

KEYNSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Arts Joint Committee meeting held on Wednesday 18th July 2018
at 10.30 a.m. in the Town Council Offices

PRESENT: Keynsham Town Councillors J Cron, A Crouch, H MacFie, L O'Brien,
Non-voting Members J Tymkow and R Davison

IN ATTENDANCE: A Cullis (Arts Development – B&NES) and D Drury (Deputy Town Clerk
KTC)

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED:

That Councillor L O'Brien be elected as Chairman for the 2018/19 municipal year.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors S Edwards and C Fricker (KTC).

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

4. NON DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were none.

5. DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 4th April 2018 (previously circulated) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

8. B&NES ARTS DEVELOPMENT

The Terms of Reference for this Committee state that there will be two Councillor representatives from B&NES Council with voting rights and Ann reported that Councillor Paul Myers Cabinet Member for Economic and Community Regeneration will retain his position on the Committee. In respect of the other vacant seat, a decision has been made by the Leader of B&NES Council (Tim Warren) that as there were only ten more months left in the municipal year (prior to the elections) that this Councillor position will remain vacant.

B&NES Council still has a challenging time ahead with their 18/19 budget and may have to look at reducing department budgets during the year. By October of this year there will be a clearer picture in respect of the Arts and Culture funding but currently it does not look promising and plans should be made with the assumption that there may not be any B&NES Council funding support in the area for 2019/20.

B&NES Council small grants scheme ceased 2 – 3 years ago and future funding will need to go to the areas of highest need. In respect of Keynsham Music Festival grant monies, it should be assumed at present, that future funds for this cannot be predicted.

There is also the possibility that the Arts Officer posts within B&NES Council may no longer be in existence as from 2019/20.

RECOMMENDATION:

- (i) That Keynsham Town Council write to B&NES Council stating that, whilst KTC recognizes the pressures that B&NES Council faces, there is concern at the possible loss of arts funding and valued arts officer support.
- (ii) The £1,000 spent per year by Keynsham Town Council on promotion of events and arts activities through Visit Somerset was discussed. It was suggested that this money should be clawed back and spent elsewhere however there was also a view was that this was money well spent. Promotion of Keynsham events and activities through Bath Tourism was also discussed and it was felt that Bath Tourism Plus should make financial contribution to all the town councils to help support tourism. It was felt that Bath Tourism Plus should be reminded that Keynsham host a large free Festival every year.

RESOLVED:

That a letter should be sent to Councillor Paul Myers expressing concerns that Bath Tourism Plus are not sufficiently engaged with promoting Keynsham activities and to suggest that they could financially support tourism activity undertaken by all the town councils. However, the town council is extremely appreciative of the arts funding and support received from B&NES Council, each year. These funds are more than match funded and put to very good use for the benefits of numerous arts activities in Keynsham which are enjoyed by a good percentage of our community. A copy of this letter to be sent to Councillor Charles Gerrish and John Wilkinson (B&NES Council's Director of Economy & Growth).

A request was made that the Town Council Arts reserve figure from 2017/18 plus the unspent monies the Town Council Art Grants scheme for 2018/19 be presented at the next meeting.

9. TIMELINE PROJECT UPDATE

Ann reported that there is a bit more work to be done by the artist to finalise the images of the Timeline including moving one of the pictures to different timeline panel and altering the images to fit consistent oblong panel shapes. The panel titles will be slightly re-worded to ensure that the history time periods are clear. These minor changes will be taken back to the artist to sort out over the summer. The re-development of Riverside is currently behind schedule and it is envisaged that it will

be 2019 before the panels will be positioned within the Public Realm of this area. The exact location to be discussed with the Contractors.

10. GWR PROJECT - POSTERS KEYNSHAM RAILWAY STATION

The posters in the railway station frames have just been changed and now depict images from Fry's chocolate cards.

RESOLVED:

- (i) The poster displays will be changed three times a year as follows: -
January – April
May – August
September – December
- (ii) 11 of the frames will hold themed posters with a 12th frame being reserved for the promotion of specific activities/events in the town.
- (iii) The next set of posters (September – December) to depict World War I Troops and their connection with GWR and Fry's. It was suggested that Hugh Evans may have some suitable Fry's images. Also, that an image of the Cemetery Commemorative Bench could be used. The Events frame to include a poster promoting the commemorative poppy cascade (possibly the images of all those that had helped make the poppies).

