

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE **COMMUNITY & HERITAGE COMMITTEE** HELD ON **WEDNESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2024** AT **7:00** P.M. AT NEWTON'S PLACE, WOLBOROUGH STREET, NEWTON ABBOT.

**PRESENT** Councillor: L Cooke - (Chairperson) Presiding  
M Ryan - (Vice Chairperson)

Councillors: B Bailey                      A Ineson  
J Bradford                                M Joyce  
C Davieson                                C Parker (Deputy Mayor)  
A Hall (Mayor)

Councillor L Wood attended the meeting.

Officers in attendance: Sam Scott - Deputy Town Clerk & RFO  
Linda McGuirk - Principal Administrator  
Dr Charlotte Dixon – Museum Curator  
Kate Green – Community Engagement Officer  
Nigel Canham - Communications Advisor

By Invitation: Sam Gilronan - Principal of Glendinning Academy.

**234. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Valid reasons for absence were received on behalf of Councillors R Buscombe and A Gibbs. Apologies for absence were also received from Phil Rowe, Town Clerk.

Councillor G Jennings did not attend.

**235. INTERESTS**

None declared.

**236. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Community and Heritage Committee held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2024 were received and signed as a correct record.

**237. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

**238. PRESENTATION ON BEHALF OF GLENDINNING SCHOOL**

The Chairperson, Councillor Louise Cooke welcomed the Principal of Glendinning Academy, Sam Gilronan to the meeting and invited her to make a presentation to the Committee on the school and neurodiversity.

The presentation explained that Glendinning Academy opened in September 2020 to meet the identified SEND needs of the children and young people within the southern area of the county. This special school is for pupils with an Education Health and Care Plan, all places are commissioned via the Annual Review Process, in partnership with the Local Authority.

The school caters for pupils that are working at or around age equivalent expectations and have a diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum condition (ASC), anxiety or Speech Language and Communication Needs (SLCN). Initially the school opened with 54 places (up to academic year 8) growing to 120 pupils over the first three years. The school has now reached pupil capacity.

The Chairperson thanked the representative for a very interesting presentation and invited Councillors to ask questions.

Councillors spoke of their personal experiences and asked questions about:

- Post 16 education opportunities.
- The name of the school.
- Do the students participate in music classes.

#### 239. **WHAT'S IN STORE**

The Curator, Dr Dixon, advised that during the Project Boards first meeting held in September the group had made the following minor amendments to the terms of reference:

- Point (6) A quorum shall be at least 6 members of the board.
- Inclusion of an additional point (10) That the Project Board provides regular progress reports to the Town Council, as required.

Members considered the revised Project Board Terms of Reference, as circulated prior to the meeting. Accordingly, it was:

**RESOLVED** that the revised What's In Store Project Board Terms of Reference be hereby approved and adopted.

#### 240. **MUSEUM CURATOR & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER REPORTS**

The Curator, Dr Charlotte Dixon and the Community Engagement Officer, Kate Green highlighted the following areas of the What's In Store Project report, as circulated prior to the meeting:

- Background to the project
- National Lottery Heritage Funding
- Staffing
- Building Plans
- Community Consultation

- Collection cards
- Next steps

Dr Dixon then highlighted the following areas of the Museum report, as circulated prior to the meeting:

- Staff changes
- Visitors to the museum and St Leonard's Clock Tower
- Financial donations and shop sales
- Exhibitions and changing displays
- Collection updates
- Signal Gantry project
- Heritage Assets
- Training
- Volunteers and work experience
- Events
- J9 training and safe space

The Community Engagement Officer, Kate Green highlighted the following areas of her report, as circulated prior to the meeting:

- Successfully received Teignbridge Art Project (TAP) funding to install artwork in the Penn Inn subway leading to Sainsbury's.
- Schools and group visits
- Home education group
- Young explorers
- Heritage creatives
- Toddler Tuesday
- Make & Create sessions
- Your Space Cabinet
- Twilight Sketching
- Summer workshops
- Young Curators
- Channing's Wood Prison workshops
- Newton Abbot – What's happening? stall
- Jump performance
- Cabinet of Curiosities

The Chairperson, Councillor Louise Cooke, thanked the Curator and the Community Engagement Officer for their detailed and extensive reports and invited members to ask questions.

Members were interested in the modern design of the new museum store and viewed images of the proposed design, which were circulated at the meeting. The Curator advised the District Council's Conservation Planning Officer had guided the modern polished steel design to reflect the existing building and its surroundings. Dr Dixon reported that access to the store has been changed which has necessitated an amended planning application to be submitted.

Members expressed their thanks to the Curator and the Community Engagement Officer for their hard work and dedication.

241. **SUB- COMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/FORUMS**

**Events Sub-Committee 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Events Sub Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024, as presented by the Chairperson, Councillor M Ryan, were received and approved.

Councillor Ryan reminded members that volunteers are required to support the Christmas events and encouraged members to get involved.

The Minutes of the meeting of the What's In Store Project Board held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024, as presented by the Chairperson, Councillor M Ryan, were received and approved.

242. **CONCESSION/POP UP SITES CONSULTATION**

Members considered the District Council's Concession/Pop Up sites consultation, as circulated prior to the meeting. Concerns were raised about the lack of information, viability and the uncertainty surrounding the potential transfer of assets to Town and Parish Council's, in particular if a greenspace with an agreed concession was transferred to a Town or Parish Council who would be responsible for the concession.

**RESOLVED** to note the Concession/Pop Up consultation and defer making comment until further information has been received on the proposal and the future of asset transfers is known.

243. **NEWTON ABBOT ROUNDABOUT SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY**

The Chairperson, Councillor Louise Cooke advised members of a scheme run by Devon County Council to sponsor a roundabout. Councillor Cooke suggested this could be a great opportunity to improve the Balls Corner roundabout which is a main gateway into the town. Arising from the discussion, it was:

**RESOLVED** that the Town Council will register its interest on Devon County Council's sponsor a roundabout scheme and obtain further information for consideration by the Community & Heritage Committee.

244. **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TENDER**

Duplicate agenda item.

245. **AIR QUALITY**

Councillor L Cooke invited members to comment on the Air Quality report, as circulated prior to the meeting. Councillor M Joyce informed members that he scrutinises the Newton Abbot data. Following a brief discussion it was agreed to note the report.

**246. ACCOUNTS/INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**

a) Budget message

The Deputy Town Clerk (DTC) asked members to think carefully about the Committee's budget requirements for 2025/26. Members considered the finance reports, as circulated prior to the meeting and requested clarification on the running costs of the Citymaster and Newfoundland Way public conveniences.

The DTC reported that it had been necessary to implement sanctions in the male toilets to improve the odour. A contractor has carried out a deep clean of the pipes and installed equipment to prevent build up reoccurring.

The DTC will compile the recommendations on behalf of the committee and feedback to the Strategic Planning Forum.

b) The Committee received and noted an overview of income and expenditure for the Community & Heritage Committee, Newton In Bloom and the Museum for the periods 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024, for the following:

Accordingly, it was:

**RESOLVED** that the Income and Expenditure Statements for the periods, 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024 for the:

- Community and Heritage Committee.
- Newton In Bloom.
- Museum, be hereby approved.

**247. LATE CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**248. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

The Meeting closed at: 20:30 p.m.

Chairperson.....Date.....