

MINUTES of the COMMUNICATION AND EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING OF STANLEY TOWN COUNCIL held at Stanley Civic Hall, Front Street, Stanley on Tuesday 10th November 2015 at 6.30pm

PRESENT: Cllr D Mills* Cllr M Wilkinson Cllr L Marshall Cllr D Tully
 Cllr R Harrison Cllr J Nicholson Cllr W Nixon

*Chairman

OFFICERS: Alan Shaw (Town Clerk)
 Nicola James (PA to the Town Clerk)

IN ATTENDANCE: 2 members of the public, Tony Harrington (The Forge) and Vidya (Kalapremi)

383 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cllrs C Bell and D McMahon were accepted by the Committee.

384 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr D Mills declared an interest in Stanley Fringe and Moria Con.

The Clerk noted that Cllrs R Harrison and L Marhsall were recording the meeting.

385 PROCEDURAL AND APPROPRIATE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

None.

386 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman noted that members of the public in attendance were open to contribute to the meeting. There were no written questions submitted prior to the meeting and no questions from the public in attendance.

387 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Cllrs D Mills and L Marshall had some amendments to the minutes of 13 October 2015. The Clerk will amend the minutes as per the Cllrs emails and the minutes will be brought to the next committee meeting to be confirmed.

388 THE FORGE – NOTHERN WRITES

Tony Harrington from The Forge spoke to members about plans for the Northern Writes Festival. He noted that the festival will be held in about a year's time and requested that the Council give consideration to granting free use of the Civic Hall

for a Friday daytime and a Saturday afternoon/evening in approximately a year's time.

Following a discussion, it was proposed by Cllr L Marshall, seconded by Cllr D Tully and agreed that the committee will **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that free hall hire be granted as long as other bookings are not interfered with.

389 BUDGET SETTING 2016/17

Additional Initiatives

Ganesh Festival

Members heard a short presentation from Vidya representing Kalapremi who came to the meeting to talk about the Ganesh Festival which is held every year. Vidya requested that Kalapremi were given free use of the Civic Hall to hold the festival and also for the Council to fund a worker to assist with the organisation and running of the festival.

It was proposed by Cllr W Nixon, seconded by Cllr D Tully and agreed that Committee **RECOMMENDS** that Kalapremi be granted free hall hire and that the Council should look favorably on any further applications for funding.

Civic Hall Pantomime

The Clerk noted a request from the Civic Hall Manager for £13,000 to run a pantomime in the Civic Hall. It was proposed by Cllr R Harrison, seconded by Cllr D Tully and agreed that the committee **RECOMMENDS** to Full Council that £13,000 be added to the Civic Hall budget for the pantomime.

Blue Plaque Scheme

The Clerk proposed that the council launch a Blue Plaque Scheme. It was proposed by Cllr W Nixon, seconded by Cllr L Marshall and agreed that Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the scheme be implemented. Members preferred the blue and gold plaques.

2016/17 Projects

Members discussed the budgets that the Clerk had proposed for the 2016/17 projects. Members agreed all budgets were adequate, with the following additions: the Old People's Homes budget should be increased to £1000 and the Christmas Events budget to £20,000.

Cllr L Marshall and R Harrison requested that the WWI Memorial Sub-Committee be re-constituted. The Town Clerk advised Member this could be brought forward to the next meeting of the Committee for further discussion.

Deferred Items

Community Radio

Members discussed the Community Radio initiative. Cllr W Nixon asked a number of questions about the proposal, namely:

- (a) What is the breakdown of costs for the project?
- (b) Who would the funding be provided to or would the Town Council provide the service directly?
- (c) What would governance arrangements be – who would be responsible for the content of broadcasts and who would take action if any content was unacceptable?
- (d) Who would 'own' any equipment or assets purchased?
- (e) Would the funding required include any element of rent or staff costs?

It was proposed by Cllr L Marshall, seconded by Cllr R Harrison and agreed that Committee **RECOMMENDS** that Council should support the project in principle, subject to satisfactory answers to the questions raised. It was **RESOLVED** that a fact finding visit to Ashington to visit Koast Radio by members of the Committee would be a useful exercise if Council are supportive of the initiative.

390 COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

The Clerk showed members a mock up magazine layout. It was proposed by Cllr W Nixon, seconded by Cllr R Harrison and **RECOMMENDED** that the name 'Stanley Life' be approved, and the newspaper style and layout be approved.

391 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE

The Clerk asked members to consider what the consultation exercise should be called and to look at the proposed timescales.

It was proposed by Cllr L Marshall, seconded by Cllr W Nixon and **RECOMMENDED** that the consultation should be called 'Ask Stanley 2016' and that the timescales provided by the Clerk be approved.

392 DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 8th December 2015, 6.30pm, Stanley Civic Hall