

**Minutes of a meeting of the Civic Pride, Arts & Leisure Committee held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Market Place, Newbury on Monday 2 March 2020 at 7.30pm**

**Present**

Councillors Martin Colston; Jo Day (Chairperson); Billy Drummond; Sue Farrant; Nigel Foot; Olivia Lewis; David Marsh; Gary Norman; Elizabeth O’Keeffe (substitute); Erik Pattenden; Sarah Slack.

**Officers present:**

Elisa Adams, Civic Manager  
Margaret Gore, Corporate Services Officer

**50. Apologies for absence**

There were none.  
Absent: Councillor Jeffrey Cant.

**51. Declaration of Interest and Dispensations**

The Civic Manager declared that Councillors Billy Drummond, David Marsh and Erik Pattenden 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.

**52. Minutes****52.1**

**Proposed:** Councillor Billy Drummond

**Seconded:** Councillor Martin Colston

**Resolved:** That the Minutes of the meeting of the Civic Pride, Arts & Leisure Committee held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019 be approved and signed by the Chairperson.

**52.2 The Civic Manager reported the following regarding actions from the previous meeting:**

- Minute No 39: Music in the Market Place; Minute No 40: Newbury and District Arts Council; Minute No 41: Newbury Town Civic Awards 2020; Minute No 45: 75th Anniversary of VE Day 8-10 May 2020; Minutes No 46: Civic Pride, Arts & Leisure Budget 2020/21; Minute No 48: Civic Events and Minute No 49: Forward Work Programme for Civic Pride, Arts & Leisure Committee meetings 2020/21 – will be discussed throughout this meeting.
- Minute No 41: Mayor Making – 17 May 2020 – will be discussed when required.

**53. Questions and petitions from members of the public**

There were none.

**54. Members' questions and petitions**

There were none.

**55. Music in the Market Place**

Councillor David Marsh gave the following report:

Things have been a little tricky at Kennet Radio, since the loss of Tony Hiller as he did so much for the organisation and had a lot of enthusiasm for this event. Councillor Marsh has spoken with Graham Pocock, at Kennet Radio, who has suggested that this be reconsidered at a later date due to other events that they are currently working towards.

It was agreed that Councillor Marsh continue discussions with Kennet Radio with a view to organise an event for 2021/2022.

The Chairperson requested that Councillor Marsh report his back to the committee at its next meeting scheduled for Monday 6 July 2020.

**56. Newbury & District Arts Association (NDAA)**

The Civic Manager, Elisa Adams reported that she had not had much luck gaining information from the NDAA. It was agreed that no further contact be made until such times that an invitation is received to attend one of their events or meetings.

It was agreed that an item regarding arts in the town be added to the next agenda for further discussion as to what, if anything, can be done to encourage and promote arts in the town, including Art in the Park. The Civic Manager agreed to invite the Chair of NDAA to the next meeting to partake in discussions.

**57. Newbury Twin Town Association**

Members received a presentation from Newbury Twin Town Association Chairperson, Mrs Gillian Durrant regarding what the association does and who Newbury is twinned with. Mrs Durrant explained what activities are due to take place during this current year and encourage people to join the association.

The Chairperson thanked Mrs Durrant for her presentation.

**58. 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day 8-10 May 2020**

Members received an update from the Chairperson, Councillor Jo Day and the Civic Manager, Elisa Adams regarding the event which is due to take place on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020 between 12noon and 4.00pm in Victoria Park.

If any Members can help in anyway before or on the day of the event, they are asked to contact both the Chairperson and the Civic Manager. It was suggested that Newbury College be approached to possibly design a poster for the event.

**59. Newbury Town Civic Awards 2020**

It was noted that the Civic Awards is to be held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 and that the format be like past events, even though it is running as a stand-alone event.

Members were encouraged to push for nominations in any way that they could. The closing date for nominations is Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020. It was suggested that the Chairperson write a letter to the Newbury Weekly news to try to encourage more nominations.

**60. Local Democracy Week 2020**

It was noted that Local Democracy event will continue as before for this coming year. The event will take place between 12 and 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020. The Civic Manager has received 4 requests to attend so far.

It was agreed that this item be added to the Forward Work Programme.

After the discussion Councillor Sue Farrant gave notice that she would be standing down from this Working Group as she felt that she could not be of any help due to the timing of the meetings / events.

The Chairperson has agreed to e-mail Members of the Town Council to ask if anyone else wished to step into the roll.

**61. Civic Pride, Arts & Leisure Key Performance Indicators**

It was noted that currently there were no key performance indicators for Civic Pride, Arts & Leisure Committee. If Members had any ideas for any future key performance indicators that these be forwarded to the Civic Manager for consideration.

**62. Civic Pride, Arts & Leisure Budget 2020/21**

The information regarding the budget for 2020/21 and the information regarding how former Mayor's have used their allowance was received and noted by the Committee.

**63. Raising the Profile of the Council in the Community**

The information regarding the works done to raise the profile of the Council in the Community was received and noted by the Committee.

**64. The Council's Official Church for Civic Services**

Members consider Councillor Elizabeth O'Keeffe's proposal regarding investing St Nicolas Church. After much discussion the following proposals were considered:

**Proposed:** Councillor Elizabeth O'Keeffe

**Seconded:** Councillor Billy Drummond

**Resolved:** That that St Nicolas Church is the official church for Civic Services and that a Mayor may request an additional service at a place of worship of their choosing. That the Civic Manager will arrange the service with them.

- This proposal failed to gain support.

**Proposed:** Councillor Sue Farrant

**Seconded:** Councillor Olivia Lewis

**Resolved:** That all arrangements with St Nicolas church remain as they are, without officially investing them as the Town Council's church.

**65. Mayor's Cadet**

Members considered Councillor Elizabeth O'Keeffe's proposal regarding the appointment of a Mayor's Cadet. It was discussed that the role should be broadened to all youth uniformed services with a commitment to public service, not just military cadets.

**Proposed:** Councillor Elizabeth O'Keeffe

**Seconded:** Councillor Sue Farrant

**Resolved:** That the Mayor of Newbury may appoint a Mayor's Cadet on an annual basis, and that a policy and procedure should be developed by the Civic Manager to recognise the role and appointment process of Mayor's Cadet at Newbury Town Council.

The Civic Manager has been tasked to develop this to bring to the next meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

**66. Civic Events**

- a. The information regarding Civic events held since the last meeting of this committee was received and noted. Fundraising events were well supported with a good sum of funds raised.

- b. The information relating to future Civic Events as detailed on the agenda was received and noted by the Committee. The next up and coming event in the calendar is:
- Mayor's Fundraiser Town Hall Open Day on 21 March 2020 between 10am & 1pm.
- c. Potential future events or activities:
- Local Democracy event - will take place between 12 and 23rd October 2020.

**67. Forward Work Programme for Civic Pride, Arts & Leisure Committee meetings 2020/21.**

The following items are to be removed from the Forward Work Programme:

- Newbury & District Arts Association

The following items are to be added to the Forward Work Programme:

- Christ Hospital School
- Music in the Market Place
- Promoting Arts in the town
- Art in the Park
- Local Democracy Event

**There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 9.20pm.**

**Chairperson:**

**Date:**