It was noted that several members of the public have asked if they can purchase railway station posters once they have been removed from the frames.

Ann said that any images taken from the Clock Tower images and made into posters would need permission being sought from Sebastien Boyesen (the artist) as they are his copyright. Ann and Dawn will liaise in respect of seeking this permission. It was suggested that any funds raised from the sale of posters could be used to fund future posters going forward. It was agreed that all posters should be recorded on an archive list and stored safely and that replicas could be produced (in different sizes) perhaps even postcards size for selling on.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That costs of reproduction in various sizes including postcards be brought to the next meeting.
- (ii) That costing be sourced for cardboard tubes (poster protection for selling on) and reported back at the next meeting.
- (iii) That an update on copyright in respect of the Clock Tower imagery be reported back at the next meeting.
- (iv) That a recommendation from Arts Joint Committee be put to the Town Council's Finance and Policy Committee that any sales revenue goes back to Arts for either the GWR budget or General Arts activities.

11. MUSIC FESTIVAL UPDATE

The 2018 Keynsham Musical Festival was reported as being a success with some excellent new aspects. The Opera proved very popular and made a profit over £1,000. The Community Concert was well supported and there were comments that it was a better production than the original concert.

On line ticket sales were up on previous years, amounting to approximately £6,000. Just over £10,000 was taken on the gate on the Sunday, this was down on the previous year, but more gate donations were taken on the Saturday gates, so the total equated to more than the 2017 takings.

The Community Stage on the Saturday was a packed event and all the week long lead up events were fantastic.

The atmosphere through out the event was good and there was not any recorded incidents of trouble.

Plans are now underway for 2019.

12. THE SPACE UPDATE

Ric Davison provided an update to the Committee as follows:

- a) It is hoped that two touring companies will be booked forming a home-grown Keynsham WWI commemoration production which will be shown on 9th or 10th November in The Space
- b) Plans are under way for an event including the Bonzo Dog Band/Bill Bailey. Ric has a contact through Adrian Mealing.

13. UPDATE ON LIVE STREAMING

The live streaming has now been cleared with B&NES Council IT Department. A planning application has been produced detailing the location of the dish which is to be positioned on top of the Library, so that it may feed directly into The Space.

Monies have been put aside for the purchase of the dish and the installation cost, but this may not be sufficient and there may be an additional cost to find but this was not felt to be a problem.

14. CURRENT ARTS ACTIVITIES IN KEYNSHAM

It was reported that there is currently an art exhibition by James Lynch on at the Chocolate Quarter which is proving very popular. The artwork incorporates images from his travels in Morocco and is displayed in four locations throughout the Chocolate Quarter.

The Art Space Group have been working on one of the Minerva Owls that are displayed throughout Bath. This owl was sponsored by GWR and the Severnside Community Rail Partnership and is now displayed at the railway station in Bath. A comment was made that it was a pity that Keynsham did not have an owl displayed and the Deputy Town Clerk reported that the take up period was very short and the need to source £3,000 funding for the owl would have been difficult in the time frame.

The Art Space tent at the Keynsham Music Festival did not do as well as in 2017 and takings were down by about 50%.

Arts activities in the run up to Winter.

Currently, In Bloom have a Scarecrow Trail in Keynsham and trail maps are available from the Town Council office at a price of 20 pence.

Thanks also were given to In Bloom for all the lovely bottle top artwork displayed in the Town Centre.

A cascade of knitted and crocheted poppies is currently under construction and will be displayed from one of the smaller towers of St. John's Church. Also, Jo Bird, events co-ordinator is producing some poppy panels for the Chocolate Quarter.

The Art Space Group are currently discussing installation of a community fridge project in the old toilet block on Ashton Way. There is talk of this becoming a multi-use venue.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the date of the next meeting be scheduled for Wednesday 3rd October 2018 at 10.30 a.m.

The meeting closed at 11.50 a.m.

Signed: Date:
(Chairman)