesses had been consulted with and had expressed contentment with the development plan for the Summer Jamm Festival.

Councillor Logue joined the meeting at this stage.

BC/132/16 21st Annual Northern Ireland Economic Conference

The Head of Business presented the above report, a copy of which was previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Members approval on the sponsorship of the Northern Ireland Economic Conference scheduled on 19 October 2016 in the City Hotel, Derry.

An Independent Member of Council welcomed the sponsorship of the above event and hoped that the promotional material would include Derry City and Strabane District Council area and not just Derry City.

The Committee

Recommended that Council approves the proposal for the hosting and sponsorship of the 21st Annual NI Economic Conference in the City Hotel on 19 October 2016 at a cost of £9,995 to be allocated from the Business budget.

BC/133/16 Access and Inclusion Project Action Plan

The Head of Culture presented the above report, a copy of which was previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to secure Members approval for the 2016/2017 Action Plan for the DCSDC Access and Inclusion Project supported by Public Health Agency.

The Committee

Recommended **that Council approves the proposed Access and Inclusion Project Action Plan 2016/2017.**

BC/134/16 International Appalachian Trail Annual General Meeting

The Head of Culture presented the above report a copy of which was previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to request additional financial support to host the 2016 Annual General Meeting of the International Appalachian Trail.

The Committee

Recommended **that Council approves the request to allocate additional financial resources of up to £3,000, to host the International Appalachian Trail AGM in September 2016.**

BC/135/16 SEUPB NPP Connected Cultural Caminos

The Head of Culture presented the above report a copy of which was previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to advise Members of a potential funding bid into SEUPB Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme 2014-2020, under funding the Atlantic Area Transnational Programme Priority Axis 4 – ‘Enhancing Biodiversity and Cultural Assets’. The Committee

Recommended **that Council approves the scoping out of an application for Connected Cultural Caminos and the funding bid and if successful Members will be informed upon receipt of letter of offer.**

BC/136/16 St Patrick’s Day Spring Carnival Evaluation

The Head of Culture presented the above report, a copy of which was previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to advise Members of a comprehensive post event report and marketing evaluation of the St Patrick’s Day Spring Carnival 2016.

The Committee

Recommended

i) that Council is made aware of additional resources and in kind contribution brought to the delivery of the 2016 Spring Carnival parade by Arts and Cultural groups led by North West Carnival Initiative.

ii) that Council supports the process of exploring options which will support and grow current provision, strengthen partnerships, develop skills and opportunities within the carnival and community arts sector towards enhanced social cohesion, audience and visitor experience and direct economic return.

BC/137/16 Update on Maritime Museum Project

The Head of Culture presented the above report, a copy of which was previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on the current status of the Maritime Museum Project at Ebrington and to seek approval for the submission of the Planning Application at a cost of £12,000, subject to approval from the Capital Working Group meeting to be held in May 2016.

The Head of Culture in response to a query from Alderman Warke agreed to investigate if Mr Richard Doherty, Local Historian was involved in the Maritime Museum Project and update him accordingly.

The Committee

Recommended

that Council approves the submission of the Planning Application at a cost of £12,000, subject to approval from the Capital Working Group in May 2016.

BC/138/16 Memorial to the victims of An Gorta Mor

The Head of Culture presented the above report, a copy of which was previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Members approval for the participation of the Council in the Memorial to the Victims of An Gorta Mor. The cost associated with the proposal for a local stone of the District to be engraved with the Council name would be £155.00.

The Committee

Recommended that Council approves the participation in the Memorial to the victims of An Gorta Mor.

BC/139/16 Friends of the Derry Walls Funding Request

The Director of Business and Culture presented the above report, a copy of which was previously circulated to Members. The report would also be presented to the Environment and Regeneration Committee as a request for funding support had been received by both Directorates from the Friends of Derry Walls. The purpose of the report was to advise Members of the request and to seek authority to support the identified elements of their Annual Activity Plan 2016/17.

The Committee

Recommended

- i) that Council supports the objectives and that Officers will assist in the delivery of the Annual Activity Plan, however Council cannot directly provide the £21.5k of funding requested.**
- ii) that Officers work with the Friends of Derry Walls to achieve a successful outcome on the basis of a grant application submitted to the Irish Walled Towns Network towards the delivery of Derry Walls Day 2016.**

BC/140/16 Business & Culture Directorate Draft Annual Service Plan 2016/17

The Director of Business and Culture presented the above report a copy of which was previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Members' approval to adopt the Draft Annual Service Plan 2016/17, for the Business and Culture Directorate and any amendments would be reflected on a final report to be presented to Committee the following month.

A Member of the SF grouping commented that it was encouraging to note the successful draw down of various funding bids and the increase in the marketing of tourism activities. He queried the impact of the tourism strategy on the community planning process in terms of marketing.

The Director of Business and Culture stated that as part of the Community Planning process there was a clearly identified need to have a Tourism Partnership and a Culture Partnership. Also as part of the Community Plan there was an agreed action to develop a strategy for Tourism and Culture. He added that progress on this had already begun with work underway to develop the terms of reference for both studies. It was also planned for both the partnerships to have an initial meeting before the launch of the Community Plan in the Autumn.

An Independent Member of Council welcomed the comprehensive report and congratulated the Officers involved. He referred to the 'Visit Derry Initiative' and queried if consideration was given to the remit in terms of a District wide promotion.

Councillor Boyle and the Director of Business and Culture declared an interest due their membership on the Visit Derry Board.

The Director of Business and Culture agreed to arrange for Officials to attend a future meeting to update Members on the activity and performance of Visit Derry. Also that in advance of that presentation, a paper would be prepared for Committee outlining the work of Visit Derry and its remit.

The Committee

Recommended **i) that Council agrees to consider the Draft Annual Service Plan for the Business and Culture Directorate 2016/17 and final**

reports will be brought back next month.

ii) that an update on the Visit Derry Initiative is provided at a future Business and Culture Meeting.

BC/141/16 PEACE IV Programme – Update

The Head of Business presented the above report a copy of which was previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on the development of the Local Strategy and PEACE Action Plan for DCSDC to be implemented by local authority-led partnerships and to seek approval for the Lead Legal Services Officer to draft the PEACE Partnership Agreement.

The Committee

Recommended that Council gives authority to the Lead Legal Services Officer to draft the PEACE Partnership Agreement for Stage 1 Submission.

Open for Information

The Chair agreed that the following reports which had been previously circulated to Members would be noted for information:

BC/142/16 Cruise North West

Councillor Hussey declared an interest in the above subject.

BC/143/16 Current Motor Home/Camper Van provision within Derry City and Strabane Council Area

BC/144/16 Foyle Maritime Festival 2016/Clipper Race Update

BC/145/16 Refurbishment of the Strabane Visitor Information Centre

BC/146/16 Year of Food and Drink Update

BC/147/16 Broadband Universal Service Obligation Consultation Response

A Member of the SF grouping highlighted the need for increased powers and resources to make bespoke decisions on wider Broadband Policy.

A Non-Committee Member of the SF grouping expressed concern with the government decision not to make broadband a right despite its relevance to the Rural Needs Bill. He added that telecoms roll out must be considered and BT ownership should be included as a corporate concern and not just about profitability and this should be reflected within the consultation response.

BC/148/16 Enterprise Week 2016

BC/149/16 Rural Development Programme – Timescale and Calls

BC/150/16 Public Sector and Big Business Procurement Programme

BC/151/16 Summer Jamm Festival

BC/152/16 Resolutions from other Councils

The Meeting went into 'Confidential Business.

The Meeting ended at 6.00pm.

Chairperson: _____

Date: _____